

Amendment #12 to the
Humboldt National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan
Ely Ranger District Wilderness Management Plan

Responsible Official:

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The Humboldt National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan was approved on August 19, 1986. Changes affecting the Humboldt National Forest since that time have required periodic amendments to the Forest Plan to keep it current. The most recent amendment affected by Wilderness designations was in the early 1990's. The addition of BLM lands to the Forest and the classification of 150,838 acres of new Wilderness across the Ely Ranger District on December 20, 2006 have resulted in a need to correct several entries in the plan and adjust management direction accordingly for wilderness specific to the Ely Ranger District.

The Forest Service has amended the Humboldt National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) to establish management direction for the five recently designated (2006) wilderness areas located on the Ely Ranger District by developing one Wilderness Management Plan (WMP) establishing management direction for all nine existing wilderness areas located within the Ely Ranger District. The WMP was written in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management, which has jurisdictional authority for separate portions of the Mt. Moriah Wilderness. Management direction in the WMP is relevant to both agencies, except where specifically stated as being applicable to only one agency.

Each agency has written a separate decision (available separately) authorizing the Proposed Action—the Ely Ranger District Wilderness Management Plan, as written, as the selected action. The Environmental Assessment considered the environmental effects of the Proposed Action, and the No Action alternative. The alternative and decisions were based on internal and public dialogue and consideration of public comments through several stages of public involvement

and outreach. Changes to the Forest Plan through this amendment are believed to be non-significant.

The WMP amends the Humboldt National Forest LRMP as follows:

1. Amends the Humboldt National Forest LRMP forest-wide standards and guidelines (IV-71-72) with additional standards and guidelines specific to the Ely Ranger District's nine individual wilderness areas; however, it does not amend forest-wide direction relating to the management of all Wildernesses on the Humboldt National Forest;
2. Amends the Humboldt National Forest LRMP with the addition of five new Management Areas (Shellback Wilderness Management Area, Bald Mountain Wilderness Management Area, Red Mountain Wilderness Management Area, White Pine Range Wilderness Management Area, and High Schells Wilderness Management Area);

Land and Resource Management Plan:

Page IV-83: Replace the section entitled Wilderness with the following text:

The selected alternative recommended 268,300 acres be considered for Wilderness designation. The Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 classified 401,400 acres of new Wilderness on the Humboldt National Forest. The Act Included all areas recommended in the Forest Plan (See amended Record of Decision, page 5). The White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006 classified 150,838 acres of new Wilderness on the Humboldt National Forest. Roadless areas not designated as Wilderness will be managed for uses other than wilderness and will be re-evaluated in further Wilderness considerations during the next planning period.

Page IV-89: Paragraph 8; change the number 16 to 21.

Page IV-90: Revise the second paragraph, listing Management Areas by name and acres, as follows:

Area Name	Acres	Page
Mountain City	513,127	IV-91
East Humboldt	44,158	IV-113
East Humboldt Wilderness	36,900	IV-119
Ruby Mountains	231,984	IV-102

Area Name	Acres	Page
Ruby Mountain Wilderness	90,000	IV-110
Jarbridge	158,980	IV-125
Jarbridge Wilderness	113,167	IV-133
Mount Moriah	21,547	IV-137
Mount Moriah Wilderness (USFS)	83,711	IV-144
Mount Moriah Wilderness (BLM)	8,708	IV-144
Schell	159,981	IV-149
High Schells Wilderness	121,497	(Insert)
Ward Mtn.	39,797	IV-170
White Pine	178,206	IV-178
Currant Mountain Wilderness	47,357	(Insert)
Bald Mountain Wilderness	22,366	(Insert)
Red Mountain Wilderness	20,490	(Insert)
Shellback Wilderness	36,143	(Insert)
White Pine Range Wilderness	40,013	(Insert)
Quinn	129,650	IV-185
Grant Range Wilderness	52,600	IV-192
Quinn Canyon Wilderness	26,310	(Insert)
Santa Rosa	237,493	IV-196
Santa Rosa-Paradise Peak Wilderness	31,000	(Insert)

Page IV -137: Change the acreage in the title of Mount Moriah Management Area to 21,547 Acres.

Page IV-144: Change name of Management Area to 'Mount Moriah Wilderness Management Area – 83,711 (92,419 Acres total includes BLM acres). Insert the following paragraph before the first paragraph:

On December 20, 2006, P.L. 109-432 was signed, increasing the existing wilderness boundary by 10,905 acres. Of this additional acreage, 8,632 are USFS administered and the remaining 2,273 are part of the BLM administered portion on the NE corner of the Wilderness. In total, the USFS Ely Ranger District has administrative jurisdiction over 83,711 acres of the 92,419 acre wilderness.

Page IV-144: Replace the Management Prescription section with the enclosed titled Mount Moriah Wilderness Management Area.

Page IV-148: Change the acreage in the title of Schell Management Area to 159,981 acres.

Page IV-156: Following the section describing management of the Schell Management Area, insert the enclosed section: High Schells Wilderness Management Area-121,497 acres.

Page IV-178: Change the acreage in the title of the White Pine Management Area to 178,206 acres.

Page IV-179: Insert the following paragraph after the 4th paragraph:

On December 20, 2006, P.L. 109-432 was signed, transferring 5,799 acres from jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management to that of the Humboldt National Forest. These lands lie primarily in a narrow strip between the National Forest and BLM lands on the eastern side of the White Pine Management Area. These acres also coincide with the establishment of the Bald Mtn Wilderness Area.

Page IV-184: Change the acreage for the Currant Mtn. Wilderness Management Area to 47,357 acres.

Page IV-184: Insert the following paragraph after the last sentence of the first paragraph found under the Description of the Currant Mountain Wilderness Area:

On December 20, 2006, P.L. 109-432 was signed, increasing the existing wilderness boundary by 10,697 acres, bringing the total to 47,357 acres.

Page IV-184: Replace the Management Prescription section with the enclosed section titled Currant Mountain Wilderness Management Area.

Page IV-184: Following the section describing management of the Currant Mtn. Wilderness Management Area, insert the enclosed sections: Bald Mtn Wilderness Management Area- 22,366 acres and associated description and management prescription; Red Mtn Wilderness Management Area- 20,490 acres and associated description and management prescription; Shellback Wilderness Management Area- 36,143 acres and associated description and management prescription; and the White Pine Range Wilderness Management Area- 40,013 acres.

