



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Pacific
Southwest
Region



Implementation Plan

Kings River Special Management Area;

Kings, Kings South Fork and Kings Middle Fork, Wild and Scenic Rivers

Sierra National Forest
Sequoia National Forest



Implementation Plan

The Kings River Special Management Area;

**Kings,
South Fork Kings and
Middle Fork Kings,
Wild and Scenic Rivers**



Fresno County, California

United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Sierra National Forest, Kings River Ranger District

Sequoia National Forest, Hume Lake Ranger District

This is California's jewel. This is the western jewel, the Kings River, the highest and the best...

For those of you who have not had the opportunity to visit the Kings, let me say that it deserves protection. This Kings claims two national superlatives. First, the Kings flows undammed from its glacial headwaters to Pine Flat Reservoir dropping vertically for 11,400 feet. Second, the Kings has carved the deepest canyon in North America, an 8,240-foot wonderland of granite domes and limestone spires. The Kings is a natural resource and ecological laboratory of national significance.

Mr. Edwards, of California, addressing Congress in support of the passage of H.R. 799 creating the Kings River Special Management Area and amending the Wild and Scenic River Act.

COVER PHOTO: The Boole Tree about 1904. This tree was so named in honor of Frank Boole who was Superintendent for the Sanger Lumber Company.

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SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

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Boundaries, Zone Names & Opportunity Class

Boundaries, Wild and Scenic Rivers

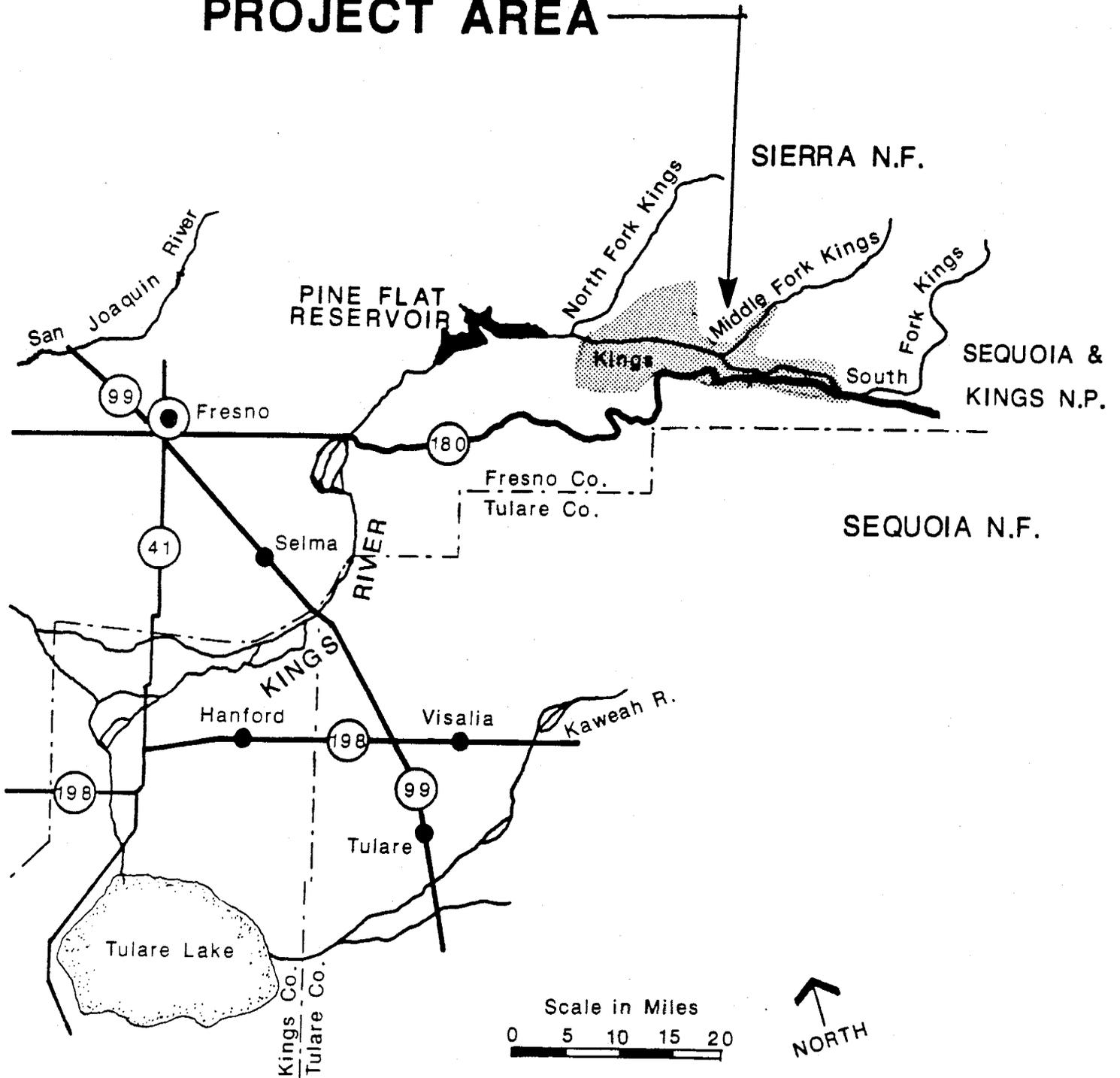


PROJECT AREA



**KINGS RIVER SPECIAL
MANAGEMENT AREA &
South Fork, Middle Fork &
Kings Wild & Scenic Rivers.**

PROJECT AREA



1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Kings River Special Management Area (SMA), the Middle Fork of the Kings, South Fork of the Kings, and the Kings Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) are located in Fresno County, California. A map showing the boundaries is included in this document. The SMA includes approximately 49,000 acres and portions of the Wild and Scenic River corridors. The SMA is within the Kings River Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest and the Hume Lake Ranger District of the Sequoia National Forest. The Sierra National Forest administers the SMA under the Act. The Middle Fork of the Kings River is entirely within the Sierra National Forest, the South Fork of the Kings River is entirely within the Sequoia National Forest. The Main Fork of the Kings River provides the boundary between the two Forests.

On November 28, 1987, President Ronald Reagan signed Public Law 100-150. This act established the Kings River Special Management Area and amended the Wild and Scenic River Act to include the Middle Fork of the Kings, the South Fork of the Kings, and a section of the Kings River (from the headwaters to the 1595 elevation). This Act culminated from many years of discussion involving local, state, and federal agencies; conservation organizations, and the general public. The area and the rivers were acknowledged in the Department of Interior National Rivers Inventory, State of California Protected Waterways Plan, California Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II), and Resolutions of the Fresno City Council.

The Act provides direction to the Secretary of Agriculture to publish a management plan for the Special Management Area and the Wild and Scenic Rivers. "The plan shall provide for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of the special management area; protect the area's natural, archaeological, and scenic resources; and provide for appropriate fish and wildlife management within the area." The Act also gives directions for the management of other resources within the SMA.

Management direction for rivers is also contained in:

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act as amended, (P.L. 90-542), (P.L. 99-590), (P.L. 100-534)

The California Wilderness Act (P.L. 98-425), (for the Middle Fork Kings)

The Final Revised Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification, and Management of River Areas, published by the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Interior, - 47 Fed. Reg. 39454 (September 7, 1982),

The Final Wild and Scenic River Environmental Assessment for the Middle Fork, South Fork, and the Kings Wild and Scenic River Boundary and Classification approved on March 24, 1989.

The Final Land and Resource Management Plan and supplements for the Sequoia National Forest.

Accompanying this Implementation Plan is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) which analyzes different approaches to the management of the SMA and the WSR. The preferred alternative, Alt. 5 NEW, is the basis for this Plan. (See map "Alternative 5" at the end of this Plan.)

1.2 Purpose of the Implementation Plan

The purpose of this plan is to provide management guidance for the SMA and the WSR. Because the SMA and the WSR are geographically tied together, management direction is in one Plan. Throughout the development of this plan, PL 100-150 and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act guides the development of

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objectives and policies and the kind, type, and method of management actions needed to maintain or enhance the SMA and WSR values. In addition to the legislative direction, this plan tiers to the Final Sequoia National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

Within the framework of the Forest Plans, this Implementation Plan: 1) resolves several specific resource questions and conflicts occurring in the SMA and the WSR, 2) gives the public and Forest officials a consistent vision of the future of the SMA and the WSR, 3) prioritizes needed projects, and 4) serves as a basis for District and Forest budgetary requests for management activities.

This Plan is based on a zone approach. Seven Management Zones and four Opportunity Classes are used to guide Management Actions for the SMA and the WSR. (See 'Zone Map' at the end of this Plan.) Management Zones are geographic delineations of areas that will be managed in a similar fashion. Opportunity Classes are descriptions of desired conditions used to determine actions to better protect SMA and WSR values. They also enable Forest Service managers to focus management decisions and actions in areas where there is a need to address past and present human influences.

This Plan projects 10 years into the future with development of management objectives, policies, and actions. It is also a working document designed for on-the-ground management. The Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) system provides direction for the monitoring and focuses Forest Service activities in areas where management attention is needed. Since planning can not anticipate all future issues, this document will be reviewed and updated as needed, to provide maximum protection for the area's values. Additional resource data and user information will be incorporated in the Implementation Plan. The working document will be available for public review at the Sierra National Forest Supervisor's Office, the Sequoia National Forest Supervisor's Office, the Kings River Ranger District Office, and the Hume Lake Ranger District Office.

1.3 Implementation Plan Process

The development of the Plan incorporated two well-accepted processes of recreation management. The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) system provides a means for classifying areas in relation to the types of recreation opportunity experiences that are or can be provided, and the settings in which they occur. The Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) process was used to develop strategies for managing use to maintain the desired ROS. The LAC concept does not focus attention on limiting use to an estimated capacity, but it can provide an estimate of the desired level of use. If resource conditions change, land managers may have several possible solutions. Actions may include: encouraging users to adjust habits, changing time periods of use, changing distribution of use, or limiting use.

The LAC planning process, described in Appendix A, is flexible and Plan direction should respond to changes in resource conditions without the need for major Plan revisions. The process emphasizes objectives and establishes a monitoring system that will trigger implementation of management options designed to protect the unique qualities of the area.

In addition to the above, the accompanying Environmental Impact Statement was developed by direction contained in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

1.4 Implementation Plan Summary

The remainder of this plan specifies directions for managing the SMA and the Wild and Scenic River corridors. Chapter 2.0 discusses the public involvement process and the integration of public comments into the planning process. Chapter 3.0 describes the Opportunity Classes, which describe the desired character of an area. Chapter 4.0 describes the Management Zones. These Zones are geographical areas that will be managed as one unit. Chapter 5.0 identifies management items that are common to all the zones within the SMA and the WSR area. Since each zone represents a unique situation, Chapters 6.0 to 12.0 identify the

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objectives, assumptions, indicators, standards, and management actions for a specific zone. Finally, Chapter 13.0 lists all the indicators and standards with a brief description of how the Forest Service will follow up and monitor the management of the area.

It is important to note that this Plan, which elaborates on the preferred alternative, accompanies the Environmental Impact Statement. Of special interest to the reader is the FEIS section entitled, **AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**. This section describes the environmental setting for the information provided in the Implementation Plan. In order to provide a concise description of the management for the area, a minimum amount of information is duplicated from the FEIS in this Plan.



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2.0 ISSUES

Public involvement was a crucial part of the development of the FEIS and the Implementation Plan. The issues were the basis for the development of the Opportunity Classes, the objectives, and the management direction.

A Public Participation Plan was written in May 1989. The Plan, which is on file at the Forest Supervisor's Office, identified opportunities for public involvement. The first opportunity was during the identification of issues; the second, while gathering information on alternatives and consequences; and the third, with the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and Draft Implementation Management Plan.

