Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines

Wellsville Mountains in the northern Wasatch-Cache National Forest

The following set of Standards and Guidelines apply across all of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Additional Standards and Guidelines also exist specific to each Management Prescription, and these take precedence over the more general forestwide standards and guidelines. See Management Prescription Map for the area you are interested in and Chapter 4, A.5. for the corresponding Prescription Standards and Guidelines.

4. Forestwide Standards and Guidelines

Standard: binding limitations to be placed on management activities within the Plan area; they are within the authority and ability of the Forest Service to enforce. Adherence is mandatory. A project that varies from a relevant standard may not be authorized unless the Forest Plan is amended to modify, remove, or waive application of the standard. **Guideline:** statements describing a preferred or advisable course of action that is generally expected to be carried out. Deviation from compliance does not require Forest Plan amendment, but the rationale for such deviation shall be documented in the project decision document.

Air Resources

Additional management direction for air quality can be found in Forest Service Manual 2500 - Watershed and Air Management.

Guidelines for Air Resource:

(G1) Minimize the amount and impact of smoke from "fire use" activities by identifying smoke-sensitive areas, using "best available control measures," monitoring smoke impacts, and following guidance in State smoke management plans.

Soil and Water Resources

Additional management direction for soil, water and riparian resources can be found in Forest Service Manuals 2500 - Watershed and Air Management; 3500 - Cooperative Watershed Management; and Forest Handbooks - 2509.13 Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation Handbook; 2509.22 - Soil and Water Conservation Practices Handbook. ***Appendix II*** *provides additional Watershed Health Guidance Sources.* ***Appendix VII*** *provides ground cover potentials and riparian classification.*

Standards for Watershed, Riparian, and Aquatic Habitat Health:

(S1) Allow no ground-based skidding and oil and gas surface occupancy on slopes greater than 40%.

(S2) Apply runoff controls during project implementation to prevent pollutants including fuels, sediment, oils, from reaching surface and groundwater.

(S3) Unclassified roads and trails will be administratively closed and rehabilitated.

(S4) Place new sources of chemical and pathogenic pollutants where such pollutants will not reach surface or ground water.

(S5) Prior to issuance of a permit or license for activities such as mining, hydropower development, snowmaking, or water transmission facilities, instream flow determinations will be required of all future permitted and

licensed activities. For existing authorized uses and activities, minimum instream flows will be established to meet the beneficial use of the stream, and will be a condition of any licensing and permit renewal.

(S6) Within legal authorities, ensure that new proposed management activities in watersheds containing 303d listed water bodies improve or maintain overall progress toward beneficial use attainment for pollutants which led to listing; and do not allow additions of pollutants in quantities that result in unacceptable adverse effects (Appendix II provides clarification of terms used in this Standard)

(S7) Allow management activities to result in no less than 85% of potential ground cover for each vegetation cover type. (See Appendix VII for potential ground cover values by cover type.)

Guidelines for Watershed, Riparian, and Aquatic Habitat Health:

(G2) Projects in watersheds with 303(d) listed waterbodies should be supported by scale and level of analysis sufficient to permit an understanding of the implications of the project within the larger watershed context.

(G3) Proposed actions analyzed under NEPA should adhere to the State Nonpoint Source Management Plan to best achieve consistency with both Sections 313 and 319 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

(G4) At the end of an activity, allow no more than 15% of an activity area (defined in Glossary) to have detrimental soil displacement, puddling, compaction and/or to be severely burned.

(G5) Do not allow activities that could result in water yield increases that would degrade water quality and impact beneficial uses.

(G6) In Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (defined in Glossary) when projects are implemented, retain natural and beneficial volumes[1] of large woody debris.

(G7) Manage Class 1 Riparian Area Greenlines for 70% or more late-seral vegetation communities as described in Intermountain Region Integrated Riparian Evaluation Guide (USDA Forest Service, 1992). Manage Class 2 Riparian Area Greenlines for 60% or more late-seral vegetation communities. Manage Class 3 Riparian Area Greenlines for 40% or more late-seral vegetation communities.

(G8) In stream channels naturally occurring debris shall not be removed unless it is a threat to life, property, important resource values, or is otherwise covered by legal agreement.

[1] Defined during development of site-specific Riparian Management Objectives.

(G9) Avoid soil disturbing activities (those that remove surface organic matter exposing mineral soil*)* on steep, erosive, and unstable slopes, and in riparian, wetlands, floodplains, wet meadows, and alpine areas.

(G10) Encourage water users that divert, augment, or operate reservoirs to regulate discharges to prevent or reduce damage to downstream properties.

(G11) Use Best Management Practices and Soil and Water Conservation Practices during project level assessment and implementation to ensure maintenance of soil productivity, minimization of sediment discharge into streams, lakes and wetlands to protect of designated beneficial uses.

(G12) Locate new actions (such as incident bases, fire suppression camps, staging areas, livestock handling facilities, recreation facilities, roads and improvements including trails) outside of Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas. If the only suitable location for such actions is within Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas, sites will be located to minimize resource impacts.