Page IV-185: Change the acreage for the Quinn Management Area to 129,650 acres.

Page IV-192: Change the acreage for the Grant Range Wilderness to 52,600 acres.

Page IV-192: Replace the Management Prescription section with the enclosed section titled Grant Range Wilderness Management Area.

Page IV-195: Change the acreage for the Quinn Canyon Wilderness Management Area to 26,310 acres.

Page IV-195: Replace the Management Prescription section with the enclosed section titled Quinn Canyon Wilderness Management Area.

GRANT RANGE WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA 52,600 Acres

DESCRIPTION

The Grant Range Wilderness established December 5, 1989 is located approximately 80 air miles southwest of Ely, in Nye County, Nevada. The management area is entirely within the Grant Mountain Range and is bordered on the east by Garden Valley and on the west by Railroad Valley.

An exceptional attribute of this area is the opportunity for solitude and isolation. The highest point within the area's north/south oriented mountain range is Troy Peak at 11,289 feet. This wilderness is also home to Desert bighorn sheep, indigenous to this area.

The area is composed of Precambrian to Devonian (1000-360 million years ago) limestone and dolomite sedimentary rocks. Generally, the oldest rocks crop out in the southern portion and progressively younger rocks are exposed to the north. These rocks form Troy Peak and ridge of the range. Younger, Miocene (23-5.3 million years ago) igneous rocks are found in Troy and Irwin Canyons. The range has been uplifted and tilted to the east by a major fault along Railroad Valley which creates steep western slopes with deeply incised canyons and gentle eastern slopes.

Timber Mountain and Grant Canyon bounds the north end of the area and Cherry Creek and Cherry Creek Summit serves as the boundary for the south end. Many side ridges and drainages spur east and west from the main drainage.

The vast majority of this area is covered by pinyon and juniper. Stands of white fir, mountain mahogany, aspen, and an occasional ponderosa pine comprise areas of the mountain. Bristlecone pine and limber pine grow along the crest of the range within the Troy Peak Research Natural Area. Barren rock outcrops create a visual contrast to the vegetative cover.

Hunting, hiking, photography and wildlife viewing are the major activities recreationists pursue in this area. Annual recreation use is estimated to be 300 recreational visitor days (RVDs).

A variety of wildlife including mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians inhabit this area. Mule deer and desert bighorn sheep inhabit the higher elevations of the area around Troy Peak during the summer. Elk are also known to inhabit this area. Many other nongame wildlife species live in the area.

Livestock grazing occurs on an extremely limited basis within this management area due to the lack of water and forage and because of steep, inaccessible areas. The management area lies within two summer cattle allotments, one winter sheep allotment and one vacant allotment (closed in 1988 to livestock grazing). The area provides very few (less than 200 AUMs) animal unit months for grazing.

Very little water is released from this area. Troy Creek is the only perennial stream head watered within the management area. Springs within and below the area are fed by water collected in this management area.

Mineral potential is rated as high in the north and south ends of the management area and low throughout the central portion. Minerals that are considered to have high potential for development are gold, silver, lead and fluorspar. There are about 41 mining claims maintained within the Grant Wilderness and approximately 1,116 acres of oil and gas leases.

Dry weather, common in this area, combined with rough, steep, inaccessible country increases the potential for large fires. Fire potential in this area is high due to lightning occurrence, with the most recent large scale fire occurring in 2014. The Bear Trap Fire burned approximately 10,600 acres.

There are no private lands, special uses, or facilities within this area.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – General

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The Quinn Canyon Wilderness has three WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Place signs at major access points.

Information and education programs will support the overall management program. There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands. The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research.

Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Manage the Troy Peak Research Natural Area according to the direction outlined in the RNA Establishment Record.

Research Natural Areas will be assigned their own WROS zone within the WMP and may also have a unique set of standards and guidelines associated with that WROS zone.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds and prevent disease transmission to bighorn sheep populations. Big horn sheep are present within the Grant Range Wilderness.

Wildlife and Fish

Manage wildlife using methods compatible with wilderness resources. Desert bighorn sheep range will be maintained at current production levels. Populations of hunted MIS will be

maintained at current levels. Begin study of desert bighorn sheep habitat for possible future designation to desert bighorn sheep range with special management emphasis for this species.

Range

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness, forage resources and Desert bighorn needs.

Timber

Allow no harvest.

Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.

Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.

Continue scientific research but don't allow the cutting of live or dead bristlecone pine without written approval of the Regional Forester.

Soil and Water

Manage to maintain or improve water quality and soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and with established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE GRANT RANGE WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the</p>

		<p>maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>
Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>

Wildlife	Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.	Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.
Range	Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness. Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.	
Timber	Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p> <p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>

QUINN CANYON WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA 27,000 Acres

DESCRIPTION

The Quinn Canyon Wilderness, established December 5, 1989, is located approximately 70 air miles southwest from Ely, Nevada in Nye County, Nevada. The Northeast/Southwest oriented Quinn Canyon Wilderness is bordered by Railroad Valley on the west and Garden Valley on the east. It takes a visitor traveling from Ely, Nevada approximately 3.5 hours of driving time to reach the one trailhead located in Cherry Creek. This area is not just remote but also very rugged. Most of the 25 miles of trail that exist within this wilderness are not maintained on a regular basis. Access to the Cherry Creek Trailhead is gained by driving south from Ely, Nevada on US Hwy 6 to the intersection with State highway 318. Take 318 through Lund, Nevada for another 50 miles. Turn right on an access road that crosses the Wayne E. Kirsch Wildlife Management Area and continue for another 35-40 miles to Adaven, Nevada. A few more miles up this dirt road and you will arrive at the Cherry Creek campground and trailhead. Alternative access can be had by staying on US Hwy 6 passed the junction with 318 over Currant Summit and further passed the old town of Currant. Take a left on a nicely bladed dirt road and follow it for another 15-20 miles.

An exceptional attribute of this area is the opportunity for solitude and isolation. The extreme isolation of this wilderness, combined with other scenic and special places, make this wilderness unique.

The northern portion of the Quinn Canyon Wilderness, Quinn Canyon and Hooper Canyon is composed of faulted lower to middle Paleozoic (approximately 542-346 million years ago) sedimentary rocks dominated by limestone and dolomite. The southern portion, Deep Creek Canyon, is blanketed by Tertiary (65-5 million years ago) volcanic rocks mostly welded ash-flow tuff and rhyolite with minor outcrops of intermediate and andesite lava flows and volcanic sedimentary rocks. Fluorite is found just outside of the southern boundary in Sawmill Canyon and near Pine Creek.