2.2 Identification of Issues

The scoping process took place from December 1988 to November 1989 and consisted of the following steps:

- Over 800 people on the current Kings River mailing list (inviting comments on issues) were notified.
- Three public meetings were held: two held in Clovis, California; and one in Visalia, California.
- A news release was mailed (June 1989) to local and selected metropolitan news media outlets (inviting comments on issues).
- "Update" notices were mailed to interested parties (identifying ongoing progress of the EIS and Plan).
- The Interdisciplinary (ID) Team met with interested and affected Forest Service personnel.
- The ID Team met with interested and affected State and Federal Agency personnel.
- The ID Team met with interested individuals and organizations.
- Two Notices were published in the Federal Register. One notice identified the Forest Service's intent to publish a Draft EIS and Implementation Plan (September 8, 1989) and, a second notice announced the availability of the Drafts (August 10, 1990).
- A Draft EIS and Implementation Plan was available for public comment from June to October, 1990

Issues were drawn from these sources. Comments were grouped by subject and summarized. (Document on file.)

The ID Team identified issues that could require a management decision to resolve. These issues guide the formation of alternatives in the FEIS and are used in this Implementation Plan to direct Management Actions.

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ISSUES IDENTIFIED:

ADMINISTRATION: What level of staffing and skill will be needed to administer the river area? (This item was not included in the Environmental Impact Statement, but is included as part of this Implementation Plan.)

AIR QUALITY: Are any management constraints needed to maintain air quality within the SMA or WSR?

BOUNDARIES: Are there boundary changes that would improve the management of the area?

CULTURAL RESOURCES AND ARCHAEOLOGY: How will the protection of archaeological resources be integrated with the development and utilization of the river corridor?

ECONOMICS: What are the economical implications of management activities within the SMA and the Wild and Scenic Rivers?

FACILITIES: What structures, facilities, and other improvements are needed to administer the river area?

FIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT: What strategy of fire and fuels management will complement other management activities within the SMA and the WSR and provide needed protection?

FISHERIES: What is the current condition of fish habitat? How will proposed management activities affect it?

GEOLOGY AND SOILS: Are there unstable slopes or important geologic formations within the planning area?

GRAZING: What is the best strategy for utilization of the range resource by domestic cattle?

KIRCH FLAT CAMPGROUND: How are Kirch Plat and the SMA interrelated? Can the Kirch Flat be used to alleviate recreational impacts and congestion within the SMA?

LAND OWNERSHIP AND USE: Are there private land owner or permittee interests that must be addressed in the plan? How would management of the SMA be affected if the right to use Kirch Flat or Keller Ranch was lost?

MINERALS: Are there valid mining claims in the SMA or WSR? If so, what steps must be taken to accommodate access and development?

NOISE: What is the acceptable level of noise? What types of activities will affect noise levels in the area?

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE USE: What is the appropriate strategy for off-highway vehicle use in terms of amount, season, and location?

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND INTERPRETATION: Who is our public? How will people be involved with the SMA and the WSR planning? Who needs to receive information about the area after the plan is completed? What information do they need?

RECREATION: What strategy of recreational opportunity development and utilization will be emphasized in terms of kinds and amounts of recreation, and where will they be located?

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SOCIOLOGY: What are the current population trends? How will they affect recreation opportunities and natural resources within the SMA and WSR?

SOILS: Will management activities impact soils, cause erosion, or loss of fertility?

TEHIPITE VALLEY: What route will the trail follow? What level of construction is appropriate? What effect will the trail have on the Monarch Wilderness and Kings Canyon National Park?

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: What must be done to protect threatened, endangered, and sensitive species? How will protection be integrated with development and utilization of SMA and the WSR?

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM: What standard of road and trail development is needed to provide access for recreation, to private holdings, and valid mining claims?

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT: How will vegetation be managed to benefit visitors, wildlife, and domestic livestock?

VISUAL RESOURCES: How will the visual quality of the area be maintained?

WATER QUALITY: How will water quality be protected?

WILDLIFE: What kinds and amounts of wildlife habitat are found in the area? How will proposed management activities affect them?



3.0 OPPORTUNITY CLASSES

The SMA and the WSR is a diverse piece of public land. A key premise in the development of this Implementation Plan is the recognition that the SMA and the WSR would be given just consideration if the area were analyzed in different sub-units; a mosaic of management areas. There are a variety of settings present based on physical layout, visitor use and patterns of use, degree of past human influences, and management issues. Each recognized setting should then require a different management emphasis to preserve or enhance the particular values of that area. Management emphasis is within the guidance provided by the enabling legislation, Forest Service policies, and direction from the SMA and WSR FEIS.

Within the SMA and the WSR, there are four settings, called Opportunity Classes. (See "Zone Map" at the end of this Plan.) These Opportunity Classes describe the range of resource, social, and managerial conditions that the Forest Service intends to maintain or restore in the SMA and WSR. Opportunity Class I describes a pristine environmental setting with limited recreation use. Opportunity Class II describes a natural environment, with some recreation and human activities evident. Opportunity Class III describes a natural environment with moderate recreation and human activities evident. Opportunity Class IV describes a wide variety of river- and land-based recreation activities available within the natural environment.

Each opportunity class has its own narrative description of resource, social, and managerial conditions that are considered appropriate and acceptable for management. These descriptions are the objectives that the Forest Service will seek to achieve, maintain, or enhance.

OPPORTUNITY CLASS I

- Resource Setting: Opportunity Class I, is the most pristine of the four classes and is essentially an unmodified, natural environment. Soil, water, vegetation, and wildlife are stable and natural processes operate free of human activities. Natural processes are not noticeably affected by the presence or actions of users. Visitor impacts are very rare and typically consist of minor, temporary disturbances of soils and vegetation and occur only in public use areas and along hiking routes. Disturbances are subtle and typically recover yearly. Impacts from activities other than recreationists are nonexistent, or temporary and not noticeable.
- Social Setting: This area provides visitors outstanding opportunities for solitude and isolation from other users and the sights and sounds of human activities. Encounters with other people or activities are rare; whether in public use areas, or along the trails. Visitors may travel without regulations and interact with the natural environment. Within this class there are many opportunities to use primitive outdoor skills and experience challenge, self-reliance, and risk.
- Managerial Setting: Management strongly emphasizes maintaining and enhancing the natural ecosystem and its processes. Primitive recreation and other programs are second priority. Ongoing programs in the area are managed to conform with the areas resource, and social objectives for this class. Management activities will maintain or enhance natural environmental conditions while permitting recreation activities.

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Management Zones:

The following management zones will be managed with the intention of providing the settings described for Opportunity Class I:

ROUGH ZONE	13,900 est. acres
CONVERSE ZONE	10,400 est. acres

OPPORTUNITY CLASS II

Resource Setting:

Opportunity Class II offers challenging recreation activities within a predominately unmodified, natural environment. Soil, water, vegetation, and wildlife within the class are stable. Natural processes are predominant, but management activities may be used to enhance vegetation, wildlife, or fish habitats. Occasionally, visitors have an impact on soils and vegetation in public use areas and along travel routes. Typically, these are minor, temporary disturbances that recover yearly. Most disturbances are subtle and apparent only to some visitors. There are few impacts from activities other than recreation, and they are not apparent to most visitors.

Social Setting:

This area provides visitors with good opportunities for solitude and isolation from others. Travel may be by motorized or non-motorized transportation. Encounters with other visitors or resource users are seldom in the off-season, and low during the primary season of use--both on travel routes and in public use areas. It is very likely that visitors can travel without encountering regulations or law enforcement personnel. Within this class there are many opportunities to use off-road vehicle skills, primitive skills, experience challenge, self-reliance, and risk.

Managerial Setting:

Management focuses on providing recreation experience settings, balanced with an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural environment. Other resource management programs in the area managed to conform with the legislative direction in PL 100-150 and the resource and social objectives for this class. Management strives to use methods that contribute to achieving, maintaining, or enhancing the desired conditions for the area, while fulfilling other program responsibilities.

Management Zones:

The following management zones will be managed with the intention of providing the settings described for Opportunity Class II.

RODGERS ZONE	11,400 est. acres
VERPLANK ZONE	9,700 est. acres
BOOLE ZONE	1,000 est. acres

OPPORTUNITY CLASS III

Resource Setting:

Opportunity Class III is a river recreation class that is easily accessible. Aside from a few developments, a majority of the area consists of a natural environment. Soil, water, vegetation, and wildlife are stable and natural processes operate relatively free of management activities, but natural processes are sometimes moderately affected by the actions of uses within the area. Occasionally, visitors have an impact on soils and vegetation in public use areas, along the

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travel routes and the river. Typically, these impacts are temporary disturbances that recover yearly. Some minor disturbances can persist from year to year and may need mitigation. The persistent impacts are generally apparent to most visitors. Impacts from other management activities are few in number, but are usually permanent and apparent to most visitors who happen upon them.

Social Setting:

The area provides visitors with moderate opportunities for solitude and isolation from others. There are also opportunities for group activities and day-use recreation. Encounters with other visitors are moderate during the high-use season. Encounters with other recreationists usually occur along a heavily traveled highway and are expected by most visitors. There is a moderate likelihood for visitors to travel without regulation and interact with the natural environment. Opportunities for river-based recreation, recreational (highway) driving, viewing spectacular scenery, and other outdoor experiences are available and easily accessible by all.

Managerial Setting:

Management focuses on providing river-based recreation experience settings and uniquely developed opportunities. Outside of recreation activities, there are limited resource management activities within the area. Management strives to use methods that contribute to achieving, maintaining, or enhancing the desired recreation conditions, while maintaining environmental conditions.

Management Zones:

The following management zone will be managed with the intention of providing the settings described for Opportunity Class III.

SOUTH FORK ZONE

2,900 est. acres

OPPORTUNITY CLASS IV

Resource Setting:

Opportunity Class IV, the most developed recreation oriented class, consists of a wide variety of river-based and land-based opportunities within a natural environment. Soil, water, vegetation, and wildlife components of the ecosystem are dynamic processes, operating within the influence of human and land management activities. Some processes are affected by the actions or presence of users. Visitors may impact soils and vegetation in public use areas, in travel areas, and along the river. Typically, impacts are minor and temporary, but some heavily used areas are impacted yearly and may need mitigation. Disturbances may be apparent to visitors, but may be viewed as acceptable. Developments and impacts from other resource uses (e.g., grazing, mining, power lines, roads, and administrative structures), while few in number, are generally permanent and apparent to most visitors who happen upon them.

Social Setting:

This area provides visitors with opportunities for solitude as well as opportunities for group activities. During the off season, encounters with other visitors or resource users are seldom. During the high season, encounters with other visitors are common in public use areas and while traveling. Regulations may be apparent, and visitors may see Forest Service and other law enforcement officials. There are opportunities to use outdoor skills and river-oriented skills in a highly accessible environment.

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Managerial Setting:

Management focus is on providing a wide range of recreation experience settings, while maintaining and enhancing the natural ecosystem and its processes. Ongoing resource programs (e.g., grazing and mining) are managed to maintain the areas' natural and recreational opportunities. Management strives to use methods that contribute to the resource values of the area, while providing a wide variety of river- and land-based recreation opportunities.

Management Zones:

The following management zone will be managed with the intention of providing the settings described for Opportunity Class IV.

KINGS RIVER ZONE

2,700 est. acres



4.0 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT ZONES

Chapter 3.0 discussed Opportunity Classes and described them as the objectives and goals; this chapter discusses the Management Zones. Management Zones are best described as a portion of the SMA or the WSR corresponding to a major geographical area, river segment, or other feature that is managed as a single unit. The SMA and the WSR are divided into seven Management Zones (see Zone Map at the end of this Plan for the boundaries):

ROUGH ZONE - This zone has limited access, with no developed roads or improved camping areas. There is one foot trail from Spring Creek to Rough Creek. The Monarch Wilderness is the eastern boundary. The Wild segment of the Middle Fork of the Kings extends into the Wilderness. The Kings River defines the southern boundary. The SMA boundary is the northern limit, and Spring Creek is the western boundary. The Spanish Mountain Trail (to Little Tehipite Valley) may be within this zone and the Monarch Wilderness. Features include: Rough Creek; Rough Spurr; Garlic Meadow Creek; a Wild section of the Kings River; and a Wild section of the Middle Fork of the Kings.