(G13) Any long-term crossing of stream channels containing fish habitat will provide for desirable aquatic passage.

Biodiversity and Viability/Terrestrial and Aquatic Habitats

Additional management direction for vegetation can be found in Forest Service Handbook 2409.17. Additional management direction for snags and coarse woody debris can be found in Forest Service Manual 5150 and FSM 2550. Additional management direction for wildlife resources can be found in Forest Service Manual 2600 and Forest Service Handbook 2609.13. Additional management direction for Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Plants can be found in Forest Service Manual 2670. Additional management direction for riparian and aquatic resources can be found in Forest Service Manuals 2500 and 2600, and the following Forest Service Handbooks: 2510, 2511, 2521, 2526, 2527, 2531, 2532, 2541, 2542, 2552, 2554, 2601, 2603, 2604, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2670, 2672, 2676, 2509.18, and 2509.22.

Appendix I contains additional Species Conservation Guidance Sources. In accordance with the CA the Wasatch-Cache will manage lynx and lynx habitat consistent with the LCAS and lynx Science Report. Some standards and guidelines from the LCAS have been adopted as itemized standards and guidelines for this Forest Plan. Other LCAS standards and guidelines are not necessarily itemized in the plan because they are covered by other management and planning direction or would be evaluated at the project level in coordination with the Fish and Wildlife Service. However, the Plan conclusively adopts the entire CA and LCAS wherever applicable to Forest planning processes. Appendix XI contains a listing of Botanical Resources.

Standards for Biodiversity and Viability/Terrestrial and Aquatic Habitats:

(S8) In Lynx Analysis Units with current habitat at 30% or more in unsuitable condition (defined in Glossary), allow no vegetation management activities that would result in a further increase of unsuitable conditions.

(S9) Timber management projects shall not change more than 15 percent of lynx habitat within a Lynx Analysis Unit to an unsuitable condition.

(S10) In Lynx Analysis Units allow no net increase in groomed or designated open over-the-snow routes or play areas.

(S11) Plant species at risk (Listed in Appendix XI) or their plant parts may not be collected even for scientific purposes, unless it is under the direction of the Forest or Regional Botanist and such collection does not jeopardize the continued vigor or existence of a plant population. Permits are required from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for collection of federally listed species.

(S12) Prohibit forest vegetation treatments within active northern goshawk nest areas (approximately 30 acres) during the active nesting period.

(S13) At least 20 percent of each forested cover type by ecological section (McNab and Avers 1994) shall be maintained with old forest landscape structure with patch sizes of at least 10 acres. These old forest areas are dynamic, changing location as disturbances occur.

(S14) Allow no net decrease in areal extent of tall forb communities.

Guidelines for Biodiversity and Viability:

(G14) Manage vegetation for properly functioning condition at the landscape scale. Desired structure and pattern for cover types of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest (from USDA Forest Service 1996) are as follows except in the Wildland Urban Interface (defined in Glossary), where vegetation structure and pattern should be managed to reduce threat of severe fire to property and human safety.

Table G14. Desired Structure and Pattern for Cover Types

Cover Type	Landscape Structure	Landscape Patterns
Alpine	Characterized by a lack of arboreal vegetation, landscape dominated by shallow soils, fell-fields, boulders, tundra, and turf-forming vegetation with some areas with low shrubs (e.g. <1 ft. tall.)	Boulder fields, alpine turf and meadows within historical ranges.
Limber Pine Bristlecone Pine	Balanced Range:	Open Forests to woodlands, canopies do not close and trees

Cover Type	Landscape Structure	Landscape Patterns
	Grass/Forb, seedlings and saplings = 10-20 % Young, Mid Aged and Mature forests = 30-50 % Old Forests = 20-40%	are distributed in sparse or widely spaced stands or widely spaced clumps of trees.
Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb about 10% Seedling/Sapling about 10% Young Forest about 20% Mid Aged Forest about 20% Mature Forest about 20% Old Forest about 20% 40% of the stands have multiple canopies. Stand Density Index (SDI) not greater than 335 and Basal Area less than 150	Patterns are within historical ranges. Pattern sizes, shapes and corridors are maintaining processes. The role of fire is to maintain a heterogeneous pattern of species and structure classes. A mixed severity fire regime produces vegetation mosaics due to patchy nature of the fire, preventing development of large continuous blocks of homogeneous ages and species.
Aspen	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb and Seedling/Sapling = 40 % Young, Mid Aged and Mature forests = 30% Old Forests = 30% Stand Density Index not greater than 300 and Basal Area less than 140.	Patterns are within historical ranges. Pattern sizes, shapes and corridors are maintaining processes. The role of fire is to influence distribution of structural classes and patterns across landscapes.
Mixed Conifer (Uinta Mountains) This cover type is not listed in the Regional PFC document.	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb about 10% Seedling/Sapling about 10% Young Forest about 20% Mid Aged Forest about 20% Mature Forest about 20% Old Forest about 20%	Patterns are within historical ranges. Pattern sizes, shapes and corridors are maintaining processes.
Mixed Conifer (Bear River Range) This cover type is not listed in the Regional PFC document.	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb about 10% Seedling/Sapling about 10% Young Forest about 20% Mid Aged Forest about 20% Mature Forest about 20% Old Forest about 20%	Patterns are within historical ranges. Pattern sizes, shapes and corridors are maintaining processes.
Lodgepole Pine	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb about 10% Seedling/Sapling about 10%	Patterns are within historical ranges. Pattern sizes, shapes and corridors are maintaining processes. The role of fire is to

