AMENDMENT #2
AMENDMENT NUMBER 2

Humboldt National Forest
Land and Resource Management Plan

July, 1990

The Chief has directed the Humboldt National Forest to amend its Forest Plan. Final Environmental Impact Statement, and Record of Decision in several areas to clarify management direction, standards, and guidelines, as well as other supporting information: These changes do not significantly alter the direction, goals and objectives, management prescriptions or outputs.

Following are amendment items responding to the Chief's direction:

Record of Decision:

Page 5: Change second paragraph to read Existing developed recreation sites will be managed to standard during the established recreation season.

Land and Resource Management Plan:

Page 11-3: Change the first paragraph to read "The secondary zone of Influence is that area which is indirectly Impacted by Forest policy and decisions. This zone Includes the urban' counties of Clark, Douglas, Ormsby, and Washoe, as well as southern Idaho and western Utah, The Humboldt National Forest provides recreation and Wilderness opportunities to residents in this zone. The Forest may also affect a limited number of residents in this zone by decisions involving other resource activities, such as livestock grazing.

Page 11-10: Following the fourth paragraph, insert the following new paragraph:

The relationship between the amount of existing sage grouse habitat and that which will exist at the time of Forest Plan implementation is shown in Table IV-4, page IV-13, of the Final Environmental impact Statement for the Forest Plan. it is projected that there will be a slight Increase in the habitat capability for sage grouse. The sagebrush vegetation type (953,063 acres) is considered potential habitat, however, a current inventory of all the components of sage grouse habitat on the Forest does

not exist. The Nevada Department of Wildlife and the Humboldt National Forest maintains an inventory of known strutting grounds. Both agencies continue to Identify and Inventory additional strutting grounds and wintering areas as components of key sage grouse habitat.

TABLE 11-5
Selected Management Indicator Species for The Humboldt National Forest

Species	Vegetation Type
Mule deer	All vegetation types
Sage grouse	Sagebrush-grass, riparian
Goshawk	Old growth cottonwood, aspen and fir stands associated with riparian areas
Lahontan cutthroat trout	Riparian -
Bonneville cutthroat trout	Riparian
Other trout species	Riparian

Page II-Il. Table 11-6: Replace the table with the following updated version:.

TABLE 11-6
Various Population Levels for MIS on the Humboldt National Forest

Species	Minimal Viable	Current	Maximum Potential
Mule deer	11,247	63,000	88,200
Sage grouse	3,900	36,300	40,000
Goshawk	500 pairs	500 pairs	1,000 pairs
Lohontan Cutthroat Trout			
Bonneville cutthroat trout			
All trout species	2,470 pounds	45,900 pounds	125,000 pounds

- Various population levels for these species will be as presented in approved State and Federal recovery and/or management plans:

Page IV-2, next to last paragraph: Change to show five miles of trail programmed for reconstruction or construction annually.

Page IV-30: Insert the following as the first three paragraphs in the column under Standards and Guidelines:

Key sage grouse habitat is defined as the portion of the habitat necessary to maintain and perpetuate the population. Included are winter ranges, breeding complexes, brood rearing areas, and water sources.

Project proposals that will alter Identified key sage grouse habitat will be analyzed, on the ground, with the appropriate Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel per the Memorandum of understanding between the Intermountain Region USDA Forest Service and the Nevada Department of Wildlife State of Nevada. The basis for project evaluation will be the current Forest land Management plan standards and guidelines, the Western States Grouse Management practices as outlined in Technical Bulletins and the Western States Sagegrouse Guidelines for habitat protection.

Inventory of key sage grouse habitat and Its various components will occur as part of the analysis of all proposed projects with the potential to adversely affect habitat capability.

Page IV-32: Insert the following as the second paragraph in the column under Standards and Guidelines: in the absence of scorecards to define specific standards for vegetation condition, the minimum standard for satisfactory ecological condition is defined as either: 1) excellent or good range condition; or 2) fair range condition with an upward trend.

Page IV-32: Under Standards and Guidelines, following the second paragraph, insert the following:

The District l.D. Team as supported by other resource specialists is responsible for determining Proper-use criteria. Ills essential that the Team consider the full spectrum of resource needs and values. The following forage utilization values are presented by non-riparian (upland) and riparian categories. They are applicable to key species and areas.