Many ridges and side drainages extend east and west from the main ridgeline. Drainages are long and narrow and have large watershed basins that collect and concentrate snowmelt and summer rainfall into narrow V shaped canyons. Pinyon and juniper trees, sagebrush, white fir, aspen, and mahogany blend to form natural shaped mosaics. The lower elevations are dominated by pinyon and juniper trees; the upper elevations by sagebrush. Limber pine and bristlecone pine can be found along the crest.

Hunting, fishing, camping, and hiking are the dominant recreation uses of the area. No developed recreation sites exist within the wilderness. Approximately 300 recreational visitor days (RVD) are spent in the area each year. Most of the recreational use is along Little Cherry Creek and Hooper Canyon. Approximately 20.8 miles of poor or very poor condition trails

receive light or no use. Some significant archaeological finds have been located in the management area.

A variety of wildlife including mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians inhabit this area. Mule deer summer at the higher elevations and some deer winter on the very western edges of the wilderness. Desert bighorn sheep once inhabited this area; however, except for a very occasional sighting, there doesn't appear to be a viable population at this time.

Livestock grazing occurs throughout this management area. Approximately 800 animal unit months (AUMs) are permitted on three summer cattle allotments (Big Creek, Hooper Canyon and Pine Creek/Quinn Canyon C&H Allotments) and one winter sheep allotment (Cherry Creek S&G Allotment). Serious overgrazing problems have been identified on the Big Creek and Hooper Canyon allotments. There are also serious livestock drifting problems onto National Forest lands outside of the normal grazing season in and out of this wilderness, and during the established grazing season. The suitable grazing lands are generally in poor condition, and this condition exists throughout much of the wilderness. The problem is a combination of a historic and continuing poor livestock management, and lack of control over boundaries has resulted in the problems faced today.

Watersheds within this area provide water for agriculture, four perennial streams, springs, and underground aquifers. The main source of water is from winter storms.

The Quinn area has a high potential for production of fluorspar, gold, silver, mercury, and molybdenum. Although oil and gas potential is considered low, several high producing oil wells are located five miles from the northeast corner of the management area about 27 mining claims are maintained in the area along with 4,270 acres of oil and gas leases.

Fires have played a small role in shaping the structure of the vegetative community in this area. Most fires are started by lightning. The area's climate is hot and dry during the summer, but fuel is scattered and discontinuous thus hampering the spread of fire except under ideal conditions.

There are no private lands, special uses or facilities within this area.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – General

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The Quinn Canyon Wilderness has three WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Place signs at major access points.

Information and education programs will support the overall management program. There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands. The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research.

Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds and prevent disease transmission to bighorn sheep populations. Big horn sheep are present within the Quinn Canyon Wilderness.

Wildlife and Fish

Current habitat used by threatened, endangered or sensitive species will be maintained and no conflicts from other uses will be permitted.

The quality of aquatic habitats will be maintained.

Populations of hunted MIS will be maintained at current levels.

All other MIS will be maintained at levels that exceed requirements for minimum viable populations.

Consider the possibility of reintroducing desert bighorn sheep to historic range.

Range

Adjust permitted livestock numbers where needed to be compatible with Wilderness values.

Populations of sensitive plant species will be maintained.

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness resources.

Timber

Allow no harvest.

Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.

Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.

Continue scientific research but don't allow the cutting of live or dead bristlecone pine without written approval of the Regional Forester.

Water

Manage and improve water quality and soil conservation through proper range management practices.

All activities will be constrained as necessary to protect water quality and maintain soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and within established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of

wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE QUINN CANYON WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Manage visitor use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated</p>

		<p>in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>

Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.</p>	<p>Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.</p>
Range	<p>Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness.</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.</p>	
Timber	<p>Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.</p>	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research</p> <p>Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	<p>Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.</p>	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p>

		<p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>
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CURRENT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS AREA 36,000 ACRES

DESCRIPTION

The Currant Mountain Wilderness, established December 5, 1989, lies approximately 50 miles west of Ely in east-central Nevada, in White Pine and Nye Counties. The high peaks of the White Pine Range, reaching 11,513 feet elevation at its highest point at Currant Mountain, and adjacent foothills run north-south for 15 miles. The area lies within the Basin and Range physiographic province and is bounded by Railroad Valley to the west and by White River Valley to the east. Access is provided primarily by U.S. Highway 50 from the north and U.S. Highway 6 from the east and south. The entire wilderness is bordered by National Forest lands within the White Pine Management Area.

The wilderness has unique qualities and several special attractions. The extremely rugged terrain and limited access provide optimum opportunity for solitude and wilderness experience. The terrain is such that it requires the efforts of the hardest souls to challenge this wilderness. The area has few water sources, depending on the time of year. During summer, there may not be any water. The sheer up-thrust of limestone from basin to the 11,513 foot elevation of Currant Mountain is a challenge, especially if access is made from the East Side. The limestone up-thrust is one of the unique features. Another unique feature is that an indigenous herd of Desert Bighorn sheep make their home in the wilderness. This herd occupies the northernmost habitat niche of the Desert bighorn sheep. The White Pine Peak Research Natural Area is also located in the southwestern portion of this wilderness. There are no formal trails in in this wilderness due to flood events which washed out the drainages where trails once occurred.

The Currant Mountain Wilderness contains a fault block of folded Cambrian to Pennsylvanian (542-299 million years ago) sedimentary rocks (mainly limestone and dolomite) that are tilted to the east. This creates layered canyons west of the ridge and steep, deep incisions east of the ridge. The rocks generally get younger as you move from west to east and in the southwestern corner of the wilderness they are intruded by Tertiary (65-23 million years ago) granitic stocks and dikes.

This area lies within the intermountain sagebrush/ponderosa pine ecosystem. Pinyon pine and juniper dominate the lower slopes and white fir, limber pine and bristlecone pine occupy the upper elevations.

Yearlong dispersed recreation focuses on hunting, fishing and camping. Adjacent to the wilderness there are two developed recreation areas provided at White River and Currant Creek campgrounds, as well as primitive campsites along Currant Creek.

Prehistoric sites are found throughout the area; only a few have been recorded.