Cover Type	Landscape Structure	Landscape Patterns
	Young Forest about 20% Mid Aged Forest about 20% Mature Forest about 20% Old Forest about 20% 20% of the stands have multiple canopies. Stand Density Index (SDI) not greater than 350 and Basal Area less than 90 sq. ft.	maintain a heterogeneous pattern of age and size classes across the landscape.
Interior Douglas-fir	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb about 10% Seedling/Sapling about 10% Young Forest about 20% Mid Aged Forest about 20% Mature Forest about 20% Old Forest about 20% Not more than 50% of the stands have multiple canopies. Stand Density Index (SDI) not greater than 298 and Basal Area less than 160 sq. ft.	Patterns are within historical ranges. Pattern sizes, shapes and corridors are maintaining processes. Fire's role on dry and mesic sites is to prevent a shade-tolerant understory from developing. Subsequent light burns maintain these stands in a park-like condition.
Pinyon-Juniper	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb about 10% Seedling/Sapling about 10% Young Forest about 20% Mid Aged Forest about 20% Mature Forest about 20% Old Forest about 20%	Patterns are within historical ranges. Pattern sizes, shapes and corridors are maintaining processes. Pinyon-Juniper is primarily limited to habitats that offer protection from fire such as bare ridgetops and rock outcrops.
Mountain Mahogany	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb about 10-20% Early Seral about 20-40% Mid Seral about 20-40% Late Seral about 20-40%	20-40% of acres are in mid-seral or later structural stages in patches of >25 acres. Pattern is more or less heterogeneous mosaic of structural classes.
Gambel Oak	Balanced Range: Grass/Forb about 10-20% Early Seral about 20-40% Mid Seral about 20-40% Late Seral about 20-40%	20-40% of acres are in mid-seral or later structural stages in patches of >25 acres. Pattern is more or less heterogeneous mosaic of structural classes. Fire helps to maintain these classes.
Bigtooth Maple This cover type is not listed in the Regional PFC document.	Balanced range of size and age classes.	20-40% of acres are in mid-seral or later structural stages. Pattern is a more or less heterogeneous mosaic of structural classes. Fire helps maintain these classes.
Tall Shrub (Mountain Brush)	Multiple vegetation layers with alternating vertical dominance.	Acreages and dispersion within historical ranges.
Tall Forb	Minimum ground cover of 90% leading into the winter season.	Patterns within historical range on area still suitable for Tall Forb dominance
Sagebrush(Big)/Grassland	Balanced range of structural	Patterns are within the historical

Cover Type	Landscape Structure	Landscape Patterns
	stages. 40% of area with 15% or more crown cover (as measured by line intercept method).	range.
Riparian	Amount and type of vegetation community types present that maintain riparian-dependent resources and provide a high rate of recovery following disturbance.	Plant community type compositions and accompanying riparian ecosystem functions maintain proper ground water recharge, storage, delivery, water tables, channel morphology and bank stability.

(G15) In goshawk habitat design all management activities to maintain, restore, or protect desired goshawk and goshawk prey habitats including foraging, nesting and movement.

(G16) When treating vegetation in the following cover types, maintain or restore snag and woody debris habitat components at the stand level (where they are available distributed over each treated 10 acres). If the minimum number of snags is unavailable, green trees should be substituted. If the minimum size is unavailable, then use largest trees available on site.

Table G16 The snag and woody debris requirements for spruce-fir, mixed conifer, Douglas fir, lodgepole, aspen-lodgepole and aspen forest types.

Snags				Woody Debris		
Forest Type	Minimum Diameter (Inches)	Retention Density (minimum snags per 10 acres)	Minimum Snag Height (feet)	Minimum Coarse Debris (≥ 3 inches) Tons/10 Acres Down Logs	Minimum Down Logs (per 10 acres)	Minimum Log Size diameter/length (midpoint or largest available)
Spruce-Fir	18	30	30	100	50	12 inch/8 feet
Mixed Conifer	18	30	30	100	50	12 inch/8 feet
Douglas Fir	18	30	30	100	50	12 inch/8 feet
Lodgepole	8	30	15	50	50	8 inch/8 feet
Aspen-Lodgepole	8	30	15	50	50	8 inch/8 feet
Aspen	8	200	15	30	50	6 inch/8 feet

(G17) Where snags or coarse woody debris are below the desired range, the felling of snags and transport of felled snags or coarse wood off-site including firewood gathering will not be allowed, except to reduce hazards to humans or property along roads, trails, and in or adjacent to developed facilities.