RODGERS ZONE - This zone is accessed by the Garnet Dike Road (Forest Service road 11S12), and two trails traverse the area. The boundaries are Forest Service road 11S12; the north boundary of the SMA; a fuelbreak near Fox Canyon; and the Kings River Zone boundary. Features include: Rodgers Ridge; Bear Wallow; three mining claims; a power transmission line; and a fire break between Wiseman Spring and the road, along the ridge north of Spring Creek.

SOUTH FORK ZONE - This zone is the section of the South Fork of the Kings Wild and Scenic River managed as a Recreation classification. Access is by State Highway 180. The boundary of the corridor is approximately one-quarter mile from the normal high-water mark. Exact location is defined by State Plane coordinates of points on both sides of the river. Features include: Boyden Cave, Grizzly Falls, and the South Fork of the Kings River.

VERPLANK ZONE - This zone is the portion of the Special Management Area from Verplank Creek west to the SMA boundary. Access is by the Davis Flat road. Several trails traverse this zone. Features include: Sampson Flat, Verplank Saddle, and Mill Flat Creek.

CONVERSE ZONE - This zone is located from Verplank Creek east to the South Fork of the Kings. The northern boundary is the Kings River, and the southern boundary is the SMA boundary. Access is by the Yucca Point trail. Features include: Converse Mountain, Converse Creek, Yucca Point trail, and the wild section of the South Fork of the Kings River.

BOOLE ZONE - This zone is an area around the Boole Tree. Access is by the Boole Tree Trail and one short (¼ mile) 4WD route (13S55). Features include: The Boole Tree, Converse Mountain Giant Sequoia Grove, and Cabin Creek Giant Sequoia Grove.

KINGS RIVER ZONE - This zone consists of a corridor one-quarter mile from the normal high-water mark of the Kings River. Access is by the Garnet Dike road on the north-side of the river and the Camp 4 ½ road on the south-side of the river. Features include: Camp 4 ½, Camp 4, and Green Cabin Flat group campgrounds; Mill Flat Campground; Garnet Dike parking area; and the Kings River. Though outside the SMA boundary, management direction for Keller Ranch and Kirch Flat campground, and section 5 of the Kings River (from Pine Flat Reservoir to the SMA boundary) are included in this zone.

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Additional descriptions of the area are provided in the Affected Environment Chapter of the FEIS. The identification of management actions is addressed in the following chapters.



5.0 MANAGEMENT DIRECTIONS COMMON TO ALL ZONES

Certain objectives, assumptions, indicators and standards, and management actions apply equally to all management zones. Laws, regulations, policies, or management plans set these considerations. All are subordinate to the management goals established by PL 100-150 and the Wild and Scenic River Act.

Some objectives, assumptions, indicators and standards, and management actions only apply to a particular zone. This may occur because of differences in the zones ecology, recreation uses, other resource use (e.g., grazing, mining) or the Forest that is responsible for the administration of a zone.

Each zone chapter, and this chapter--that discusses management direction common to all zones, is organized into four sections. Each section builds on the previous section to provide a wide perspective on the management of a zone. These sections are: Objectives; Assumptions; Indicators and Standards; and Management Actions.

Objectives, along with the opportunity classes, set the overall guidance for a particular zone. These items set the scope of activities permitted in a zone and give direction to unanticipated circumstances.

Assumptions outline some of the items that influence the development of management actions. These items are accepted premises, or projections of changes in future conditions. If there is a change in the assumptions, or they prove to be false, management actions may need revision.

Indicators and Standards are the specific items that will be monitored and evaluated to give managers a description of the current trends within a zone. If a condition begins to approach a standard level, this signals the manager that the situation needs further evaluation and, possibly, a change in management practices.

Management Actions describe the specific actions that will take place within a zone. Management direction for the Sierra NF and the Sequoia NF is included in this section. This direction along with laws, regulations, and National and Regional policies (as stated in the Forest Service Manual) provide the long-range direction for managing the national Forest lands. Specific Standards and Guidelines that apply to the Kings River Special Management Area and the Wild and Scenic Rivers are included in this section for all the Zones.

5.1 Objectives

Provide for the long-term protection and preservation of the areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources; and to provide for appropriate fish and wildlife management of those areas.

Manage the area for the use and enjoyment of visitors in a manner that will leave the area un-impaired for future use and enjoyment.

Establish levels of off-road vehicle use, grazing, vegetation management, and mining such that prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the areas' character, if not prohibited by the Act.

Provide facilities and programs that will reflect the public need for recreation opportunities in appropriate environments. Consider the specific needs of urban residents, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, the elderly, and the young.

Provide recreation opportunities within the capability of the resource; protect the free-flowing condition of the river; and preserve and enhance the values for which it was designated.

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Strive to coordinate the management of lands within the SMA and WSR by maintaining working relationships with the public, user groups, and other agencies.

Seek co-operative funding, partnerships, and cost-share agreements; volunteers will be sought to augment appropriated dollars.

Provide a cost-efficient fire management program that maintains a high regard for public and firefighter safety and minimizes resource losses and serious or long-lasting, adverse affects on SMA and WSR resources.

Create and maintain fuel-bed conditions consistent with the natural fire ecology within the project area.

Manage stream channels and riparian zones to maintain quality habitat for self-sustaining trout populations.

Implement practices designed to retain soil stability and productivity and air and water quality.

Provide efficient SMA and WSR management, while responding to compatible economic and social needs of the public and local communities.

Maintain or enhance the habitat of threatened, endangered, rare, and sensitive plants and animals within the area.

5.2 Assumptions

Air quality will continue to be affected by the air quality of the San Joaquin Valley.

Existing facilities need rehabilitation to meet health and safety needs, custodial management standards, and then continued maintenance. Changes in technology, social attitudes, and agency direction may require updating or improving current facilities.

A greater effort is needed in increasing public understanding of resource management and protection.

Unmanaged recreational use of the SMA and the WSR will result in increased resource deterioration.

Demands for recreational opportunities within the SMA and the WSR will continue to grow in the future.

Monitoring of resource and social indicators will improve current information. This will require periodic review and revision of recreation objectives, policies, indicators, standards and management actions.

Implementation of the plan will require a greater commitment of time and money than is currently available.

Funding and personnel (including seasonal employees or volunteers) will be available to meet the desired objectives of this plan.

Hunting and fishing opportunities, as allowed by the California Department of Fish and Game Regulations, will generally remain the same for the area.

Habitat for threatened, endangered, rare, and sensitive plants and animals will continue to be a concern within the SMA and WSR. Programs to improve the status of T&E species will be ongoing.

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5.3 Indicators and Standards

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS COMMON TO ALL

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Cultural Resources	Archaeological site surface disruption and maintaining the information recovery value of archaeological sites	Sites are maintained in a condition that will permit an evaluation of significance and if appropriate, listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Significant sites are protected.
Fisheries	Suitable habitat is maintained to provide viable fish populations	R-5 minimum Management Requirements, FLMP Guidelines, SMA Riparian Area Direction, Best Management Practices are being applied in a way that supports the objectives established in the SMA and WSR EIS and Plan; and project specific NEPA documents.
Planning Direction	The management of the SMA and WSR reflects the circumstances described in the EIS and the management direction in the Implementation Plan.	Periodic reviews, to evaluate the effectiveness of management directions and monitoring plan, indicate that the documents reflect the current environmental social and administrative needs in the area.
Transportation System	The transportation system meets the direction in the Plan.	The transportation system's effectiveness meets the Opportunity Class and Zone objectives. Review current condition of transportation system and identify maintenance, construction and reconstruction needs to comply with Opportunity Class and Zone objectives. Project specific NEPA documents and the Forests trails plan reflect the objectives in the SMA and WSR EIS and Plan.
Water Quality	Management practices maintain water quality	Implementation of BMP's, SMA Riparian Area Management Direction, and project design does not permit a decrease in water quality.
Wildlife	Within the SMA and WSR, habitats and activities for threatened and endangered species are managed to achieve recovery objectives, so that special protection measures provided under the Endangered Species Act are no longer necessary.	Determine that project plans and prescriptions are carried out as designed, consistent with the Biological Evaluations.

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5.4 Management Actions

Administration:

Unless otherwise noted, management actions common to all zones provides interim protection to one-quarter mile on each side of segments 3 and 4 of the Kings River until either Congress acts on a Wild and Scenic River recommendation or a decision is made not to recommend the river. If the eligible river segments are not recommended for Wild and Scenic River designation, all of the direction will then apply to the river area.

Overall zone management will be by the District with the best access.

The SMA manager will work under the Recreation Officer of the Kings River Ranger District, and will be responsible for coordinating the Plan implementation with the Recreation Officer on the Hume Lake Ranger District.

Annual budgeting and work planning processes will be approved by managers of both Forests and implemented by the managing unit.

Targets and funding for the planning, design, and construction of the Geraldine Lakes Trail (to Little Tehipite Valley) and the Extension of the National Recreation trail will go the Sierra National Forest.

Where appropriate and consistent with the Plan, seek co-operative funding, partnerships, cost-share agreements, and volunteers to augment appropriated dollars.

Provide assistance as requested by the sheriff in search and rescue operations.

Emphasize coordination with local law enforcement agencies and intensive violation prevention programs.

Air Quality:

Minimize resource and air quality impacts from air pollutants generated by management activities through use of the following control measures:

- a) Follow dust abatement procedures.
- b) Conduct an air quality analysis for all projects that may impair air quality to determine impacts, mitigations, and/or controls.
- c) Respond to local planning authorities when development outside Forest jurisdiction may impact forest resources.
- d) Conduct prescribed burning activities in accordance with Air Pollution Control District regulations and with proper prescriptions to assure good smoke management.

Boundaries:

Revise the termini of the river segments below 1595': A) Segment 3, Kings River from 1595' to Garnet Dike (approx. 4 miles); B) Segment 4, Kings River from Garnet Dike to boundary of SMA (approx. 7

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miles); and C) Segment 5, Kings River from lower boundary of the SMA to Pine Flat Reservoir (approximately one mile.)

Cultural Resources:

Use oral history and ethnographic research to help determine the location of historical and cultural remains.

Complete a cultural resource inventory prior to any Forest--or Forest permitted--action, activity, or program. Identify all potentially eligible cultural properties that may be affected.

Evaluate sites and consult with State Historic Preservation Officer re: nomination of appropriate cultural and historical sites to the National Register.

Provide interpretive signing at an entry kiosk on the value and protected status of both prehistoric and historic properties.

Develop and implement strategies, including closures, for the protection of significant cultural resource sites.

Exclude vehicles from identified cultural resource sites/areas, using local material designed to blend with the existing landscape.

Permit walk-in dispersed camping on identified sites, provided condition is not deteriorating.

Stabilize cultural resource sites and limit use to acceptable limits, if monitoring indicates site deterioration, mitigate impacts.

Comply with 36 CFR 800 Regulations by completing cultural resource inventories prior to any action which may effect cultural resources. Develop follow-up actions for evaluation, protection and/or interpretation as a result of inventory findings.

Complete Archaeological Reconnaissance Reports and site records to allow evaluation of site significance.

Release those site locations declared "not significant" for other management activities.

Post and sign (e.g., tractors prohibited or Antiquities Act) selected cultural resource sites where such signing will not endanger the sites.

Monitor a number of sites for protection. Visits will be on a revolving basis and prioritized according to resource significance.

Develop and provide interpretive brochures for selected sites.

Conduct on-ground interpretation at a number of sites where highly significant properties exist or near developed sites where high level of use or exposure is possible (i.e., properties adjacent to campgrounds or historic logging activities in the vicinity of campgrounds).

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Regularly consult with Native Americans as interested parties on proposed undertakings.

Interview key knowledgeable informants occasionally for project specific information on the history of the area.