The area contains important mule deer summer range, migratory routes and some winter range. Mule deer range is in satisfactory condition with stable and downward trends. Portions of the area are important to upland game species on an annual basis, particularly chukar and Hungarian partridge. The unit provides habitat for Nevada's northernmost population of desert bighorn sheep. The wilderness provides critical summer, winter and lambing range. The northeastern portion of the wilderness provides summer habitat to a small but growing herd of elk.

The southern one-third of the wilderness provides excellent habitat for existing raptor nesting as well as a high potential for peregrine reintroduction.

The central heart of the wilderness holds the promise of potential TE&S plant species yet to be discovered, and a considerable number of Region 4 and Forest wildlife sensitive species.

Portions of the Monte Cristo Wild Horse and Burro Territory extends into the western edge of the wilderness, the larger portion of the territory outside of wilderness contains most of the horse use. However, there is considerable horse use which occurs within the wilderness boundary.

The area is intensively managed to produce forage for cattle on two allotments (Currant Creek and Blackrock C&H), which are partially in this wilderness. Most of the range resource is in poor or fair condition with a static trend. The greatest portion of the wilderness is not suitable to cattle grazing. The greatest amount of suitable grazing lands occur around the fringe of the wilderness and make up less than 15% of the wilderness area

The area is a locally important watershed for the communities of Preston, Lund and Currant as well as for several ranches which depend on water for irrigation from the water produced and stored in the watershed. There are no live streams in the wilderness.

Fire potential in this area is high due to lightning occurrence, with the White Pine Fire of 2013 being the last large fire known to occur within recent times. This fire burned approximately 1,300 acres.

There is no private land in this unit of land.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – General

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The Currant Mountain Wilderness has three WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Place signs at major access points.

Information and education programs will support the overall management program. There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands. The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research. Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Manage the White Pine Peak Research Natural Area according to the direction outlined in the RNA Establishment Record.

Research Natural Areas will be assigned their own WROS zone within the WMP and may also have a unique set of standards and guidelines associated with that WROS zone.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Manage caves as stated in the District Cave Management Plan.

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds and prevent disease transmission to bighorn sheep populations. Big horn sheep are present within the Currant Mountain Wilderness.

Fish and Wildlife

Current habitat use by threatened, endangered and sensitive species will be maintained and no conflicts from other uses will be permitted.

Populations of hunted MIS will be maintained at current levels.

All other MIS will be maintained at levels that exceed requirements for minimum viable populations.

Quality of big game winter range will be maintained.

Timber

Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.

Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.

Continue scientific research but don't allow the cutting of live or dead bristlecone pine without written approval of the Regional Forester.

Range

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness resource, forage resources and Desert bighorn needs.

Prevent expansion of the Monte Christo Wild Horse herd outside of the habitat capability.

Woodland Products

No woodland products will be harvested.

Soil and Water

Manage to maintain or improve water quality and soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and with established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE CURRANT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage campsite use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Manage visitor use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated</p>

		<p>in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>

Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.</p>	<p>Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.</p> <p>Maintain water development (guzzler on White Pine Range for Desert bighorn sheep).</p>
Range	<p>Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness.</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.</p>	
Timber	<p>Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.</p>	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	<p>Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.</p>	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial</p>

		<p>response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p> <p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>
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MOUNT MORIAH WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA – 83,711 ACRES

Description

Mt. Moriah is co-managed by the Ely Ranger District and the BLM Ely District Office. It is a total of 92,419 acres, with 83,711 acres administered by the USFS and 8,708 acres under the administrative jurisdiction of the BLM.

This wilderness consists of high peaks, rolling mountains, and canyons near the Nevada/Utah border resides in the Northern Snake Range. Located approximately 36 miles east of Ely, Nevada, in east-central Nevada, and is entirely within White Pine County. This unit is in the northern Snake Range, which extends along the eastern edge of Nevada in the Basin and Range physiographic province. The elongate north-south running range is bounded on the west by Spring Valley and on the east by Snake Valley.

This wilderness has unique qualities and several special attractions. The rugged terrain and remote points of access provide many opportunities for solitude and wilderness experiences. The Mt. Moriah Wilderness is accessed by four trailheads on the eastern side of the mountain (Hendry's, Hampton, Horse and Smith Creeks), and one main access point on the western side (4-Mile to Big Canyon).

Mt. Moriah, which has an elevation of 12,050 feet and adjacent 1,000-acre plateau known as 'The Table, are the center of the wilderness attractions. The Table is a unique high-elevation plateau covered with subalpine vegetation, and ancient bristlecone and limber pine stands occur along its edge.

The Table and the eastern half of the Snake Range are composed of Lower Cambrian Period (approximately 570 million years ago) Prospect Mountain quartzite, a pinkish gray rock which weathers to a tan color. Pole Canyon limestone (Middle Cambrian Period) gleams light gray on the 1,500-foot sheer walls in Smith Creek, and rock towers in Hendry's and Hampton Creek Canyons.

A number of limestone caverns are found on the east side of the wilderness. These have been partially formed by water percolating down through cracks and crevasses in the rock and dissolving away part of the rock to form underground cavities. The possibility exists for yet undiscovered caves to be located.

Soils are very rocky and exhibit some erosion potential

This area lies within the Intermountain sagebrush/ponderosa pine ecosystem. Vegetation varies with the elevation- Pinyon pine and juniper dominate the lower slopes. Aspen, mountain mahogany, white and Douglas-fir, limber pine, and bristlecone pine are found in the upper elevations. Sagebrush-grass types are located throughout the area

All recreation use occurs as dispersed activities. Hunting is the major activity, followed by hiking, fishing, camping and sight-seeing. There are no developed sites adjacent to the area. Approximately 500 RVDs occur each year. There are 50 miles of poor-fair condition trails within the area.

Archaeological sites including caves utilized by Indians, pictographs, and lithic scatters occur in the area in addition there are many caves of interest to spelunkers and scientists which have been located.

A variety of wildlife and fish species inhabit this area. Some are year-long residents while others occur only seasonally. The majority of the area is mule deer summer range along some of the lower elevation benches and riparian areas are used year-round. Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep can be found throughout the year in this unit. Blue grouse, sage grouse, and chukar also occur. Riparian vegetation provides key habitat for these game birds and many other species. Rainbow trout, brook trout, and the unique Bonneville cutthroat trout occur in the area's perennial streams.