Maximum Forage Utilization Values

Riparian

Management Vegetation	Management Category Value	Percent Utilization Key Species/Grass
Season long	I-II Highest to high	35
	III-IV, Moderate to Limited	50
	V, Low	55
Deferred Rotation	I-II Highest to high	45
	III-IV, Moderate to Limited	55
	V, Low	65
Rest Rotation	I-II Highest to high	45
	III-IV, Moderate to Limited	60
	V, Low	65
High Intensity Short Duration (early season)	I-II Highest to high	55
	III-IV, Moderate to Limited	65
	V, Low	70

1. Utilization of crested wheatgrass seedings may periodically exceed the above rates by 5-10% to regulate growth form.

2. The maximum utilization levels would normally be used only where the plan community is at or near the desired future condition.

3. The listed value is the maximum rate which can be prescribed unless otherwise approved by the Forest supervisor. -

4. Key species can vary by range site and management system.

5. Proper use based on the utilization of shrubs will normally not exceed 50% of the current years growth. -

6. Under the High intensity short duration (early season), timing in relation to the period remaining for regrowth is key. The system is dependent upon sufficient regrowth to meet plant physiological needs and other resource values. Physical damage to the vegetative and soils resource to be considered.

7. Sediment entrapment is essential to streambank restoration. This is an objective at least 3-4 inches of herbaceous stubble height is needed on site during high flow periods.

(top of page cut off)

will be managed to maintain productivity and quality," add "National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) soil loss tolerance level (T-level) will be used for individual soils where T-level values are available. in the absence of a soil specific T-level value, the average 2-3 ton/acre soil loss tolerance level will be use to evaluate site specific projects."

Page IV-46: Under Standards and Guidelines, following the fourth paragraph, insert the following additional Guideline:

Delineate and evaluate riparian areas prior to implementing any project activity.

Page IV-48: Under Management Direction, following the last paragraph on the page, add the following:

All riparian areas on the Forest will be stratified Into one of five management categories based on:

1. Existing and potential fisheries, recreation and wildlife resource values.

2. Soil productivity and water quality needs.

3. Values which contribute to a management areas' special administrative designation, such as wilderness.

The five categories are defined below:

Category I: Highest Value Riparian Area (Meets any of the listed criteria)
1. Associated with a highest value fishery habitat.
2. Associated with an outstanding value recreation resource.
3. Associated with highly unstable streambeds and banks.*
4. Associated with municipal watersheds or research natural areas.
5. Associated with highest value wildlife habitat.

Category II: High Value Riparian Area (Meets any of the listed criteria)
1. Associated with a high value fishery habitat.
2. Associated with a substantial value recreation resource.
3. Associated with moderately unstable streambeds and banks.
4. Associated with wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers, National Recreation Areas, National Historic Landmarks, or NatIonal Natural Landmarks.
5. Associated with a high value wildlife habitat.

Category Ill: Moderate Value Riparian Area (meets any of the listed criteria)

1. Associated with a moderate value fishery habitat.
2. Associated with a moderate value recreation resource.
3. Associated with moderately stable streambeds and banks.
4. Associated with a moderate value wildlife habitat.

Category IV: Limited Value Riparian Area (Meets any of the listed criteria)

1. Associated with a limited value fishery habitat.
2. Associated with a limited value recreation resource.
3. Associated with stable streambeds and banks.
4. Associated with a low value wildlife habitat.

Category V: Low Value Riparian Area (meets all of the listed criteria)

1. Not classified as fishery habitat.
2. Associated with unclassified value recreation resource.
3. Associated with limited value wildlife habitat.
4. Not associated with perennial streams with a base flow greater than one cfs.
5. Not associated with special administratively designated areas.

* as inherent stream channel stability decreases, the condition of the associated riparian area becomes increasingly more Important for protection of soil productivity and water quality. That is, highly unstable streambeds and banks are not characteristics desired tor highest value riparian areas, but are recognized as conditions to which it is desirable to apply the most restrictive management requirements.