Promote interpretation through 3-FIA.

Eligibility of Un-designated Segments:

The eligibility of the Kings River from elevation 1595' to Pine Flat Reservoir is displayed in Appendix B (page 67).

In accordance with PL 100-150, manage the section of the Kings River from elevation 1595' to Pine Flat Reservoir following guidelines contained in the Land Management Planning Handbook, Chapter 8.

Until a decision is made on the suitability of designating Segments 3,4, and 5 as a Wild and Scenic River, the one-fourth mile on either side of the river will be managed to protect the river values. Specific direction for Segments 3 and 4 is contained in Management Actions sections for the Converse, Rodgers, Rough, Kings River management areas and in Section 5, "Management Directions Common to All Zones."

Interim protection direction for Segment 5, outside the Kings River Special Management area is described by the management direction for the Kings River Zone, and Management Direction Common to All Zones

Facilities:

Upgrade existing facilities to meet current visual, health and safety maintenance standards. This may include providing toilets in places--and at times--necessary to prevent deterioration of water quality.

Maintain a Pack-it-in/Pack-it-out policy within the SMA and WSR.

Provide bear- and rodent-proof food storage containers.

Rehabilitate, replace, or relocate existing buildings to support Forest management.

Maintain buildings at least to a minimum level that protects health and prevents building deterioration.

Provide sanitation facilities in the areas of or during periods of concentrated use, where either increased management presence or resource protection is necessary and/or potential development exists for which a specific site plan is prepared.

Add a radio repeater (or repeaters) to provide full administrative coverage of the Kings River Zone.

Fisheries:

Manage riparian zones in accordance with SMA Riparian Area Management Direction.

Manage stream channels and riparian zones to maintain quality habitat for self-sustaining trout populations. Fish habitat and angling will be emphasized in natural zones. In recreation zones, fish habitat quality will be protected through project mitigations where conflicts exist.

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Coordinate closely with State of California to maintain or improve the quality of the Wild Trout fishery in the Kings River and the resident trout fishery in the tributaries.

Design management activities so that they are compatible with the State of California, Kings River Wild Trout Management Plan, within its area of jurisdiction.

Pursue cooperative habitat enhancement programs (outside of the Monarch Wilderness) with local fishing organizations and the State Department of Fish and Game.

Maintain or enhance resident fish habitat in tributary streams. Introduce native stock into barren tributaries where suitable habitat exists.

Reestablish native vegetation in impacted riparian areas.

Manage domesticated animals so that it is not at the expense of fish habitat.

Maintain habitat to insure all native fish, wildlife, and plant species will have adequate population levels and distribution to provide for their continued existence throughout their current range.

Maintain the current program of direct habitat restoration by submitting requests for funds to appropriate county, state, and federal agencies.

Restore and enhance fisheries habitat through implementation of "Rise to the Future" (an action plan for the National Forest fisheries program).

Utilize the KRSMA Riparian Area Management Direction to protect riparian resources, water quality and fish habitat.

Fire Management:

Determine the suppression alternative for fires that escape initial attack through an "Escaped Fire Situation Analysis"(EFSA).

Use a "confine" or "contain" suppression strategy for wilderness wildfire when public safety will not be compromised, adjacent resources can be protected, and other management constraints (air quality, watershed, etc.) can be met. Apply "control" strategy to all other wildfires.

Use confinement as a suppression strategy when the potential wilderness fire size will generally not exceed 100 acres.

Fuels Management:

Develop vegetation management plans to reintroduce fire to appropriate areas through prescribed burning of vegetation to increase the health and stability of the vegetative community, increase wildlife habitat values, increase recreational values, improve the long-term visual quality of the landscape, and reduce fire hazard and potential suppression costs.

Reintroduce fire to appropriate areas (outside wilderness) through prescribed burning and, where applicable, also use hand and mechanical fuel manipulation.

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Manage fuels in such a way to prevent erosion and subsequent river siltation. Protect riparian areas.

In wilderness, limit the use of unplanned natural ignition prescribed fire to meeting planned objectives when fuel loading and natural barriers will limit final fire perimeter to planned boundaries under the most severe weather conditions.

Grazing:

Apply the standards and guidelines set forth in the most current version of the Range Environmental Analysis Handbook (R-5 FSH 2209.21). Meadows will be grazed to allowable use standards, as determined by the height/weight or grazed plot method.

Utilize the KRSMA Riparian Area Management Direction to protect riparian resources, water quality and fish habitat.

See Rodgers Zone, Verplank Zone, Boole Zone, and Kings River Zone.

Geology:

Avoid activities in geologically sensitive areas.

Design structures to resist debris flow affects. For example where debris flows may be a problem, use armored rolling dips that are more resistant to debris flow damage than normal fills with culverts.

Land Ownership and Use:

Pursue the acquisition of Keller Ranch for the development of recreation activities outside of the SMA as a means to minimize impacts within the SMA.

Work with FERC to vacate all hydroelectric withdrawals within the designated WSR corridors, including the Ten Mile Creek Hydroelectric Project (FERC 6017).

Minerals:

Manage commercial minerals according to current direction and the provisions of PL 100-150.

All waters within the SMA and WSR corridors will be closed to recreational dredging.

Include provisions to minimize adverse environmental impacts to surface resources in operating plans (36 CFR 228). Upon the completion of any mineral activities on the Forest, provisions will be made for the timely reclamation of a disturbed area with the ultimate goal being full surface production and use of land.

Noise:

* Motorized use on the water will be prohibited.

Where the USFS has the ability and authority, helicopter overflights of the SMA and WSR corridors will be limited administrative use and emergencies.

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Enforce state laws for noise control, the use of approved spark arresters, and green sticker registration as part of overall OHV administration activities.

Planning Direction:

Implement management direction as described in the Sierra National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan *after it is final*, and the Final Sequoia National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

Projects will be started only after following and completing the NEPA requirements.

Contact public land agencies to coordinate management activities.

Contact will be made with organizations or groups where proposed actions could affect the management of private lands so that actions can be coordinated and mitigation provided if appropriate.

Public Information and Interpretation:

Provide VIS materials at all designated, developed recreation sites and all centralized trailheads.

Uniformed Forest Service employees will be available during specified use periods.

Informational and guide signs will include safety and health tips relating to water and land use.

Post at all information kiosks, campgrounds, public parking areas, and selected turnouts signs describing the special angling regulations that pertain to the South Fork, Middle Fork and the Kings rivers.

Interpretive signing at the entrance of the SMA will feature a display on the history and significance of cattle ranching in the area.

Provide educational and user services to assist resource management programs to maintain outputs, to resolve management problems, and to change visitor behavior.

Provide for and maintain present facilities and programs at a high level emphasizing self-service. These include: recreation site and trailhead bulletin boards, publications, media releases, and self service information stations.

Provide other programs and facilities at a moderate level. These include: resource management interpretive signs, Three Forest Interpretive Association (3-FIA) programs, exhibits, interpretive trails, and outdoor programs. Use specialized media to promote dispersed use.

Recreation:

Identify new trail construction and reconstruction, and identify types of uses permitted on the trail system, through the Sequoia and Sierra Forest Trails Plans.

Provide, where feasible, separate trails for equestrian use and mountain bicycles; permit hikers on both systems.

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Allow changes and increases to the existing trail system in accordance with the NEW Alternative. Complete project-specific NEPA documents if trails need to be constructed or rehabilitated. Replace or eliminate trails causing resource and facility damage and/or receiving low use.

Maintain trails consistent with ROS strategies at levels determined by the Trail System Analysis procedures, with priority given to dispersing users and preventing further deterioration of the resources.

Enhance present opportunities by emphasizing management actions which will link campground and other sites to existing trails, tie trails together to create loops and multi-day opportunities, and resolve user conflicts (through designation or design to serve the needs of different trail users).

Maintain system trails to minimize trail degradation and to protect off-site resources.

Implement mitigation measures in all projects posing an impact on the long-term Forest trail system. Measures will include such items as signing, protection of visual quality values, rehabilitation of trails following project completion, and/or relocation of trails around areas where impacts dictate. Timing will be such that user inconvenience is minimized.

Relocate system trails out of meadows where unacceptable damage is occurring.

Continue coordination with the NPS to help facilitate users and management activities for the benefit of park resources (e.g., permit issuance for park backcountry users where access begins on the National Forest).

Manage vegetation to maintain or improve recreation values.

Emphasize day-use opportunities (e.g., overlooks, interpretive signing) to compliment existing facilities.

Use Accessible Facility and Program guidelines, or for people with disabilities, during construction, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of facilities.

Manage existing destination sites to compliment dispersed activities.

Emphasize Pack-in, Pack-out policy. Continue the Pack-in, Pack-out policy in lightly used recreation areas.

Provide for a variety of dispersed uses (including both summer and winter activities) consistent with resource protection and maintaining recreation opportunities.

Identify and respond to potential problems created by target shooting with the objective to minimize user conflicts.

Develop or improve trailhead facilities.

Utilize the KRSMA Riparian Area Management Direction to protect riparian resources, water quality and fish habitat.

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Also see Zone Management Directions for additional recreation guidelines.

Social:

Accommodate the needs and expectations of the various user groups consistent with the emphasis values, although management direction will tend to favor the maintenance of natural conditions. Impose additional regulations only to the extent necessary to manage the emphasis values.

Meet human and community needs where feasible by providing employment and training opportunities, particularly for the elderly, disadvantaged and minority communities. Volunteers and other Human Resource Programs will help accomplish planned work while meeting budget constraints.

Provide where feasible an environment that promotes the active participation of all segments of the public in the management of the Forest.

Promote the use of symbol signing for the hearing impaired, and other accessible devices if programs are for all groups. Ensure over time that Forest Service facilities and programs are responsive to the design needs of the physically challenged.

Ensure that federally conducted and assisted programs administered by the Forest Service (including contracting opportunities and special-use permits) are responsive to the needs of minority groups.

Soils:

Protect water quality and soil productivity through the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMP's) in accordance with the most current version of "Water Quality Management for National Forest System Lands in California." See Appendix D for a complete listing. BMP's will be applied in daily management and during new project planning and implementation. They also will be applied to ensure the SMA and WSR objectives are achieved.

Identify areas of watershed damage and abandoned roads. These areas will be added to the Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) program for rehabilitation. Water quality improvement will receive first priority, followed by priorities established by the management prescriptions.

Use Cumulative Watershed Effects (CWE) methodology for application within the Forest to assess each project for potentials to incur cumulative effects.

Conduct management actions within or in proximity to floodplains, wetlands, and riparian area to comply with E.O. 11990 and E.O. 11988 requirements, processes and procedures.

Manage to maintain long-term soil productivity.

Utilize the KRSMA Riparian Area Management direction.

Threatened and Endangered Species:

Identify the species, location, and habitat requirements of T&E species within the SMA and WSR area.

Provide for the protection and habitat needs of T&E species so that Forest Service and visitor activities will not jeopardize their continued existence.

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Monitor and evaluate T&E species status.

Activities involving T&E species should be done in close consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Complete Biological Evaluations before all projects, or undertakings which have the potential to affect any of the listed species.

Initiate formal consultation, under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service before any project or undertaking which may affect T&E species.

Follow recovery and management plans for the peregrine falcon and bald eagle.

Protect sensitive, proposed for listing, and California species of special concern with the long-term objective for removal from Federal listing or to prevent them from being listed.

Transportation System:

No new roads will be developed, except as necessary to provide access to the permittee's cow camp when it is removed from the riparian zone. Road standards will remain the same, unless monitoring shows that water quality is deteriorating or that soil productivity is being lost. No culverts will be installed in areas known to have high potential for landslides or mass wasting. In those areas, hardened rolling dips will be favored.

Add turnouts in areas that pose a safety hazard.

Manage the road system to assure resource protection, provide safe access and accommodate resource management needs.

Improve signing of road closures to include the reason for closure.