(G18) In Lynx Analysis Units design all management activities to maintain, restore, or protect desired lynx and lynx prey habitats including foraging, denning and movement.

(G19) In Lynx Analysis Units with less than 10% denning habitat well-distributed, retain disturbance areas smaller than 5 acres with tree mortality that could contribute to denning habitat.

(G20) In Lynx Analysis Units maintain or restore (defer action) denning habitat in patches larger than 5 acres comprising at least 10% of habitat.

(G21) For projects that may affect Forest Service Sensitive species, develop conservation measures and strategies to maintain, improve and/or minimize impacts to species and their habitats. Short-term deviations may be allowed as long as the action maintains or improves the habitat in the long term.

(G22) Use native plant species, preferably from genetically local sources (harvesting seed from a project area's native species prior to project implementation), in revegetation efforts to the extent practicable. If no native seed of suitable origin is available, then certified weed free non-persistent non-natives may be used.

(G23) Avoid actions on the Forest that reduce the viability of any population of plant species classified as Threatened, Endangered, Sensitive or recommended sensitive. Use management actions to protect habitats of plant species at risk from adverse modification or destruction. For species that naturally occur in sites with some disturbance, maintain the appropriate level of disturbance.

(G24) Management activities that negatively affect pollinators (e.g. insecticide, herbicide application and prescribed burns) should not be conducted during the flowering period of any known Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive plant populations in the application area. An exception to this guideline is the application of *Bacillus thuringiensis*.

(G25) Integrated weed management should be used to maintain or restore habitats for threatened, endangered, proposed and sensitive plants and other native species of concern where they are threatened by noxious weeds or non-native plants. When treating noxious weeds comply with policy in Intermountain Region's Forest Service Manual *2080,* Supplement *#R4 2000-2001-1* (Appendix III).

(G26) Protect key big game calving, fawning and lambing habitat and provide security in summer concentration areas.

(G27) Provide recommendations on appropriateness of wildlife transplants based on habitat assessments.

(G28) Discourage introduction of non-indigenous plant and animal species to national forest lands.

(G29) Avoid disruptive management activities in elk calving areas, elk spring use areas, and bighorn sheep lambing areas from May 1 through June 30.

(G30) Avoid disruptive management activities (not public recreation activities) on deer, elk, mountain goat and bighorn sheep winter range from November 15 through April 30.

Plant Collection (non-tree)

Additional management direction can be found in Forest Service Handbook 5109.19.

Guidelines for Plant Collection:

(G31) Following appropriate environmental analysis, commercial collection of native species (plants, plant parts, or seeds -quantity, location and appropriateness) may be allowed.

(G32) Except for Forest Service approved scientific or restoration projects, or cultural use, no collections of seeds or plants are permitted in Research Natural Areas, Special Interest Areas, Wilderness or recommended wilderness, developed recreation sites, the Central Wasatch Management Area, and within the Cache Box-Elder Management Area from mouth of Logan Canyon to Temple Fork and Tony Grove-White Pine areas.

Fire and Fuels Management

Additional management direction for fire management can be found in Forest Service Handbook 5109.19.

Standards for Fire Management:

(S15) Human life (firefighter and public safety) is the highest priority during a fire. Once firefighters have been assigned to a fire, their safety becomes the highest value to be protected with property and natural/cultural resources being secondary priorities.

(S16) Human-caused fires (either accidental or arson) are unwanted wildland fires, and will be suppressed. Natural ignitions will be suppressed in areas not covered by an approved Wildland Fire Implementation Plan included in the Forest Fire Management Plan.

Guidelines for Fire and Fuels Management:

(G33) When assigning protection priorities to property and natural and cultural resources, decisions will be based on relative values to be protected, commensurate with fire management costs, and suppression costs should be appropriate for values protected.

(G34) The full range of suppression tactics is authorized forestwide consistent with forest and management area emphasis, direction and Forest Fire Management Plan.

(G35) The full range of fuels reduction methods is authorized consistent with management direction for the specific area.

(G36) Under documented preplanned and specified conditions, wildland fire use is authorized forestwide except in the following areas. These areas will be protected through an appropriate management response if they are threatened.

- Administrative sites
- Developed recreation sites
- Recreation residence site
- Communication sites
- Oil and gas facilities
- Mining facilities
- Above-ground utility corridors
- High-use travel corridors

(G37) Use prescribed fire in wilderness only to meet wilderness management objectives. The objective of prescribed fire management in wilderness (FSM 2324.21) is to reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping from wilderness.

(G38) Minimum impact suppression techniques will be implemented when managing wildland fire activities within wilderness.

(G39) Manage fire to protect, restore or enhance threatened, endangered, candidate, proposed, and Forest Service sensitive species and their habitats.