Page IV-48: Under the Standards and Guidelines, opposite the Management Direction requiring riparian area stratification, add the following:

These five management categories are directly tied to the desired/acceptable resource conditions. The conditions shown below are general in nature and represent the current state of the art". As the Riparian Vegetation Classification and Potential Natural Community guides are completed they may be updated. The various categories of riparian will be managed to maintain or Improve conditions to the following:

Category I - Potential key species (herbaceous and woody) are present, reproducing, and have high vigor. Cover of key species is 90 percent or greater of estimated potential. Soil productivity has not been significantly reduced as evidenced by no more than 10 percent reduction in macro-pore space from estimated potential. Stream bank stability is at least 90 percent of estimated potential. Fish production is estimated to be near potential.

Category II - Potential key herbaceous and woody species are present, reproducing, and have good vigor. Composition of key species is 70 to 89 percent of estimated potential. Soil productivity has not been substantially

reduced as evidenced by not more than a 10 percent reduction in macro-pore space from estimated potential. Stream bank stability is 80 to 89 percent of estimated potential. Fish production is good in relation to estimated potential.

Category Ill-IV - Potential key woody species are present, but intermingled with and being replaced by secondary woody species. Potential key herbaceous species are present and reproducing. Herbaceous cover may be high, but that of key species is 45 to 69percent of estimated potential. Soil productivity has been reduced as evidenced by an 11-19 percent reduction in macro-pore space from estimated potential. Stream bank stability may fail below 80 percent, but is determined sufficient to protect associated resource values. Fish production is 45-69 percent of estimated potential.

Category V - Riparian areas will be managed in a manner consistent with management for adjacent lands.

Page IV-49: Under Standards and Guidelines, following the first paragraph, insert the following additional Standards and Guidelines:

Avoid stream channel changes wherever feasible. Where channel work cannot be avoided, the land manager, utilizing an ID team, will strive to:

-Preserve the natural aquatic environment, or minimize adverse effects.

-Maintain natural channel hydraulics, especially velocities in the affected stream reach.

-Install drop structures or other hydraulic controls were necessary, providing fish passage as appropriate.

-Maintain streamside vegetation if feasible. If destroyed, revegetate and stabilized banks to maintain aquatic environment as near as possible to pre-disturbance condition.

-Shape and revegetate the impacted area in a manner compatible with natural stream dynamics.

-For temporary diversions to accommodate construction or other activities, restore the stream to Its natural channel prior to the runoff season.

-Ensure that any other appropriate project-specific mitigation measures are used to maintain the riverine and adjacent non-riverine riparian environment.

Construction and other activities affecting stream channels shall be limited to those periods when such activities will have least detrimental effect on the

aquatic environment, including fish reproduction and egg development, unless emergency situations deem otherwise.

Avoid construction during the wet season or other undesirable runoff periods to minimize sedimentation directly into streams. If unavoidable, sedimentation control structures must be added.

Page IV-179: Under the section titled “Management Prescription, change first paragraph to read “Developed recreation will be managed at the standard service level during the recreation season. Dispersed recreation will be managed at the less than standard service level.”

Pages IV-208 and 20g: Move the following trail projects to a separate category at the bottom of the Trail Construction/Reconstruction Action Schedule. These should fall under a heading titled Partnership Projects, Schedule To Be Arranged: Gardner Creek Trail No. 030; Cottonwood Creek Trail; Herder Creek Log Trail (Grey’s Lake); Winchell-Agee Spring Trail No. 007; Thorpe Creek Trail No. 035 (Vero Lake); Ruby Guard Trail No. 029; Brown Creek Trail No. 110 (Pearl Lake); Trail No. 122 (Near Secret Peak Overland Lake).

Delete the Wheeler Peak Summit and Lexington Arch Trail (Trail No. 005), which are now within the Great Basin National Park. Also, Delete the Snowmobile Trail, Wildhorse to Jarbidge, which is not a construction project, but only involves marking and management of snow covered roads.

Appendices to Humboldt Forest Plan.

Add Appendix L, Soil and Water Conservation Practices (New Appendix).

(Forest Land and Resource Management Plan)
APPENDIX L

Soil and Water Conservation Practices.

The Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines for protection and improvement of water quality and soil productivity (Forest Plan p.IV-46) are a Forest-wide minimum set of conservation practices. These practices have been defined by Forest interdisciplinary teams, or described by Forest Service or other agency handbooks. in addition to these conservation practices, reference should include FSH 2509.22 Soil and Water Conservation Handbook, and the Handbook of Best Management Practices for the State of Nevada (currently under revision).