Vegetation:

Prohibit timber harvest--except to the minimum extent necessary to establish fuel breaks, control outbreaks of insects and diseases, or remove health and safety hazards.

Seek delegated decision making authority from the Secretary of Agriculture, for the Forest Supervisor to accomplish the above two management actions.

Reestablish and maintain a healthy plant community that approximates "natural" conditions, given constraints of present and past human activity.

Identify riparian zones, and evaluate for compliance with the KRSMA Riparian Area Management Direction. Any new projects or developments within the SMA or WSR must meet The KRSMA Riparian Area Management Direction.

Identify rare, endangered and sensitive plant species and plant communities within the SMA and WSR. Assure that management activities will not impact identified communities.

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Design all management actions to maintain maximum biological diversity in the SMA and the WSR.

For additional measures to protect riparian areas, please see "Water Quality" and "Soils" under section 5.4.

Provide hardwoods management for key areas of those indicator species highly dependent on hardwoods.

Within riparian area, protect streamcourses and adjacent vegetation to maintain or improve overall wildlife and fish habitat, water quality, and recreational opportunities.

Give preferential consideration to riparian area dependent resources over other non-dependent resources in case of unresolvable conflicts.

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

Maintain or enhance all meadows.

Consider meadows smaller than two acres as part of the riparian areas.

Implement a moderate level of Integrated Pest Management.

Manage sensitive plants to prevent the need for Federal listing as threatened and endangered.

Conserve all sensitive plants on the Regional Forester's Sensitive Plant List.

Visual Resources:

Upgrade all facilities and services to meet retention and/or partial retention, visual quality objectives (VQO) for the forests. Mitigate all existing facilities as necessary to meet the Forest's color guidelines.

Construct management activities within the area so that they will be visually not evident or visually subordinate to the existing characteristic landscape when completed.

Maintain visual quality to the VQO level specified. Consider these a minimum, but strive for higher visual quality whenever practical and when compatible with other resource objectives.

Accept occasional short-term departure from adopted Visual Quality Objectives (VQO's) that will lead to long-term desired visual character. Require a documented decision, based on an environmental analysis, whenever a proposed activity or development reduces the visual quality below the adopted VQO.

Manage Highway 180, and heavily used trails that lead directly into wildernesses as Sensitivity Level 1.

Initiate corrective action to meet adopted VQO when landscape rehabilitation is needed.

Consider visual concerns of individual landowners and agencies within and adjacent to National Forest System lands when planning National Forest management activities.

Manage activities to reflect, wherever possible, the form, line, color, texture of natural occurrences when viewed from middleground and background distances.

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Water Quality:

Implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect water quality and maintain soil stability. Some BMPs are identified within this section with the corresponding management action. For a complete listing of BMPs, see Appendix D.

Identify stream-side management zones and riparian management areas, as described in SMA Riparian Area Management Direction. Utilize this direction to protect riparian resources, water quality and fish habitat. (BMP 7-3, 1-8, 1-19, 1-18 and 7-3)

Restrict vehicle access in stream-side management and riparian zones, except at designated put-ins and take-outs for water craft. (BMP 7-5: Control of Activities Under Special Use Permits.)

Locate new facilities and services, such as toilets and signs, outside the riparian zone. Relocate existing facilities as practical. (BMP 4-5: Control of Sanitation Facilities; BMP 4-6: Control of Refuse Disposal; BMP 4-10: Protection of Water Quality within Developed and Dispersed Recreation Areas; BMP 7-3: Protection of Wetlands)

Provide temporary sanitation facilities at selected rafting put-ins, take-outs, and lunch stops that do not have permanent facilities. (BMP 4-5: Control of Sanitation Facilities; BMP 4-6: Control of Refuse Disposal; BMP 4-10: Protection of Water Quality within Developed and Dispersed Recreation Areas; BMP 7-3: Protection of Wetlands)

Protect water quality by using appropriate BMP's to manage dispersed camping sites adjacent to Rivers. (BMP 4-10: Protection of Water Quality in Developed and Dispersed Recreation Areas)

Manage grazing allotments to protect water quality. (BMP 8-2: Controlling Livestock Numbers and Season of Use; BMP 8-3: Controlling Livestock Distribution within Allotments.)

Additional direction on the responsibilities of BMP Implementation is included in section 13.0 Monitoring Plan.

Wildlife:

Designate natural zones according to site-specific value for wildlife.

Designate a few selected wildlife areas as watchable wildlife/educational areas. No preference will be given to the management of game species to the degradation of non-game species.

Take measures to prevent wildlife behavior modification, due to access to human food. These could include lockers and canisters for food storage and enforcement of Pack-it-in/Pack-it-out.

Monitor lion and bear sightings. Habitat improvements will focus on habitat currently used by game and non-game wildlife species, rather than trying to create new habitat. Avoid sensitive wildlife habitat when designing proposed trail routes.

Implement wildlife habitat improvement strategies, including--but not limited to--girdling trees, installing guzzlers, and planting riparian vegetation in the stream-side zone where compatible with recreational use, visual objectives, water quality and fish habitat objectives.

Consider habitat use by season when planning for developed zones. Indicator species will be identified, and habitat improved accordingly. Non-game species and their movement will be considered

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equally with game species. Hunting will not be permitted in developed zones. Restricted hunting areas will be coordinated with responsible State agencies.

Encourage the reintroduction of endangered species in appropriate habitat (ie. peregrine falcons in the area of Garlic Spur.)

Implement spotted owl management as developed by the Forests.

Maintain habitat to insure all native fish, wildlife, and plant species will have adequate population levels and distribution to provide for their continued existence throughout their current range.

Emphasize habitat management for wildlife species that use riparian, hardwood, snags, and down log habitats.

Maintain the current program of direct habitat improvement by submitting requests for funds to appropriate county, state, and federal agencies.

Use approved cooperative deer herd management plans as a guide to deer habitat management.



6.0 ROUGH ZONE

6.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class I and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Natural and ecological conditions and processes will operate as freely as possible.

Wilderness areas within this zone will be managed in accordance with the Wilderness Act and Forest Service wilderness management directions.

Provide for the long-term protection and preservation of the area's character under a principle of non-degradation.

Human and technological influence will be unappearent.

Give priority to fish habitat over other riparian uses.

Plan for a trail from Garlic Creek to Little Tehipite Trail consistent with the mandates and intents of P.L. 100-150.

Manage the zone using the minimum tools, equipment, or structures necessary to successfully, safely, and economically accomplish the objective.

Manage and retain the ROS class of Primitive(P).

6.2 Assumptions

Recreational opportunities within this zone will remain limited, due to the steep terrain and limited access to the area.

Natural processes will alter environmental conditions.

Habitat is adequate to support existing wildlife in this zone.

The construction of the Geraldine Lakes Trail will increase visitor access, recreational opportunities, and human impacts on environment.

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6.3 Indicators and Standards:

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE ROUGH ZONE

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Recreation	The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class I	Campsites are small and temporary. No facilities are provided. Impacts are not evident to the visitor. Campsites are >100 feet apart and are fewer than 2 per 320 acres.
Visual Resources	The number and character of developments is subordinate to the naturalness of the area. Human and technological influence will be unapparent.	No large developments permitted, and small developments are temporary or subordinate to the environmental setting.
Social	Visitors encounter few people while traveling.	Extremely low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<25% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists on the National Recreation Trail (25 to 50 % chance).
Planning Direction	Management strongly emphasizes maintaining and enhancing the natural ecosystem and its processes.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class I and the objectives for this zone.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

6.4 Management Actions

Maintain a high degree of isolation and solitude.

Provide a very high level of challenge for the able-bodied and people with disabilities. Areas of this zone may be extremely challenging or inaccessible to visitors with certain types of disabilities.

Use prescribed fire to enhance wilderness values (e.g; long-term plant diversity) in all wildernesses in locations and under conditions described in wilderness management plans.

Use a fire management strategy of confinement in fuel-beds where fire can be contained at 200 acres or less, using a suppression tactic of direct or indirect--or a combination of both--to control the fire.

Coordinate zone management actions and the construction of the Geraldine Lakes Trail with the development of the Monarch Wilderness Implementation Schedule.

Provide bear- and rodent-proof food containers within the SMA and WSR, but outside of wilderness areas.

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Construct a foot and horse trail from the current trail terminus at Garlic Meadow Creek to Geraldine Lakes. The trail will connect to the existing trail system, and follow the contour as nearly as is feasible. Access to Little Tehipite Valley will be through the existing north rim trail (referred to as the Geraldine Lakes Trail.)

Design the alignment of the Geraldine Lakes Trail for minimum visual impact as seen from Yucca Point. Sensitive wildlife areas will be avoided, as will areas known to be populated by feral pigs. Cultural resources, including rock art sites, will be protected. The trail should be routed away from known sites, but if rerouting is not feasible, then other mitigation will be required.

Complete a project level NEPA analysis and a value/economic analysis before the final design of the Geraldine Lakes Trail. Favor the least expensive alignment that meets all other criteria of resource protection. Include within the analysis the projected cost of future maintenance.

Solicit public comment if major changes result from the field planning of the Geraldine Lakes Trail.

Coordinate with Kings Canyon National Park on all trail planning and construction activities.

Protect peregrine falcons in the Tehipite Valley area and other superior potential nest sites.



Rough Zone - 30

7.0 RODGERS ZONE

7.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class II and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Multiple-use management activities, consistent with PL 100-150, will be apparent to the visitor, but will remain subordinate to the natural environment.

Natural processes will operate as freely as possible, but activities to restore habitat, wildlife, or fish production may be permitted.

The operation of valid claims will continue; actions will be taken to minimize adverse impacts.

Eliminate all non-valid mining claims.

Manage the grazing program to protect riparian zones, springs, meadows, and other emphasized fish and wildlife habitat, as described in SMA Riparian Area Management Direction. Encourage range and riparian improvement projects that are compatible with the goal of establishing a healthy ecosystem.

7.2 Assumptions

Current levels of grazing and mining are not expected to significantly increase during the life of this plan.

Recreation activities within this zone will remain limited, due to the steep terrain and limited access to the area.

Natural and ecological processes will dominate the area.

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7.3 Indicators and Standards

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE RODGERS ZONE

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Recreation	The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class II	Campsites are small and temporary. Some facilities may be provided. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Campsites are >50 feet apart and are fewer than 5 per 320 acres.
Social	There are few encounters between travelers.	A low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the spring (50 to 75 % chance).
Administration	The levels of grazing, vegetation management and mining are within the scope of PL 100-150.	Use of forest resources is consistent with the long term protection of the areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources.
Planning Direction	Management focuses on providing recreation balanced with an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

7.4 Management Actions

Conduct a cultural resource survey along existing trails. Conduct data recovery, or mitigate potential impacts through trail re-routing or the use of natural barriers.

Allow administrative access to existing power line. Permit power-line maintenance and upgrading consistent with FERC license.

Use a fire management strategy of confinement in fuel-beds where fire can be contained at 200 acres or less by using a suppression tactic of direct or indirect--or a combination of both--to control the fire.

Maintain the fuel-break to facilitate vegetation management and fire suppression activities.

Complete or update grazing allotment plans following NEPA directions and Land Management Plan Standards and Guidelines.

Provide water developments and salting for cattle outside riparian zones to facilitate dispersion, protect stream channels, provide for wildlife, and be consistent with cultural resource management actions.

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Monitor grazing allotments as defined in the allotment plans.

Initiate BMP's 3.1 to 3.3 and other mitigation as necessary to prevent environmental degradation by commercial mining activities.

Permit access to existing valid mining claims. Mitigate impacts.

Evaluate current trail use and location. Rehabilitate areas where unacceptable impacts have occurred. Design trail, and establish the maintenance level to minimize future impacts. Only non-motorized use will be permitted.

Plan and design additional trail(s) in the Spring Creek area to provide a scenic outlook and access vista points. If feasible, provide a loop trail and an access trail to view Garlic Falls.