Mount Moriah Wilderness is the home of one known federally listed sensitive plant species, and is suspected of having other TE&S plant species which may be discovered in future surveys of the area.

Cattle grazing occurs throughout this unit. Use is relatively light within the head of the wilderness compared with the surrounding Mt. Moriah Management Area due to the rugged topography of the wilderness. This area includes approximately 78 percent of the Rye Grass and Silver Creek cattle allotment acreage. The remaining percent of these allotments form the adjacent Mt. Moriah Management Area. There are approximately 926 AUMs of livestock use within the wilderness. These allotments are under improved management with intensive management emphasized to seek full utilization of forage allocated to livestock. Range improvements such as fencing and water developments are employed to aid in controlling cattle distribution and thus improve range condition- The majority of the range resource is in fair to good condition.

Overall watershed value is high with little potential for watershed improvement due to the high cost per benefit gained. The value results from the annual snowpack and relatively high precipitation. There are four perennial streams within the unit.

This unit is rated moderate in prospective potential for base and precious metals. Gold, garnet, and building stone have been mined in the past. Potential still remains for increased mining activity in areas adjacent to the wilderness and within the wilderness boundary. There are 75 mining claims maintained within this wilderness area.

Fire potential in this area is high due to lightning occurrence, with the most recent large scale fire occurring in 2014. Approximately 12, 500 acres burned across the Hampton Creek, Horse Creek and Deep Creek drainages. The Hampton Creek Bonneville Cutthroat Trout fishery was

impacted due to the fire intensity throughout the drainage. The access roads to the Hampton Creek, Horse Creek and Smith Creek trailheads also suffered heavy damage from multiple flood events after the fire had burned through these drainages. These roads have subsequently been re-built to continue to provide access to this area.

There is no private land in this unit.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – General

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The Mount Moriah Wilderness has three WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Information and education programs will support the overall management program. There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands. The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research. Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Manage the Mount Moriah Research Natural Area according to the direction outlined in the RNA Establishment Record.

Research Natural Areas will be assigned their own WROS zone within the WMP.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Manage caves as stated in the District Cave Management Plan.

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds and prevent disease transmission to bighorn sheep populations. Big horn sheep are present within the Mount Moriah Wilderness.

Fish and Wildlife

Current habitat use by threatened, endangered and sensitive species will be maintained and no

conflicts from other uses will be permitted.

Populations of hunted MIS will be maintained at current levels.

All other MIS will be maintained at levels that exceed requirements for minimum viable populations.

Quality of big game winter range will be maintained.

Timber

Protect bristlecone pine including remnants, from destruction or removal.

Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.

Continue scientific research but don't allow the cutting of live or dead bristlecone pine without written approval of the Regional Forester.

The desert bighorn sheep habitat for possible future designation to a desert bighorn sheep range.

Range

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness resource, forage resources and Desert bighorn needs.

Woodland Products

No woodland products will be harvested.

Soil and Water

Manage to maintain or improve water quality and soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and with established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE MOUNT MORIAH WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage campsite use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Manage visitor use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated</p>

		<p>in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>

Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.</p> <p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing Bonneville Cutthroat trout habitat and populations.</p>	<p>Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.</p> <p>Allow reintroduced transplants of Bonneville cutthroat trout as needed.</p>
Range	<p>Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness.</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.</p>	
Timber	<p>Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.</p>	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	<p>Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.</p>	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial</p>

		<p>response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p> <p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>
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HIGH SCHELLS WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA- 121,497 ACRES

Description

The High Schells Wilderness is 121,497 acres in size. This mountainous wilderness is the largest wilderness on the Ely Ranger District. Crowned by 11,883' North Schell Peak this wilderness has high elevation peaks, and deep valleys with year round flowing water. The North and South Schell Peaks Research Natural Area makes up the heart of this wilderness.

The High Schells runs from its northern end at Kalamazoo Creek south to Cave Mountain and encompasses the highest peaks of the Schell Creek Range. Spring Valley borders this mountain range to the east, while the scenic Duck Creek Basin provides abundant access along the western slope. The Duck Creek Basin is known for its recreational values including three developed campgrounds, dispersed camping opportunities and many trails. The Ranger Trail, a designated ATV trail, runs north along the western boundary of this wilderness from Berry Creek to the Kalamazoo Divide and further north. Hunters flock to this mountain range every hunting season in pursuit of elk, deer and game birds. The largest elk herd in the state of Nevada calls this mountain range home.

Access to the west side is can be had by driving north along Hwy 93, 5 miles past McGill, Nevada and turning right onto the Success Loop Road. This road takes you into Duck Creek Basin and visitors can access the High Schells Wilderness via Timber Creek, Snake Creek and the North and South Forks of Berry Creek trailheads. Accessing this wilderness on the east side, via Spring Valley, requires a 4x4 high clearance vehicle and patience. Cleve Creek offers the best access for those who do not possess a 4x4, though it is still recommended. Two trailheads exist up the Cleve Creek drainage. Taft Creek, McCoy Creek, Bassett Creek and Piermont Creek all have trailhead access at the end of their respective routes. There are approximately 35 miles of poor-fair condition trails within this wilderness area.

Precambrian metamorphosed sedimentary rocks are present along the eastern edge of the Wilderness. Cambrian Prospect Mountain quartzite forms the high, bald peaks of the Schells. Cambrian to Pennsylvanian limestone, dolomite, shale and quartzite line the western edge of the wilderness along with some Tertiary volcanic and sedimentary rocks.

Grazing (sheep and cattle) is permitted throughout this unit. Ten grazing allotments overlap this wilderness area. These allotments are under improved management with intensive management emphasized to seek full utilization of forage allocated to livestock. Range improvements such as fencing and water developments are employed to aid in controlling cattle distribution and thus improve range condition.

There is no private land in this unit.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – General

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The High Schells Wilderness has three WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Place signs at major access points.

Information and education programs will support the overall management program.

There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands. The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research. Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Manage the North and South Schell Peaks Research Natural Area according to the direction outlined in the RNA Establishment Record.

Research Natural Areas will be assigned their own WROS zone within the WMP and may also have a unique set of standards and guidelines associated with that WROS zone.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Manage caves as stated in the District Cave Management Plan.

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds.

Fish and Wildlife

Current habitat use by threatened, endangered and sensitive species will be maintained and no

conflicts from other uses will be permitted.