Roads, Trails, and Access Management

Additional management direction that also applies to roads can be found in Forest Service Manual 7100, 7300, 7400, 7500, 7600 and 7700, as well as Forest Service Handbooks 7309.11, 7409.11, 7509.11, 7709.55, 7709.56, 7709.56b, 7709.57, 7709.58, 7709.59 and FS-643, USDA, FS, 1999. Additional management direction for trails is in Forest Service Manual 2350, Trails Management Handbook 2309.18.

Standards for Road/Trail and Access Management:

(S17) All decommissioned roads/trails will be properly drained.

(S18) Summer motorized and mechanized access is managed on an "open on designated routes" basis.

(S19) If the only access to National Forest requires crossing private land where public access is restricted, the adjacent National Forest land will be closed to motorized and mechanized use without a permit authorizing motorized use.

(S20) When constructing or maintaining roads, trails and facilities, use Best Management Practices to minimize sediment discharge into streams, lakes and wetlands.

Guidelines for Road/Trail and Access Management:

(G40) Limit uses on trails when necessary to protect resource values, resolve user conflicts, and/or create unique opportunities. Examples: Snowshoeing, snowboarding, hiking and/or dogs may be prohibited on groomed cross-country/skate ski and/or snowmobile routes to reduce track damage and/or user conflicts.

(G41) Winter motorized and nonmotorized means of access may be separated in high use areas (in timing and/or location) where user conflicts and safety are a concern.

(G42) When revising Travel Management Plans, provide specific direction for managing mechanized transport such as mountain bikes.

(G43) Winter recreation uses may be closed or limited when one or more of the following conditions exist:

- Use causes significant impacts to adjacent landowners, and/or agencies from use that begins on national forest land.
- Use affects water quality in municipal watershed areas.
- Use affects key winter wildlife habitats, such as big game winter range, migration routes, or during wildlife stress periods such as during severe winters or special considerations such as threatened, endangered, candidate, proposed, and Forest Service sensitive species needs.

(G44) When constructing and reconstructing roads, trails, and facilities minimize potential effects on habitat of plant species at risk and key big game winter and spring ranges.

(G45) Access routes for heavy equipment should be selected to limit disturbance to riparian vegetation and to limit the number of stream crossings.

(G46) Specify and control locations for water supply points, service areas, and any other needs for road and facility construction projects.

(G47) Waste material should be handled in a manner to avoid sidecasting materials to areas where they may enter a stream.

(G48) Include motorized access in authorizations such as term grazing permits, communication sites, transmission lines, permits to drill, reservoirs and weather stations when needed for management consistent with management prescription and coordinated to mitigate impacts. In Lynx Analysis Units in winter, motorized use in these authorizations will be authorized only on designated routes.

Recreation

Additional management direction for recreation resources can be found in Forest Service Manual 2300, 2710, 2720, as well as Forest Service Handbooks 2309.18, 2309.23, 2709.11, and Region 1/Region 4 Handbook 2509.22.

Guidelines for Recreation Management:

(G49) Manage recreation opportunities consistent with Management Prescriptions Categories (MPCs*),* Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) Classes, Landscape Character Themes (LCTs), Scenic Integrity Objectives (SIOs), and in accordance with Winter Recreation Maps as well as District Travel Management Plans.

(G50) Design, construct, and operate recreation facilities, trails and concentrated use areas to provide a beneficial recreation experience, reducing social conflicts and minimizing or avoiding adverse effects on watershed integrity, soil productivity, aquatic/riparian systems, terrestrial species and their habitats, and cultural resources.

(G51) In Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized areas, use of motorized equipment may be approved for administrative purposes.

(G52) Explore opportunities for separation of conflicting uses in time (for example alternating days) as well as space (closure of area to specific uses) to resolve conflicts while continuing to offer varied recreation opportunities.

(G53) Where recreation demand exceeds resource capabilities or significantly changes the recreation setting available to users, determine limits of acceptable change and take actions to manage within those limits.

(G54) Use interpretation and environmental education to assist in improved understanding and ownership of forest stewardship needs.

(G55) The Winter Recreation Map allocation applies when there is an adequate depth of snow to protect vegetation. When there is not adequate snow, summer ROS Maps and descriptions as well as Travel Management Plans apply and use of snowmobiles is not allowed off designated routes.

(G56) Establish seasonal camping stay and group size limits where needed to meet management goals.

(G57) In the Tri-Canyon Area, cooperate with public and private entities to encourage the use of mass transit to access recreational facilities and programs adjacent to travelways.

Standards for Climbing:

(S21) Climbing areas determined to negatively impact plant species at risk will be closed.

Guidelines for Climbing:

(G58) No live vegetation can be removed from any cliff face, top or base in areas of known species at risk plant populations.

Scenic Resources

Additional management direction for recreation resources can be found in Forest Service Manual 2300, 2710, 2720, as well as Forest Service Handbooks 2309.18, 2309.23, 2709.11.

Standards for Scenery Management

(S22) Management actions that would result in a scenic integrity level of Unacceptably Low (defined in Glossary) are prohibited in all Landscape Character Themes.