The ROS Class for the Bear Wallow portion of Rodgers Ridge will be Semi-primitive Non-Motorized (See FEIS Glossary for definition). The remainder of the Rodgers Ridge area west of Deer Ridge is Roaded Natural, and between Deer Ridge and the Monarch Wilderness will be Primitive.

Identify the only known site of Kings River Buckwheat and determine if domestic animals are impacting the site.



Rodgers Zone - 33

8.0 SOUTH FORK ZONE

8.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class III and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Maintain and/or enhance the existing visual quality of the natural landscape within this zone.

Maintain a diversity of river-based recreation activity opportunities emphasizing scenery viewing, fishing, picnicking, and caving.

Emphasize day-use (vs. overnight-use) opportunities.

Provide facilities to protect water quality and maintain environmental quality.

8.2 Assumptions

Weekends with high visitor use will require a greater effort to direct visitors and provide information.

A greater effort will be needed to coordinate management activities with Kings Canyon National Park.

Additional sanitation facilities will be needed at Boyden Cave, but all other facilities can accommodate future needs.

Access in this zone will remain limited to the existing highway, due to the steep, narrow canyon.

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8.3 Indicators and Standards

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE SOUTH FORK ZONE

ISSUES	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Recreation	The number of dispersed public use areas and the condition of these areas, is consistent with the Opportunity Class III	Dispersed recreation impacts are temporary, and are commonly only fire rings in the turnouts along Highway 180. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Use areas are generally >50 feet apart and are fewer than 2 per 320 acres.
Visual Resource	The management of Highway 180, Boyden Cave, and Grizzley Falls, does not detract from the naturalness of the zone.	Adequate parking is provided, sanitation facilities meet current needs, and all facilities compliment the areas' natural scenic resources.
Social	Aside from the activity of Highway 180, Boyden Cave, and Grizzley Falls, there are few encounters with recreationists.	A low probability of meeting other parties or forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the spring (25 to 50 % chance).
Planning Direction	Management focuses on providing river-based recreation experience settings and uniquely developed opportunities.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

8.4 Management Actions

Boyden Cave, on the South Fork of the Kings, will be permitted to continue to operate at the current level with existing facilities. Improvement of sanitation facilities will be permitted if appropriate. NEPA compliance will be required.

Use the following warning in general maps and literature if there are caves open to public use by permit or otherwise:

"Caves may pose special dangers to visitors due to flooding, falling rocks, and other hazards which may require special skills and equipment. Cave visitors are responsible for their own safety and should take precautions to learn safety procedures and utilize proper equipment."

Implement a general fire suppression strategy of control at a maximum size of ten acres. Any fire occurring with the WSR that has exceeded, or is anticipated to exceed, pre-planned initial action

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capabilities or the fire management direction will be considered an escaped fire and analyzed under the Escaped Fire Situation Analysis (EFSA) process.

No new commercial ventures will be permitted within the W&SR corridor.

Continue to permit camping along the South Fork of the Kings River, in turnouts along Highway 180, and the area would be available for overflow camping for Kings Canyon NP. Additional toilet and sanitation facilities would be provided between Yucca Point and the Park if they were necessary to protect environmental quality.

On High Use weekends:

A) Increase personnel available to hand out campfire permits, prevent unsafe situations, and inform visitors of Forest regulations.

B) Provide temporary trash dumpsters and toilet facilities in the area.

Continue coordination with the Peregrine Fund and the Predatory Bird Research Group for the reintroduction of peregrine falcons in this zone.

Coordinate all management activities with Kings Canyon National Park.

Provide information at a kiosk along Highway 180. Information will highlight the special features of the area, minimum impact recreation use, protection of vegetation and wildlife, and the Tread Lightly program.

Provide information and input to California Department of Transportation regarding activities involving Highway 180. Seek to maintain or improve the current highway conditions.



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9.0 VERPLANK ZONE

9.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class II and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Multiple-use management activities consistent with PL 100-150 will be apparent to the visitor, but will remain subordinate to the natural environment.

Natural processes will operate as freely as possible, but activities to improve habitat, wildlife, or fish production may be permitted.

The grazing program will be managed to protect riparian zones, springs, meadows, and other emphasized wildlife habitat. Range and riparian improvement projects, which are compatible with the goal of establishing a healthy ecosystem, will be encouraged.

Off-highway vehicle use on designated routes will continue. Adverse impacts will be mitigated.

9.2 Assumptions

Current levels of grazing and mining are not expected to increase significantly during the life of this plan.

Recreation activities within this zone will remain limited, due to the steep terrain and limited access to the area.

Natural and ecological processes will dominate the area.

Demands for OHV recreational activities will increase in this zone.

OHV use allows the area to be more accessible to people with specific disabilities.



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9.3 Indicators and Standards

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE VERPLANK ZONE

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Recreation	The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class II	Campsites are small and temporary. Some facilities may be provided. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Campsites are >50 feet apart and are fewer than 5 per 320 acres.
Social	There are few encounters between travelers.	A low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the spring (50 to 75 % chance).
Administration	The levels of OHV use, grazing, and vegetation management are within the scope of PL 100-150.	Use of forest resources and OHV use of designated routes is consistent with the long term protection of the areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources.
Planning Direction	Management focuses on providing recreation experience settings, balanced with an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

9.4 Management Actions

Conduct a cultural resources survey along existing trails. Mitigate potential impacts through data recovery, trail re-routing or the use of natural barriers.

Allow administrative access to the existing power line. Permit power-line maintenance and upgrading consistent with FERC license.

Complete or update grazing allotment plans following NEPA directions.

Provide water developments for cattle outside riparian zones to facilitate dispersion, protect stream channels, provide for wildlife, and be consistent with cultural resource management actions.

Monitor grazing allotments as defined in the allotment plans.

Outside of the Monarch Wilderness, implement a general fire suppression strategy of control at a maximum size of ten acres. Any fire occurring with the SMA that has exceeded, or is anticipated to

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exceed, pre-planned initial action capabilities or the fire management direction, will be considered an escaped fire and analyzed under the Escaped Fire Situation Analysis (EFSA) process.

Evaluate current trail use and location. Rehabilitate any area where significant impacts have occurred. Design trail and establish the maintenance level to minimize future impacts.

Evaluate (in conjunction with the Forest Trails Plan) historic routes--those used prior to the area's inclusion in RARE II and subsequent designation--as a further planning area.

Identify OHV routes where no resource damage is occurring and areas where resource damage could be mitigated by seasonal closures, rerouting, reconstruction, or other measures. Routes that meet resource protection standards and the criteria for designated routes will be opened.

Maintain designated routes with a combination of Green Sticker Money, partnership agreements, cooperative funding, and federally appropriated dollars. No new OHV routes, roads, or trails will be constructed, except as necessary to avoid sensitive areas.

OHV's may be used on designated routes on the Sequoia National Forest (Verplank Zone only) except where closed by law or by Forest Supervisor order to prevent:

- a) Resource damage (e.g., soil compaction, vegetation damage, wildlife disturbance, fire);
- b) Facility damage (e.g., roads, trails, signs, fences); and
- c) User conflicts (e.g., motorized and nonmotorized use) to maintain specific recreation opportunities/experiences.

Wheeled vehicle use, including OHV's, is limited to designated routes only, subject to:

- a) Seasonal or permanent restrictions to prevent resource damage, facility damage and/or user conflicts;
- b) Incidental access off designated routes or system roads if provided by permit (e.g., firewood gathering, mining activities, access to permitted facilities);
- c) Incidental access to dispersed area camp locations immediately adjacent to system roads (e.g., generally within 200 feet where no resource damage occurs); and
- d) Specific restriction as to type of vehicle on certain facilities (e.g., 2-, 3-, or 4-wheels or other design criteria).

Obtain public involvement whenever changes to the OHV Management Action Plan are necessary based on trail standards and guidelines.

Use location and design criteria for OHV trails that will hold down the speed of vehicles.

Design vegetation management along OHV routes to be consistent with visual, air-quality, and fuel reduction objectives.

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10.0 BOOLE ZONE

10.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class II and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Provide for the long-term protection, interpretation, and preservation of giant sequoia in this zone.

Multiple-use management activities consistent with PL 100-150 will be apparent to the visitor, but will remain subordinate to the natural environment.

Natural processes will operate as freely as possible, but activities to improve habitat, wildlife, or fish production may be permitted.

Manage the grazing program to protect riparian zones, springs, meadows, and other emphasized fish and wildlife habitat. Encourage range and riparian improvement projects, which are compatible with the goal of establishing a healthy ecosystem.

10.2 Assumptions

Giant sequoia will continue to be a unique forest resource and visitor attraction.

The demand for recreation activities for people with disabilities will increase.

Current levels of grazing and mining are not expected to significantly increase during the life of this plan.

Natural and ecological processes will dominate the area.

The popularity of the Boole Tree, the largest tree in the National Forest System, will increase and use in the area will sharply rise.



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10.3 Indicators and Standards:

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE BOOLE ZONE

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Recreation	The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class II	Campsites are small and temporary. Some facilities may be provided. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Campsites are >50 feet apart and are fewer than 5 per 320 acres.
Social	There are few encounters between travelers.	A low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the Boole Tree trail (25 to 50 % chance).
Administration	The levels grazing, and vegetation management are within the scope of PL 100-150.	Use of forest resources is consistent with the long term protection of the areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources.
Planning Direction	Management focuses on providing recreation experience settings, balanced with an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

10.4 Management Actions

Manage the giant sequoia groves in accordance with the 1990 Sequoia National Forest Mediated Agreement. "Except as set forth in section II.2.a(1), there shall be no new road building, logging or mechanical/motorized entry (except for entry on existing roads) within the final administrative boundary of any grove during the period of time in which the Sequoia National Forest activities are covered by the 1988 Land and Resource Management Plan."

Develop interpretive opportunities to provide visitors with information on giant sequoia groves, wildlife, geology, vegetation, fisheries, and other ecosystem qualities.

Implement a general fire suppression strategy of control at a maximum size of ten acres. Any fire occurring with the SMA that has exceeded, or is anticipated to exceed, pre-planned initial action capabilities or the fire management direction will be considered an escaped fire and analyzed under the Escaped Fire Situation Analysis (EFSA) process.

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Develop vegetation management plans to reintroduce fire to appropriate areas through prescribed burning of vegetation in order to increase the health and stability of the vegetative community; increase wildlife habitat values; increase recreational values; improve the long-term visual quality of the landscape; and reduce fire hazard and potential suppression costs.

Complete or update grazing allotment plans following NEPA process.

Provide water developments and salting for cattle outside riparian zones to facilitate dispersion, protect stream channels, provide for wildlife, and be consistent with cultural resource management actions.

Develop a loop trail for the Boole Tree Trail. Provide the highest level of accessibility within economic limitations. The Boole Tree trail will be designated for foot travel only. Write a Forest Supervisor Order to prohibit OHV and mountain bike travel.

Limit vehicle travel to designated routes. Road 13S55 was available for vehicle use at the time of implementation of Public Law 100-150. Unacceptable resource damage is occurring, and evaluation has determined that closure will adequately mitigate user caused damage.

No new OHV routes, roads, or trails will be constructed.

Design vegetation management to be consistent with visual, air-quality and fuel reduction objectives.



Boole Zone - 42

11.0 CONVERSE ZONE

11.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class I and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Natural and ecological conditions and processes will operate as freely as possible.

Provide for the long-term protection and preservation of the area's character under a principle of non-degradation.

Provide for the long-term protection, interpretation, and preservation of giant sequoia in this zone.

Contemporary human and technological influence will be unapparent --with the exception of Highway 180, which borders this zone. Historic logging activities may be evident.

Manage the zone for the use and enjoyment of visitors in a manner that will leave the area un-impaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness.

Manage the zone using the minimum tools, equipment, or structures necessary to successfully, safely, and economically accomplish the objective.

11.2 Assumptions

Giant sequoia will continue to be a unique forest resource and visitor attraction.