Populations of hunted MIS will be maintained at current levels.

All other MIS will be maintained at levels that exceed requirements for minimum viable populations.

Quality of big game winter range will be maintained.

Timber

Allow no harvest of woodland products.

Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.

Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.

Continue scientific research but don't allow the cutting of live or dead bristlecone pine without written approval of the Regional Forester.

Range

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Soil and Water

Manage to maintain or improve water quality and soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and with established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident

objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE HIGH SCHELLS WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage campsite use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Manage visitor use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated</p>

		<p>in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>

Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.</p>	<p>Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.</p>
Range	<p>Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness.</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.</p>	
Timber	<p>Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.</p>	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research</p> <p>Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	<p>Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.</p>	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p>

		<p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>
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BALD MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA- 22,366 ACRES

Description

The Bald Mountain Wilderness lies approximately 25 miles south and west of Ely, Nevada off of Highway 6. The Bald Mountain Wilderness is entirely within National Forest System Lands and comprises 22,366 acres. The Bald Mountain Wilderness is located on the eastern edge of the White Pine Range, with Ellison creek bordering it on the south.

The Bald Mountain Wilderness is easily accessible by dirt roads which bisect this area in half. It is characterized by narrow canyons, and high elevation grass lands.

Precipitation varies from year to year but averages somewhere between 8-12 inches.

It is a lower elevation range with rocky outcrops and unique box canyons. As one gains elevation, Pinion - Juniper forests give way to mountain sage, wildflowers and a high grassy (bald) peak at 8,850 feet.

There are no system trails in this Wilderness area.

The northern portion of the Bald Mountain Wilderness contains hills and small peaks of Pennsylvanian to Permian (318-251 million years ago) marine limestone and dolomite with some sandstone and quartzite. In the southern portion the older rocks are covered by Tertiary (65 million years ago) volcanic rhyolite flows and ash-fall tuffs and quaternary (2.1 million years ago to present) alluvium. The range is deformed by north-trending folds which provide oil and gas exploration interest.

Cattle grazing is permitted throughout this unit. Bald Mtn Wilderness is overlapped by two grazing allotments, one BLM allotment left over from the land transfer in 2006 and one USFS cattle allotment. These allotments are under improved management with intensive management emphasized to seek full utilization of forage allocated to livestock. Range improvements such as fencing and water developments are employed to aid in controlling cattle distribution and thus improve range condition.

There is no private land in this unit.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – General

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The Bald Mountain Wilderness has two WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Place signs at major access points.

Information and education programs will support the overall management program.

There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands. The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research. Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Manage caves as stated in the District Cave Management Plan.

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds and prevent disease transmission to bighorn sheep populations. Big horn sheep are present within the Shellback Wilderness.

Fish and Wildlife

Current habitat use by threatened, endangered and sensitive species will be maintained and no conflicts from other uses will be permitted.

Populations of hunted MIS will be maintained at current levels.

All other MIS will be maintained at levels that exceed requirements for minimum viable populations.

Quality of big game winter range will be maintained.

Timber

Allow no harvest.

Range

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Soil and Water

Manage to maintain or improve water quality and soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and with established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE BALD MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage campsite use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Manage visitor use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated</p>

		<p>in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>

Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.</p>	<p>Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.</p>
Range	<p>Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness.</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.</p>	
Timber	<p>Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.</p>	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	<p>Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.</p>	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p> <p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds</p>

		<p>the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>
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RED MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA- 20,490 ACRES

Description

Adjacent to the Currant Mountain Wilderness in the heart of the White Pine Range, Red Mountain Wilderness at 20,490 acres stands out against the grey limestone escarpment with its orange - red volcanic geology.

This remote area possesses beautiful scenic vistas and volcanic rock formations. The Red Mountain Wilderness is blanketed by a Tertiary (65.5-2.5 million years ago) volcanic rhyolite tuff. Oxidized iron gives it a red color and visible crystals make it sparkle in the sun. In the southern portion of the wilderness this volcanic rock forms cliff bands with columnar joints. South of the White River Campground there are outcrops of white ash-flow tuff. These volcanic rocks were deposited during the explosive eruptions of caldera volcanos which spread lava and ash across Nevada for millions of years.

Access to the Red Mountain Wilderness can be gained from US Highway 6. Turn west on the White River Road and travel approximately 14 miles along a well-established gravel road. Cherry-stem routes access this wilderness from this road. Access can also be gained by US Highway 6 further to the south. Turn north off of the highway onto the Currant Creek road and park anywhere along this dirt road.

There are no system trails in this Wilderness area.

Cattle grazing is permitted throughout this unit. Two cattle grazing allotments overlap the Red Mountain Wilderness. These allotments are under improved management with intensive management emphasized to seek full utilization of forage allocated to livestock. Range improvements such as fencing and water developments are employed to aid in controlling cattle distribution and thus improve range condition.

There is no private land in this unit.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – general

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as *Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum* (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The Red Mountain Wilderness has two WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Place signs at major access points.

Information and education programs will support the overall management program.

There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands. The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research. Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Manage caves as stated in the District Cave Management Plan.

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds and prevent disease transmission to bighorn sheep populations. Big horn sheep are present within the Red Mountain Wilderness.

Fish and Wildlife

Current habitat use by threatened, endangered and sensitive species will be maintained and no conflicts from other uses will be permitted.

Populations of hunted MIS will be maintained at current levels.

All other MIS will be maintained at levels that exceed requirements for minimum viable

populations.

Quality of big game winter range will be maintained.

Timber

Allow no harvest.

Range

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Soil and Water

Manage to maintain or improve water quality and soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and with established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE RED MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage campsite use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Manage visitor use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated</p>

		<p>in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>

Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.</p>	<p>Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.</p>
Range	<p>Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness.</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.</p>	
Timber	<p>Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.</p>	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	<p>Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.</p>	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p> <p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds</p>

		<p>the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>
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SHELLBACK WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA- 36,143 ACRES

Description

The Shellback Wilderness, 36,143 acres in size, lies approximately 55 miles west of Ely, Nevada just south of Highway 50. The Shellback Wilderness is entirely within the National Forest System Lands administered by the Ely Ranger District.

There are no system trails in this Wilderness area.