Guidelines for Scenery Management

(G59) Manage Forest landscapes according to Landscape Character Themes, and Scenic Integrity Objectives as mapped. (See Chapter 4, A.7. Scenery Management for definitions).

(G60) Resource management activities should not be permitted to reduce Scenic Integrity below Objectives stated for Management Prescription Categories.

(G61) For management activities viewable from Concern Level 1: (defined site-specifically) Scenic Byways (viewshed corridors 0-4 miles) and use areas, travelways, and Scenic Backways (viewshed corridors <1/2 mile) apply the Landscape Character Theme in which the management activity occurs and apply a Scenic Integrity Objective of high.

(G62) For management activities viewable from Concern Level 2: (defined site-specifically) use areas and travelways (viewshed corridors <1/2 mile) apply the Landscape Character Theme in which the management activity occurs and apply a Scenic Integrity Objective of at least moderate.

(G63) Duration of visual impacts to allow for herbaceous and woody plants are established will be determined during project planning by the following criteria:
- Capability of the landscape to recover
- The relationship of management activity to the seen area of sensitive, use areas and travel ways.

(G64) Establishment of herbaceous vegetation may extend to 3 years after project completion for foreground and middleground in Concern levels 1 and 2 use areas and travel ways. Consider immediate initiation of reseeding in these areas where natural recovery is questionable.

Timberland Resources

Additional Standards and Guidelines that apply to timber management activities can be found in the Timber Sale Contract Provisions, procurement contracts, the Forest Service Manual, and the following Forest Service Handbooks: FSH 2409.13 - FSH 2409.15 - FSH 2409.17.

Appendix IV. provides a discussion of anticipated silvicultural systems and related vegetation management practices.

Standards for Timber Management:

(S23) Regulated timber-harvest activities will occur on only those lands classified as capable, available, and suitable for timber production.

Guidelines for Timber Management:

(G65) The choice of silvicultural system should be one that allows emulation of the pattern (including size), timing, and frequency of natural disturbances found in the landscape being treated (For emphasis, FSH 2409.26).

(G66) In Lynx Analysis Units precommercial thinning will be delayed until stands no longer provide snowshoe hare habitat. In lodgepole pine precommercial thinning may be allowed following consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and if shown to result in enhancement or maintenance of snowshoe hare and lynx habitat.

(G67) Timber cutting on other than suitable lands may occur for such purposes as salvage, fuels management, insect and disease mitigation, protection or enhancement of biodiversity or wildlife habitat, or to perform research or administrative studies or scenic-resource management consistent with other management direction.

(G68) When trees are to be harvested on other than suitable lands, exceptions to the five-year restocking standard are appropriate as documented in project decisions when the harvest meets one of the following criteria:

- For permanent openings that serve specific management direction
- Where provided for in specific management practices and prescriptions
- Where it is desirable to delay the onset of regeneration of crown closure to meet specific desired conditions and management objectives

(G69) Apply the following appropriate silviculture systems by Forest Cover Type

Table G69. Management activity appropriate by forest cover type.

Management Activity	Engelmann Spruce/ Subalpine Fir	Lodgepole Pine	Interior Douglas-Fir and White Fir	Aspen	Mixed Conifer
Silvicultural System – EVEN-AGED					
Clearcut with Reserves	N	A	WJ	A	WJ
Shelterwood	A	A	A	N	A
Seedtree	N	N	WJ	N	WJ
Coppice	N	N	N	A	N
Silvicultural System – TWO-AGED					
Irregular Shelterwood	A	A	A	N	A
Coppice with Standards	N	N	N	A	N
Silvicultural System – UNEVEN-AGED					
Group Selection	A	A	A	A	WJ
Single-tree Selection	A	N	A	N	WJ
Stocking Control: (thinning)					
Precommercial	A	A	A	N	A
Commercial	A	A	A	N	A
Salvage of Dead Material	A	A	A	A	A
Reforestation					
Site Preparation	A	A	A	WJ	A
Planting	A	A	A	N	WJ
Seeding	N	N	N	N	N
Natural	A	A	A	A	A
Regeneration Protection	WJ	WJ	WJ	WJ	WJ
Tree Improvement	WJ	WJ	WJ	WJ	WJ
A = Acceptable, WJ = When Justified, N = Not Acceptable					

(G70) When trees are harvested on suitable lands, the cutting must be in such a way that units are adequately restocked within five years after final harvest. Minimum restocking levels are defined in the following table.

Table G70: Minimum trees restocking level by tree species, with percent area meeting minimum stocking level.

Species	Minimum Stocking (Trees/Acre)	Percent of Area Meeting Minimum Stocking
Lodgepole pine	150	70
Douglas-fir	150	70
Mixed Conifer	150	70
Spruce-fir	150	70
Aspen	300	70

Livestock Grazing

Additional management direction for rangeland resources can be found in FSM 2200, Range Management, WO Amendment 2200-90-1, Chapters 10-50; Intermountain Interim Directive FSH 2209.3-99-9, Grazing Permit Administration Handbook, Chapter 90, Rangeland Management Decision Making; and FSH 2209.21 Rangeland Ecosystem Analysis and Management Handbook, R4 Amendment 2209.21-93-1, Chapters 10-40.