Recreational opportunities within this zone will remain limited, due to the steep terrain and limited access to the area.

Highway 180 will not significantly influence the resource, social, or management settings within this zone--due to the steep terrain.

Natural processes will alter environmental conditions.

Habitat is adequate to support existing wildlife in this zone.

The construction of an extension to the National Recreation trail from Garnet Dike to the Yucca Point trail will increase visitor access, recreational opportunities and human impacts on the area.

10.0 BOOLE ZONE

10.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class II and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Provide for the long-term protection, interpretation, and preservation of giant sequoia in this zone.

Multiple-use management activities consistent with PL 100-150 will be apparent to the visitor, but will remain subordinate to the natural environment.

Natural processes will operate as freely as possible, but activities to improve habitat, wildlife, or fish production may be permitted.

Manage the grazing program to protect riparian zones, springs, meadows, and other emphasized fish and wildlife habitat. Encourage range and riparian improvement projects, which are compatible with the goal of establishing a healthy ecosystem.

10.2 Assumptions

Giant sequoia will continue to be a unique forest resource and visitor attraction.

The demand for recreation activities for people with disabilities will increase.

Current levels of grazing and mining are not expected to significantly increase during the life of this plan.

Natural and ecological processes will dominate the area.

The popularity of the Boole Tree, the largest tree in the National Forest System, will increase and use in the area will sharply rise.



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10.3 Indicators and Standards:

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE BOOLE ZONE

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Recreation	The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class II	Campsites are small and temporary. Some facilities may be provided. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Campsites are >50 feet apart and are fewer than 5 per 320 acres.
Social	There are few encounters between travelers.	A low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the Boole Tree trail (25 to 50 % chance).
Administration	The levels grazing, and vegetation management are within the scope of PL 100-150.	Use of forest resources is consistent with the long term protection of the areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources.
Planning Direction	Management focuses on providing recreation experience settings, balanced with an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

10.4 Management Actions

Manage the giant sequoia groves in accordance with the 1990 Sequoia National Forest Mediated Agreement. "Except as set forth in section II.2.a(1), there shall be no new road building, logging or mechanical/motorized entry (except for entry on existing roads) within the final administrative boundary of any grove during the period of time in which the Sequoia National Forest activities are covered by the 1988 Land and Resource Management Plan."

Develop interpretive opportunities to provide visitors with information on giant sequoia groves, wildlife, geology, vegetation, fisheries, and other ecosystem qualities.

Implement a general fire suppression strategy of control at a maximum size of ten acres. Any fire occurring with the SMA that has exceeded, or is anticipated to exceed, pre-planned initial action capabilities or the fire management direction will be considered an escaped fire and analyzed under the Escaped Fire Situation Analysis (EFSA) process.

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Develop vegetation management plans to reintroduce fire to appropriate areas through prescribed burning of vegetation in order to increase the health and stability of the vegetative community; increase wildlife habitat values; increase recreational values; improve the long-term visual quality of the landscape; and reduce fire hazard and potential suppression costs.

Complete or update grazing allotment plans following NEPA process.

Provide water developments and salting for cattle outside riparian zones to facilitate dispersion, protect stream channels, provide for wildlife, and be consistent with cultural resource management actions.

Develop a loop trail for the Boole Tree Trail. Provide the highest level of accessibility within economic limitations. The Boole Tree trail will be designated for foot travel only. Write a Forest Supervisor Order to prohibit OHV and mountain bike travel.

Limit vehicle travel to designated routes. Road 13S55 was available for vehicle use at the time of implementation of Public Law 100-150. Unacceptable resource damage is occurring, and evaluation has determined that closure will adequately mitigate user caused damage.

No new OHV routes, roads, or trails will be constructed.

Design vegetation management to be consistent with visual, air-quality and fuel reduction objectives.



11.0 CONVERSE ZONE

11.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class I and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Natural and ecological conditions and processes will operate as freely as possible.

Provide for the long-term protection and preservation of the area's character under a principle of non-degradation.

Provide for the long-term protection, interpretation, and preservation of giant sequoia in this zone.

Contemporary human and technological influence will be unapparent --with the exception of Highway 180, which borders this zone. Historic logging activities may be evident.

Manage the zone for the use and enjoyment of visitors in a manner that will leave the area un-impaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness.

Manage the zone using the minimum tools, equipment, or structures necessary to successfully, safely, and economically accomplish the objective.

11.2 Assumptions

Giant sequoia will continue to be a unique forest resource and visitor attraction.

Recreational opportunities within this zone will remain limited, due to the steep terrain and limited access to the area.

Highway 180 will not significantly influence the resource, social, or management settings within this zone--due to the steep terrain.

Natural processes will alter environmental conditions.

Habitat is adequate to support existing wildlife in this zone.

The construction of an extension to the National Recreation trail from Garnet Dike to the Yucca Point trail will increase visitor access, recreational opportunities and human impacts on the area.

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11.3 Indicators and Standards:

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE CONVERSE ZONE

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Recreation	The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class I	Campsites are small and temporary. No facilities are provided. Impacts are not evident to the visitor. Campsites are >100 feet apart and are fewer than 2 per 320 acres.
Visual Resources	The number and character of developments is subordinate to the naturalness of the area. Human and technological influence will be unappearent.	No large developments permitted, and small developments are temporary or subordinate to the environmental setting.
Social	Visitors encounter few people while traveling.	Extremely low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<25% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists on the National Recreation Trail and the Yucca Point Trail (25 to 50 % chance).
Planning Direction	Management strongly emphasizes maintaining and enhancing the natural ecosystem and its processes.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class I and the objectives for this zone.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

11.4 Management Actions

Maintain a high degree of isolation and solitude.

Provide a very high level of challenge for the able-bodied and people with disabilities. Areas of this zone may be extremely challenging or inaccessible to visitors with certain types of disabilities.

Provide for the stabilization and interpretation of any remaining sections of the Hume-Bennet flume or other significant historic sites.

Manage the giant sequoia groves in accordance with the 1990 Sequoia National Forest Mediated Agreement. "Except as set forth in section II.2.a(1), there shall be no new road-building, logging or mechanical/motorized entry (except for entry on existing roads) within the final administrative boundary of any grove during the period of time in which the Sequoia National Forest activities are covered by the 1988 Land and Resource Management Plan."

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Complete or update grazing allotment plans following NEPA process.

Provide water developments and salting for cattle outside riparian zones to facilitate dispersion, protect stream channels, provide for wildlife, and be consistent with cultural resource management actions.

Implement a general fire suppression strategy of control at a maximum size of ten acres. Any fire occurring with the SMA or WSR that has exceeded, or is anticipated to exceed, pre-planned initial action capabilities or the fire management direction will be considered an escaped fire and analyzed under the Escaped Fire Situation Analysis (EFSA) process.

No new commercial ventures will be permitted within the W&SR corridor.

Develop interpretive signs at Junction View and at the trailhead of Yucca Point Trail.

Evaluate current use and location of the Yucca Point Trail. Rehabilitate any area where impacts have occurred. Establish the maintenance level to minimize future impacts. Only non-motorized use will be permitted on the Yucca Point Trail.

Design trailhead, parking facility, foot bridge and interpretive signs in conjunction with the extension of the National Recreation Trail. Most likely location will be an expansion of the Yucca Point Trail and trailhead facilities.

Provide information and input to California Department of Transportation regarding activities involving Highway 180. Seek to maintain or improve the current highway conditions.



Converse Zone - 45

12.0 KINGS RIVER ZONE

12.1 Objectives

Management of the zone will be consistent with Opportunity Class IV and the objectives identified in section 5.1.

Provide a wide variety of recreational activities to accommodate a diverse range of visitors.

Seek to maintain the current resource, social, and management conditions.

Maintain a diversity of river- and land-based recreation activity opportunities; and, emphasize the combined activities of camping, fishing, and floating.

Allow only those recreational activities that are shown to have minimal impact on the environment.

Prevent any substantial increase in the amount of permanent human influence in the corridor, outside of developed recreation sites.

Maintain and enhance for viewing the existing characteristic, natural landscape within this management unit.

Manage access sites for floater use.

Allow further improvement of recreation sites only for protection of natural resources.

Reduce congestion at river-access sites.

Manage boating in a way that minimizes impacts on anglers.

Provide users access to management personnel by maintaining a periodic presence in the corridor.

Promulgate regulations necessary to protect natural resources and planned recreation opportunities.

Maintain the user's high probability to interact with a predominantly natural-appearing environment.

12.2 Assumptions

Demands for recreational opportunities within this zone will increase more than any other zone.

Recreation activities will need to be balanced with environmental concerns to maintain the area's natural, archaeological, and scenic resources; and, provide for appropriate fish and wildlife management.

A greater effort will be needed to use information services, natural barriers, and unobtrusive devices to direct recreational use.

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Administration of this zone will require more funding and personnel than the other zones.

Any significant increase in visitation to this zone may result in a need for visitor-use permits (for boating), restriction and/or increased law enforcement.

This zone will be first priority for further cultural resource inventory.

Strong protective measures involving a greater commitment of funding, may be required to protect, preserve, study, or interpret archaeological sites.

The potential to adversely impact archaeological sites may increase if management actions do succeed in managing recreational use of the zone.

Maintaining or upgrading the Class IV settings in this zone will require a more intense level of management than the other zones.

Visitors using the Geraldine Lakes Trail (to Little Tehipite Valley) may be using facilities within this zone.

Visitors using the Bear Wallow to Rodgers Ridge and Kings River to Cabin Creek Grove trails may use facilities within this zone. Almost all late fall through early spring hiking trips in the Rough Zone originate in the Kings River Zone.

Increased use of the river by private boaters may necessitate limiting the numbers of private boaters through a permit system, or it may include issuing permits to increase information dissemination. (Commercial boaters are currently required to have a permit.)

The demands for commercial rafting services will mildly increase over the term of this plan.

The amount of commercial rafting permits is limited by the size, location, and impacts of the base camps.

The demands for private rafting, kayaking, and water-oriented activities will increase over the term of this plan.

12.3 Indicators and Standards

INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE KINGS RIVER CORRIDOR ZONE

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Recreation and Wildlife	There is sufficient dead and down material to support recreational activities and wildlife.	10 tons/acres of dead and down material should be available for wildlife and recreational campfire building.
Visual Resources	The number and character of developments compliments the naturalness of the area.	Not more than 5 developments per a 320 acre area. Developments include structures, and facilities for recreation and non-recreation activities.

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INDICATORS AND STANDARDS FOR THE KINGS RIVER CORRIDOR ZONE (continued)

ISSUE	INDICATOR	STANDARD
Visual Resources	The amount of vandalism does not impact the visual setting of the area.	No more than 3 new occurrences of graffiti vandalism or defacing of natural features located anywhere within the Zone, per year.
Recreation	The amount and size of dispersed campsites does not disrupt the recreation opportunities, or the natural resources within the zone. Any increase of recreational use should not change the natural character of the area.	No more than 5 sites within a quarter mile length of the river corridor. Dispersed site locations should not impact the experience of other campers.
Recreation	The amount and size of group campsites does not disrupt the recreation opportunities, or the natural resources within the zone. Groups should be encouraged to use campsites outside the SMA and WSR corridor.	No more than 5 denied requests for group camping. The existing accommodations for group camping should meet user needs.
Social	Recreation parties should travel unencumbered by other parties.	50% probability of no more than 5 encounters with other parties.
Social	The number of conflicts between recreation groups (e.g., anglers and boaters) should not cause undue conflict.	No more than 5 reported or otherwise documented conflicts between different types of users (e.g., anglers and rafters)
Administration	The public should be informed of potential risks and steps should be taken to provided an appropriate level of public safety.	No more than 4 accidents per year within the zone, with attention to rafting incidents. Accidents are incidents where there is either an incident report filed by a Forest Officer, or if a Forest visitor requires medical attention.
Transportation	Public parking space should be provided at a level that protects the resource and provides for public safety and comfort. Visitors should find adequate parking at trailheads, and raft put-ins and take-outs.	>25% of parties interviewed could not find a parking spot at their preferred trailhead, rafting put-in or take-out.