The Shellback Wilderness is in the northeast portion of the White Pine Division. It is a long ridge running from north to south and reaching over 9,000 feet and is comprised of eastern tilted fault blocks of Pennsylvanian to Permian (318-251 million years ago) marine limestone and dolomite with some sandstone and quartzite. On the western edge of the wilderness these rocks are blanketed by Tertiary (65 million years ago) volcanic andesite flows and quaternary (2.1 million years ago to present) alluvium. The range is deformed by north-trending folds which are of interest to oil and gas exploration.

The west side has spring fed basins with aspen stands and linear limestone formations. The east side is more arid with Pinion and Juniper forests and some deep rocky canyons. Wild horses utilize this area even though it is outside of the Monte Cristo Wild Horse Territory.

Cattle grazing is permitted throughout this unit. Two grazing allotments overlap the Shellback Wilderness. These allotments are under improved management with intensive management emphasized to seek full utilization of forage allocated to livestock. Range improvements such as fencing and water developments are employed to aid in controlling cattle distribution and thus improve range condition.

There is no private land in this unit.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – General

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The Shellback Wilderness has three WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Place signs at major access points.

Information and education programs will support the overall management program.

There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands. The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research. Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Manage caves as stated in the District Cave Management Plan.

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds and prevent disease transmission to bighorn sheep populations. Big horn sheep are present within the Shellback Wilderness.

Fish and Wildlife

Current habitat use by threatened, endangered and sensitive species will be maintained and no conflicts from other uses will be permitted.

Populations of hunted MIS will be maintained at current levels.

All other MIS will be maintained at levels that exceed requirements for minimum viable

populations.

Quality of big game winter range will be maintained.

Timber

Allow no harvest.

Range

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Soil and Water

Manage to maintain or improve water quality and soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and with established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE SHELLBACK WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage campsite use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Manage visitor use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated</p>

		<p>in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>

Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.</p>	<p>Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.</p>
Range	<p>Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness.</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.</p>	
Timber	<p>Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.</p>	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research</p> <p>Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	<p>Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.</p>	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p>

		<p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>
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WHITE PINE RANGE WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA- 40,013 ACRES

Description

The White Pine Range Wilderness is located on the western side of the White Pine Range south of Highway 50, approximately 55 miles west of Ely, Nevada.

The White Pine Range Wilderness is 40,013 acres in size and one of the most remote wilderness areas on the Ely Ranger District. Access is difficult from the west slope as the area is divided into three sections by rough roads open to motorized vehicles (ATV's or high clearance 4x4 vehicles are recommended).

The northern portion of the White Pine Range Wilderness contains ridges of Devonian to Permian (416-251 million years ago) marine limestone and dolomite with some sandstone and quartzite. On the western edge of the wilderness these rocks are blanketed by Tertiary (65 million years ago) volcanic andesite flows and quaternary (2.1 million years ago to present) alluvium. The range is deformed by north-trending folds which are of interest to oil and gas exploration.

Rocky ridges, rolling hills and varied vegetation can be enjoyed throughout the Wilderness. Many springs attract wildlife and mixed conifers can be found on the higher ridges. This area is just north of the Currant Mountain Wilderness.

There are no system trails in this Wilderness area.

The Monte Cristo Wild Horse Territory overlaps this wilderness. Heavy use by wild horses occurs on the western slopes of the area with significant impacts to Mustang Springs in particular.

Cattle grazing is permitted throughout this unit. Three grazing allotments overlap the White Pine Range Wilderness. These allotments are under improved management with intensive management emphasized to seek full utilization of forage allocated to livestock. Range improvements such as fencing and water developments are employed to aid in controlling cattle distribution and thus improve range condition.

There is no private land in this unit.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Manage the existing Wilderness Area in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989 and the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2006.

Wilderness Management – General

Protect the area to preserve its natural state.

Allow the ecosystem to function without man-caused interference, except for fire control where appropriate.

Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Develop new trails as they are needed and identified to enhance dispersed recreation use.

Maintain or relocate existing trails, construct new trailheads as needed.

Work with wilderness users (through trail transportation and maintenance, determine the outfitter and guide needs of the public) to avoid overuse of the more popular areas.

Overall management is guided by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMP). The WMP includes management zones referred to as Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zones that provide a spatial framework to manage for solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The White Pine Range Wilderness has three WROS zones (pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive) identified in the WMP.

Wilderness Character monitoring will be an integral component of a comprehensive monitoring program and will be compatible with agency guidance on Wilderness Character monitoring. Activities associated with such things as fire suppression, grazing and mining will be done in a manner to minimize impacts to the wilderness. Resource Advisors with relevant technical qualifications will be utilized for all fire or other incidents within wilderness.

Information and Education

Place signs at major access points.

Information and education programs will support the overall management program.

There will be an approved education plan that is integrated across boundaries and addresses wilderness as well as adjacent lands.

The plan will link education and information programs to identified management issues.

Research

Designated wildernesses are recognized as unique landscapes that may have unique opportunities for research. Research activities will be screened for appropriateness within wilderness and approved research activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to wilderness.

Recreation – Visitor Use

Manage caves as stated in the District Cave Management Plan.

Recreation uses of wilderness include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting to name of few. The WMP provides guidance on monitoring of these types of activities to insure that Wilderness Character is not being degraded due to visitor use. Appropriate visitor use levels are linked to WROS zones within wilderness and ongoing monitoring will determine if there is a need to implement management actions to insure Wilderness Character is preserved. Visitor use levels are closely tied to the Wilderness Character components of solitude and opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The WMP includes standards for group size and encounters.

Recreation – Camping/Site Use

The WMP provides guidance for monitoring the effects of recreational activities within wilderness. Resource impacts are often associated with recreation activities at specific sites and the WMP includes monitoring guidance that is compatible with accepted national protocols for site density and site conditions. Standards associated with site conditions are linked to the established WROS zones.

Recreation – Grazing

Recreational pack stock present unique, but manageable, concerns within wilderness. The WMP provides guidance for management of stock to minimize impacts to vegetation, control the spread of noxious weeds.

Fish and Wildlife

Current habitat use by threatened, endangered and sensitive species will be maintained and no conflicts from other uses will be permitted.

Populations of hunted MIS will be maintained at current levels.

All other MIS will be maintained at levels that exceed requirements for minimum viable

populations.

Quality of big game winter range will be maintained.

Timber

Allow no harvest of woodland products.

Range

Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness resource.

Prevent expansion of the Monte Christo Wild Horse Herd outside of habitat capability.