Standards for Livestock Grazing:

(S24) As a tool to achieve desired conditions of the land, maximum forage utilization standards for vegetation types in satisfactory condition using traditional grazing systems (rest rotation, deferred rotation, season long) are as follows:

Table S24: Percent utilization of key grass or grass like vegetation, by vegetation type, for rangelands in satisfactory condition.

Vegetation Type	Condition	Percent Utilization Key Grass or Grass like
Upland and Aspen	Satisfactory	50
Crested Wheatgrass	Satisfactory	60
Riparian* Class I	Satisfactory	50
Riparian* Class II & III	Satisfactory	60

*Riparian, away from greenline

(S25) As a tool to achieve desired conditions of riparian areas, maximum forage utilization standards (stubble height) for low to mid elevation *greenline* species in Class I, II, and III riparian areas (see Appendix VII) in satisfactory condition are as follows: (Key species being grazed include water sedge, Nebraska sedge, and and/or wooly sedge.)

Table S25. Greenline stubble height at the end of the growing season, by riparian class, for rangeland satisfactory condition.

Riparian Class	Condition	Greenline Stubble Height at End of Growing Season
Riparian Class I	Satisfactory	No Less Than 5”
Riparian Class II	Satisfactory	No Less Than 4”
Riparian Class III	Satisfactory	No Less Than 3”

(S26) For all rangelands, including big game winter range and riparian areas, permit no more than 50% of the current year's growth on woody vegetation to be browsed during one growth cycle (i.e., when use has reached 50% allow no additional livestock use).

Guidelines for Livestock Grazing:

(G71) As a tool to achieve rehabilitation of upland, aspen, and riparian communities away from the greenline that are not meeting or moving toward objectives (i.e. in unsatisfactory condition), maximum allowed forage utilization will be 30-40 percent.

(G72) Modify grazing practices that prevent attainment of desired future conditions for vegetation and/or aquatic resources.

(G73) Delay livestock use in post-fire and post-harvest created forest openings until successful regeneration of the shrub and tree components occurs (aspen trees reach an average height of 6 feet).

(G74) Stock driveways and trailing routes will be located outside of Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas unless terrain and/or vegetation are prohibitive. When driveways and trailing routes must pass through Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas, they will be located and livestock moved through them in such a way to minimize the extent and/or severity of potential damage caused by trailing.

(G75) Annual operating instructions (and/or Allotment Management Plans) should be evaluated and additional site-specific objectives defined if needed for any or all of the following five parameters:
- stubble height on selected key species on the greenline,
- stubble height on selected key species and/or the amount of bare ground within the riparian zone but away from the greenline,
- riparian woody browse utilization (trees and shrubs),
- stream bank trampling on key reaches, and
- stubble height and/or incidence of use on key species in the uplands.

Mineral and Energy Resources

Additional requirements and direction that apply to mineral management can be located in 36 CFR 228, Subpart A through E; FSM 2800, Minerals and Geology, WO Amendment 2800-96-1, Zero Code; FSM 2810, Mining Claims, WO Amendment 2800-90-1, FSM 2820, Mineral Leases, Permits and Licenses, WO Amendment 2800-94-1; FSM 2830, Mineral Reservations and Outstanding Mineral Rights, WO Amendment 2800-90-1; FSM 2840, Reclamation, WO Amendment 2800-90-1.

Appendix IX provides stipulations for oil and gas leasing.

Standards for Minerals and Energy:

(S27) No explosives or seismic helicopter activity are allowed one week prior to and during the general bull elk and buck deer rifle hunting seasons.

(S28) Oil and gas exploration and development activities will be consistent with standard lease terms and supplemental stipulations listed in Appendix IX.

Guidelines for Minerals and Energy:

(G76) Require warning systems for public safety when explosives are being used.

(G77) Route helicopter flight paths to reduce conflicts with other resources (including recreation) that are sensitive to this activity.

(G78) Restrict disruptive or surface disturbing activities during periods of concentrated public use.

(G79) Avoid campgrounds, recreation residences, roads, and other heavy use areas with helicopter landing and refueling sites and parking areas.

Lands

Additional management direction that also applies to the Lands program can be found in Forest Service Manual 5400, 5500, 7150 as well as Forest Service Handbooks 2709.12, 2709.15, 5409.13 and 5409.17.

Guidelines for Land Ownership:

(G80) Where there is an assertion that there is a nonfederal property interest, such as a right-of-way under RS 2477, an in-holding, or other such interest (including easements) that may be impacted by Forest Service management activities, the Forest Service will evaluate the assertion and give due consideration to any valid existing property right that may exist.

Special Uses: Recreation and Non-Recreation

Additional management direction for Special Uses can be found in Forest Service Manuals 2710, 2720, 2730, 2770 and Forest Service Handbooks 2709.11, 2709.12, 2709.15 and 36 CFR 251, subpart B.