As most projects have a unique configuration, they usually require site specific, project level measures. Project-level soil and water conservation practices may be applied only with a site specific evaluation. They represent the most effective and practicable means to meet soil, water, and other resource goals for a specific project area. They may supplement Forest guidelines, but must be weighed during the project analysis in terms of need versus feasibility, practicality, and cost. These practices are not intended to be Standards, since they may not be applicable in all situations.

1. When channel changes are unavoidable, new channels will include scour and erosion protection, before turning water into them.

2. Construction equipment service areas will be located and built to prevent gas, oil, or other contaminants from washing or leaching into streams.

3. Wheeled, track-mounted, or other heavy equipment will not be operated in stream courses except when approved by the land manager at designated crossings; or if essential to construction activities, as specifically authorized by the land manager.

4. Thushing of desulting basin, ponds, and reservoirs into streams is prohibited.

5. All industrial, residential, and recreational developments will, when physically feasible, use a recharge pond rather than the stream as part of the storm drain system.

6. Barrow materials from stream channels only where this is not detrimental to water quality, fisheries, or channel hydraulics, and only when authorized.

7. Lands impacted by stream channel operations and lands contiguous to streams that have been altered by construction activities will be reshaped to as near natural conditions as possible, prior to revegetating.

8. Construction operations will be conducted to prevent debris from entering stream channels.

9. Upon completion of a project or activity, all temporary roads will be “erosion proofed” by cross ditches, ripping, seeding, or other suitable means. As needed, silting ponds or other facilities will be provided to prevent silt-laden wafer from entering streams.

10. Riprap or other protection materials:

    a. should be of sufficient size and placed in such a manner as to withstand peak flows comparable to a 25-year flood, except where associated with major bridges which are designed for passage of a 100-year flood;

b. should extend below the bed of the stream sufficient to protect against scour and to a height sufficient to protect against the predicted or recorded 25- or 50-year flood occurrence, as appropriate;

c. will be of a quality that will not deteriorate during the length of time that it is determined to be needed:

and,

d. will be placed in such a manner as to prevent any downstream erosion.

11. Culverts, bridges, and other facilities will be designed to pass, or to protect against, floods which may be reasonably expected to occur during the life of the facility. Selection of flood design should consider the relationships between risk and hazard of failure, and costs, monetary and non-monetary, of providing protection.

12. Culverts or bridges or hardened fords will be required on temporary roads associated with minerals or other activities, at all points where it is necessary to cross stream courses. Such facilities will be of sufficient size and design to provide capacity for the flow of water anticipated during the period of use of the road. When the temporary road is no longer needed for the purpose for which it was designed, all bridges and culverts will be removed when such facilities are removed, associated fills will also be removed so that they will not be affected by the stream. Removed fill material will be shaped to _____ disturbed soil revegetated.

13. No soil materials will be used to cover the decks of temporary bridges.

14. All culverts will be bedded and back-filled in accordance with approved engineering practices.

15. in road construction, maintenance, and other earth-moving activities, the toe of overcast material will be placed above the mean high-water line. If the best alternative is to encroach on the stream, construction methods and/or structural barriers will be used to prevent fill material from entering the stream channel.

16. On sidehills and near channel crossings, road drainages will discharge where sediment can settle out before runoff reaches a stream channel, unless this is clearly infeasible.

17. Water collection systems installed to protect roads or facilities will be designed so that waters turned onto slopes or into natural channels will not exceed the safe capacity of the slopes or channels.

18. Transport of sediment from disturbed areas will be minimized by flocculation, ponding, vegetation barrier strips, or other means.

19. Roadway sections parallel and contiguous to stream channels will be designed, constructed, and maintained to minimize concentrated surface runoff from the roadbed and slopes. Special design features, such a slope drains, in sloping, crowning. berms, or other facilities, will be provided as appropriate.

20. Wash-water from gravel crushing operations will be treated so that the level of turbidity of discharge water does not exceed the turbidity level, at normal flow, of the stream into which it is released.

21. Locate salt and sheep bedgrounds outside of riparian areas.