Soil and Water

Manage to maintain or improve water quality and soil productivity.

Minerals

Mineral proposals will be handled expeditiously and operations will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner that is compatible with the wilderness resource and with established procedures when dealing with mineral exploration or development in wilderness.

Wildland Fire Management

Fire is managed to permit lightning caused fires to play, as naturally as possible, their ecological role within the wilderness, and to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within the wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas are managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met. Human caused wildfires receive a suppression orientated initial response, with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety, protection of Values at Risk and expenditures commensurate with the Values at Risk. If human caused wildfires exceed the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision is used to determine the management response.

Lands and Facilities

Allow no uses which disturb or conflict with Wilderness resources.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE WHITE PINE RANGE WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT AREA

Practices	Management Direction	Standards & Guidelines
Wilderness Management-General	<p>Each wilderness is covered by an approved Wilderness Management Plan (WMPs)</p> <p>Institute Wilderness ROS (recreation opportunity spectrum) zones in order to manage for Solitude and Opportunities for Primitive or unconfined recreation.</p> <p>Manage wilderness at the standard service level.</p> <p>Review and update the Wilderness Management Plan every 10 years.</p>	<p>(S) Wilderness Resource Advisors (READ) shall be assigned by a Line Officer or Agency Administrator, or by a determination in consultation with a Resource Advisor, that assignment is not needed on wilderness fires.</p>
Recreation-Camping/Site Use	<p>Manage campsite use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreation to be compatible with the wilderness resource.</p>	<p>(S) Manage all campsites to have a condition rating of no greater than 2. All sites with a condition rating higher than 2 shall be mitigated in order to bring back within standard or rehabilitated entirely if it otherwise cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>(S) Manage Pristine WROS classification as 1 campsite per 10,000 acres of Pristine. In Wilderness where Pristine acreage is less than 10,000 acres this standard would become no (zero) campsites allowed within this classification.</p> <p>(S) Manage Primitive WROS class as 1 campsite per 500 acres of Primitive.</p> <p>(S) For all WROS Classification Zones, allow no more than 2 sites per any acre.</p> <p>(S) Manage Research Natural Areas as no camping zones to protect and preserve the unique plant communities that were the basis for establishing the RNA.</p>
Recreation-Visitor Use	<p>Manage visitor use to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Use indirect techniques to disperse wilderness visitors and reduce impacts</p>	<p>(S) Determine the current use and monitor subsequent use being made of the Wilderness to prevent over use.</p> <p>(G) If use keeps increasing at the present rate, a permit system or other method of controlling and distributing people may be initiated</p>

		<p>in the future to encourage camping away from lakes, outfitter camps, or other heavily used user areas.</p> <p>(S) Group size is limited to 15 people and 15 stock animals in one group as the maximum.</p> <p>(S) On-trail encounters shall be, on average, <2 in an 8 hour day.</p> <p>(S) Cross-country encounters shall be, on average, <1 in an 8 hour day</p>
Recreation-Grazing	<p>Manage recreational grazing to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Manage recreational riding and pack stock to insure resource values are protected.</p> <p>Order Number: <u>04-00-097</u> Weed Free Feed Closure Order, signed by Regional Forester, 2003.</p>	<p>(S) Require users to follow the "Pack in-Pack out" policy.</p> <p>(S) Contact trail riders and request that they not tie their horses to green trees.</p> <p>(S) Request horse users to pack in their own feed and to rotate campsites every couple of days.</p> <p>(S) The use of goats as pack stock in areas where Bighorn Sheep are present is prohibited in order to prevent disease transmission between the species and to preserve the bighorn sheep populations.</p> <p>(S) All feed for recreation stock must be packed in and be certified weed free feed.</p> <p>(G) Implement measures as needed to protect resource values.</p>
Research	<p>Manage research projects to preserve wilderness character in accordance with the Wilderness Act.</p> <p>Follow management direction outlined in Establishment Records for each Research Natural Area.</p> <p>Protect the Research Natural Area's from disturbance unless Establishment Record provides for exception.</p>	<p>(S) Authorized research projects shall be conducted in a manner that preserves or enhances Wilderness Character.</p> <p>(G) Utilize guidance such as what is found in Framework for Evaluation of Scientific Activities in Wilderness (RMRS GTR-234WWW.2010)</p> <p>(S) New campsites shall not be located within RNA's.</p> <p>(S) Any existing campsites within RNAs shall be removed and rehabilitated.</p>

Information & Education	<p>Provide information on wilderness areas.</p> <p>Review and update Education Plan every 5 years.</p>	<p>(S) Provide public with current information on the Wilderness Area at the District Office or Forest headquarters.</p> <p>(G) Encourage LEAVE NO TRACE camping by written materials at trailheads and by personal contact.</p> <p>(S) Patrolmen will contact wilderness users to promote wilderness ethics and notify them of hazards.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Cooperate with NDOW in managing key Desert Bighorn Sheep range.</p>	<p>Allow reintroduced transplants of bighorn sheep as needed.</p>
Range	<p>Manage livestock to be compatible with the wilderness.</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing on existing allotments within grazing capacities to avoid detracting from wilderness values.</p>	
Timber	<p>Protect bristlecone pine from unnatural events.</p>	<p>(S) Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p> <p>(S) Authorize the disturbance of bristlecone pine sites only with written permission of the Regional Forester.</p> <p>(S) Continue scientific research Protect bristlecone including remnants, from destruction or removal by authorized persons.</p>
Wildland Fire Management	<p>Permit naturally occurring wildfires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role in wilderness.</p>	<p>(S) An appropriate suppression response shall be made on all wildfires as outlined in the C3 program (C3 = Confine, Contain, Control) HNF L&RMP Amendment #1 June 21, 1990</p> <p>(G) Naturally occurring wildfires in these wilderness areas should be managed, whenever possible, under less than a full suppression strategy as analyzed and approved in a WFDSS decision and for as long as the stated incident objectives are being met.</p> <p>(S) Human caused wildfires shall receive a suppression orientated initial response with an emphasis on firefighter and public safety.</p> <p>(S) If a human caused wildfire exceeds</p>

		<p>the initial response actions, a WFDSS decision shall determine further management response to the incident.</p> <p>(G) Protection and expenditures should be commensurate with the Values at Risk.</p> <p>(G) Reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping wilderness.</p>
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