Standards for Special Uses:

(S29) Allow no net increase in the number of recreation residences.

(S30) All motion picture and video filming utilizing crews, special equipment, special effects and vehicles requires a special use permit.

Guidelines for Special Uses:

(G81) Before issuing recreation or non-recreation special use authorizations, ensure that each proposal clearly demonstrates why use of National Forest System lands is necessary and why lands under other ownership cannot be used. Deny proposals for use when the request is based solely on affording the proponent a lower cost or less restrictive location than can be obtained on non-Federal lands, or when reasonable options exist on non-National Forest System lands. Use the process identified in FSH 2709.11 to determine whether special use proposals will be accepted for detailed review under NEPA. Provide only for authorizations that meet the tests of prudent, reasonable, and absolutely in the public interest.

(G82) The following existing recreation residence tracts will continue to be allocated as special use development areas: Bountiful Peak, Brighton, Christmas Meadows, Evergreen, Elbow Fork, Mill D, Soapstone, Hailstone, Pineview, Firs, Porter Fork and Logan River (Beirdneau, Birch Glen, Brachipod, Brown's Roll Off, Chokecherry,Gus Lind, Juniper, Lower Card, Pine Bluff, Upper Card and Valhalla). Decisions to issue new recreation residence permits following expiration of the current term permit requires a determination of consistency with the Forest Plan. Follow the process depicted in FSH 2709.11, section 41.23c.

(G83) A special use permit for commercial still photography is required only:
- (a) When it includes the use of actors, models, sets, or props that are not a part of the sites natural or cultural resources or administrative facilities;
- (b) When the photography takes place at locations where members of the public are generally not allowed;
- (c) When the photography would adversely impact National Forest lands, resources or other users.

Guidelines for Transportation and Utility Corridors:

(G84) The following are corridors established and types of utilities allowed (See Transportation and Utility Corridors Map). Where the purpose of a utility line is to accommodate an individual small end user on national forest or for smaller utilities, placement is not restricted to these designated corridors.

Table (G84). Corridors on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest for underground, overhead and surface use. Corridor widths are also identified.

Corridor Name	Corridor Width	Underground	Overhead	Surface
North Ogden Canyon	½ mile	Yes	Yes	No
Ogden Canyon	1 mile	Yes	Yes	Yes
Box Elder Canyon	1 mile	Yes	Yes	Yes
Weber Canyon	1 mile	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meridian Peak	1 mile	Yes	Yes	No
Little Mountain and Parleys Canyon	½ mile	Yes	Yes	No
Wasatch Front	1 mile	Yes	Yes	No
Ward Canyon	1 mile	Yes	Yes	No
Blacksmith Fork Canyon	1 mile	Yes	Yes	No
Monte Cristo	1 mile	Yes	Yes	No

(G85) The following will continue to be designated communication sites for commercial communication facilities. Accommodate requests for additional facilities at these sites where access and space is available.

- Shephards Peak
- Scotts Peak
- Red Spur
- Hidden Peak
- Wellsville
- Mt. Ogden
- Alta
- Logan Hill

(G86) The following will continue to be designated communication sites for non-commercial use:

- Scotts Peak (Forest Service)
- Francis Peak
- Red Spur (Forest Service)
- Monte Cristo
- Huntsville Guard Station
- Logan Peak
- Mud Flat
- Moffit Peak
- Poison Mountain

Wilderness

Additional management direction for wilderness is in Forest Service Manual 2320, 1964 Wilderness Act, 1978 Endangered Wilderness Act, 1984 Utah Wilderness Act, Wilderness-Primitive Areas 36 CFR 293, Wilderness Management 36 CFR 219.18, Forest Service Poster and Sign Guidelines, and minimum requirements analysis.

Standards and Guidelines for Wilderness Management:

Refer to Appendix VI. for standards and guidelines for individual or groups of Wilderness areas.

Caves

Additional direction for management of caves is in the 1988 Federal Cave Resources Protection Act, 36 CFR 290 Cave resources management, and Forest Service Manual 2372.

Standards for Caves:

(S31) No action will be taken to prevent or hinder ingress or egress of cave-dependent wildlife.

Guidelines for Caves:

(G87) Protect caves and their entrances by not signing their location, gating where unacceptable damage to known cave resources is occurring or has a high potential to occur (without substantially altering the entrance), not allowing activities in the vicinity that could cause sedimentation into the cave, a change in natural hydrology, ground disturbing activities such as use of heavy equipment or blasting soil sterilization or addition of nutrients or other chemicals (pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers).

Heritage

Additional management direction for heritage resources is in Forest Service Manual 2360 and the National Heritage Strategy.

Standards for Heritage Resources Management:

(S32) Review undertakings that may affect cultural resources to identify potential impacts. Compliance with Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act shall be completed before the responsible agency official signs the project decision document.

Guidelines for Heritage Resources Management:

(G88) Design any mitigation measures necessary to resolve adverse affects to sites in such a way that they provide the maximum public benefit that the sites (or the information derived from them) can offer.