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Also see "Corrections to All Zones"

12.4 Management Actions

Develop site plans for each of the areas where development or use is or has been conceptually located or suggested in this Plan. These are areas where recreation activities will be permitted and areas where the natural environments will be maintained. Examples include: Cultural/archaeological sites, riparian vegetation maintenance areas, dispersed recreation areas, developed campgrounds, picnic sites, rafting put-ins, and administrative sites.

Develop river access for the people with hearing, sight and physically challenged disabilities. Facilities and programs will be accessible at different levels for folks without aid from another person. These facilities and programs will be in full compliance with the adopted codes and standards.

Provide for the stabilization and interpretation of any remaining sections of the Hume-Bennett flume or other significant historic sites.

Avoid placing facilities that will invite overnight occupancy in areas where debris flows are likely to pass through or deposit. Improvements will be sited outside debris-flow transport paths of deposit areas. Where this placement is not possible, such as Garnet Dike Road, designs will be resistant to debris-flow impacts.

Provide portable low cost sanitation facilities during peak rafting season if water quality falls below the standard. Sanitation facilities should be placed outside of the riparian zone.

➔ Analyze new locations for the cattle permittee's camp at Camp 4 ½. Move camp out of the riparian zone to an identified preferred location.

Develop and/or manage cattle allotment Plans to minimize conflicts between forest users and livestock in this zone.

Move group camps to Keller Ranch.

Install a radio repeater (or repeaters) to provide full administrative coverage of the Kings River Zone.

Provide potable water at Kirch Flat.

Provide trash collection at Kirch Flat during high-use periods.

Implement a general fire suppression strategy of control at a maximum size of ten acres. Any fire occurring with the SMA and WSR that has exceeded, or is anticipated to exceed, pre-planned initial action capabilities or the fire management direction will be considered an escaped fire and analyzed under the Escaped Fire Situation Analysis (EFSA) process.

Design a fishing access trail for foot traffic only, (no OHV use) to minimize conflict with rafting operations. This trail will originate from Mill Flat and run along the south side of the river, possibly extending to Verplank or Converse Creek.

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Provide for the interpretation of significant archaeological sites.

Provide information at a kiosk at Keller Ranch. Information will highlight the special features of the area, minimum impact camping, protection of vegetation and wildlife, special fishing regulations, and the Tread Lightly program.

Provide trailhead parking and a stock holding area for the Geraldine Lakes Trail (to Little Tehipite Valley).

Consider bussing or a vehicle permit system if monitoring indicates social objectives are not being met or natural resources are deteriorating.

Provide unregulated private whitewater rafting until unacceptable impacts occur. Increased use may necessitate limiting the numbers of boaters through a permit system, or it may include issuing permits to increase information dissemination.

Allow 3 whitewater rafting companies to operate on the Kings River from Garnet Dike to Kirch Flat Campground. Each company will be allowed 1 base camp, located outside of the SMA. Each company will be permitted to run trips with a maximum of 70 occupants (including staff) in 10-passenger boats per put-in. Each company will be allowed 1 trip per day. A second trip a day, including weekends, will be allowed for one of the 3 companies. This second trip will be awarded to the commercial company who used the highest amount of their service-day capacity in the previous year. The remaining 2 commercial companies will be permitted to run 2 trips per day on weekdays only.

SYNOPSIS OF COMMERCIAL BOATING

Number of Commercial Companies	Number of People per Trip	Number of Trips per Day	Number of Base Camps	Total Number of Users/day
3	70	4 (on weekends) 6 (on weekdays)	3	280 420

Prohibit commercial rafting above the up-stream end of Garnet Dike Road. Rafters will be permitted to put-in at current locations; however, any environmental impacts will require mitigation.

Develop an overflow campground to accommodate large groups, or large numbers of individual campers, at Kirch Flat/Keller Ranch area to alleviate crowding in the SMA river corridor during high-use rafting weekends. The overflow area will be closed and gated when not in use.

Develop a raft take-out with vehicle access at Kirch Flat Campground. This should facilitate private rafters loading heavy rafts and eliminate traffic through the existing group campground.

Require rafting permittees to provide portable sanitation facilities at their put-ins, swimming holes, and lunch stops that do not have permanent facilities, if water quality drops below the minimum standard. Sanitation facilities should be placed outside the water influence area or riparian area.

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Evaluate the potential for an additional take-out at Keller Ranch. Develop the area if feasible.

If Keller Ranch is not acquired, work with rafting permittees, and interested parties, to have the commercial rafting permittees bus their customers into the base camps.

Develop an area to provide an outdoor classroom. Design may consist of a low profile facility, and may include an interpretation sign, picnic (activity) tables, a campfire circle, parking area, and sanitation facilities. A project specific Environmental Analysis will evaluate the projected need and uses of the area.

Limit vehicle travel to designated routes. All routes that were legally available for OHV use at the time of implementation of Public Law 100-150 will be evaluated using the NEPA process. Routes where resources could be adequately protected will be designated available for public use. Routes where unacceptable resource damage is occurring will be further evaluated to determine if rerouting, re-design, or seasonal closure will adequately mitigate user-caused damage; if so, they will be designated open with restrictions. Routes that cannot be adequately mitigated will be closed.

Maintain designated routes with a combination of Green Sticker Money, partnership agreements, cooperative funding, and federally appropriated dollars. No new OHV routes, roads, or trails will be constructed, except as necessary to avoid sensitive areas.

Vegetation management along OHV routes will be designed to be consistent with visual, air-quality, and fuel-reduction objectives.

Maintain the the Fox Canyon mining road open to administrative use only.

Encourage Pack-it-in/Pack-it-out policy and no trace camping techniques.

Take necessary actions to maintain the solitude and environmental qualities of the SMA and WSR. **It is expected that standards will not be met or exceeded under normal visitor circumstances and mitigation will not be necessary.** But, if management actions fail to achieve the desired results, the following mitigation may be implemented (in priority order):

- 1) Increased visitor information on the impacts within the SMA and WSR. This will include the construction of a kiosk with visitor information. USFS patrol personnel will be used to discuss impacts with visitors and encourage appropriate actions.
- 2) A mandatory, but unlimited, permit will be required for all users rafting the river. The permit will be used to insure agency contact with the user for the purposes of education and reducing visitor impacts. There will be no fee, and permits will only be required during the high use season.
- 3) A reservation fee system during the high use season. This will require visitors to make a reservation to enter the SMA and WSR. A fee will either be charged to make a reservation, or to receive the permit. A similar system is used in Wilderness where visitors are charged a non-refundable \$3.00 to make a reservation.
- 4) A staffed kiosk with an admission fee and a visitor (by car) limit.

Manage as "natural" zones, the groves of mature or over-mature oaks along the river corridor. Where practicable, relocate existing campgrounds and facilities located under the canopy of over-mature oaks. This is to provide protection for the oaks and safe camping for visitors (from falling branches, trees).

13.0 KINGS RIVER SMA AND WSR MONITORING PLAN

This chapter discusses the means the Forest Service will employ to ensure that future management is consistent with the direction contained in the Implementation Plan.

Monitoring and evaluation activities provide information to help determine whether or not the direction contained in the Plan is being followed and if the stated objectives for the SMA and the WSR are being met. It is through this process that corrections and adjustments are made if necessary.

The monitoring plan for the SMA and WSR serves four functions:

1. To make sure that management actions are implemented as designed and that they are in compliance with Implementation Plan objectives and standards.
2. To measure the effectiveness of management actions in accomplishing the objectives and standards.
3. To identify trends (adverse or otherwise) in environmental conditions.
4. To complete the inventory process for the SMA and the WSR.



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MANAGEMENT DIRECTION COMMON TO ALL ZONES

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY SIGNALING FURTHER ACTION
Archaeological site surface disruption and maintaining the information recovery value of archaeological sites	Sites are maintained in a condition that will permit an evaluation of significance and if appropriate, listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Significant sites are protected to permit future data recovery.	A cultural resources survey will be conducted for the areas that have a high priority. An ASR will be completed and sites documented. Sites Eligible for listing in National Register of Historic places will be protected. Impacts will be mitigated. Sites where impacts are or may occur will be photographed. Evaluations will occur once a year to determine if additional mitigation is needed.	The District Archaeologist will review reports and monitor the effectiveness of mitigation measures.	Once per year at identified sites	Any impacts that decrease the value of site data will require mitigation.
Suitable habitat is maintained to provide viable fish populations	R-5 minimum Management Requirements, FLMP Guidelines, Riparian Standards & Guidelines, Best Management Practices are being applied in a way that supports the objectives established in the SMA and WSR EIS and Plan; and project specific NEPA documents.	Project specific NEPA documents, site plans and designs will be reviewed. Project implementation will be evaluated against the direction identified in the aforementioned documents.	District or Forest Fisheries Biologist	During project planning and design, during project implementation and after project completion.	Management action is needed if there is a failure to properly implement directions.
The management of the SMA and WSR reflects the circumstances described in the EIS and the management direction in the Implementation Plan.	Periodic reviews, to evaluate the effectiveness of management directions and monitoring plan, indicate that the documents reflect the current environmental social and administrative needs in the area.	Management and staff review of Plan and evaluation of items as described in the Monitoring Plan.	The SMA manager will coordinate the review with Rangers and Staff.	Review should occur once per year by the SMA Manager. If there are areas of concern, the SMA Manager will recommend review by Rangers and Staff of both Forests.	When a significant amount of items in the Plan do not adequately provide direction for management of the area. Public response to management activities indicates that activities are not meeting environmental needs or social desires.

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MANAGEMENT DIRECTION COMMON TO ALL ZONES (continued)

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY SIGNALING FURTHER ACTION
The transportation system meets the direction in the Plan.	The transportation system's effectiveness meets the Opportunity Class and Zone objectives. Project specific NEPA documents and the Forests trails plan reflect the objectives in the SMA and WSR EIS and Plan.	Review current condition of transportation system and identify maintenance, construction and reconstruction needs to comply with Opportunity Class and Zone objectives.	SMA Manager or Forest Engineer should field check selected roads and trails, review plans and designs.	Project planning and implementation should be evaluated during and after project completion	Management of transportation system does not meet the objectives. Maintenance levels are below designated level.
Management practices maintain water quality	Implementation of BMP's, and project design do not permit a decrease in water quality.	Water samples should be taken in the Kings River and appropriate tributaries. Project design should be reviewed to assure incorporation of BMP's.	The SMA manager should coordinate with the Fisheries Biologist, Hydrologist and the California Department of Fish and Game.	Annually during high use season.	If water quality shows a decrease, or if BMP's are not implemented as described in project level NEPA document.
All National Forest System Habitats and activities for threatened and endangered species are managed to achieve recovery objectives, so that special protection measures provided under the Endangered Species Act are no longer necessary.	Project plans and prescriptions are implemented as designed, consistent with the Biological Evaluations.	Review of project implementation and field verification of habitats. Project implementation should be reviewed to meet Biological Evaluation.	District or Forest Wildlife Biologist	Annually for projects that occurred that year	When T and E habitat and/or population indicate changes significant enough to affect species recovery, coordinate with USF&WS' Division of Endangered Species and CDF&G for Recovery Plan recommendation.

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ROUGH ZONE

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY SIGNALING FURTHER ACTION
<p>The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class I</p>	<p>Campsites are small and temporary. No facilities are provided. Impacts are not evident to the visitor. Campsites are >100 feet apart and are fewer than 2 per 320 acres.</p>	<p>Field inventory and evaluation of current campsites. Sites are mapped and described using a survey form or a narrative. Areas are revisited, and checked for new sites or new resource impacts.</p>	<p>SMA Manager or Recreation Officer. Survey may be done by Wilderness Ranger during patrol.</p>	<p>Annual review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.</p>	<p>If campsite conditions become dominate for an area, mitigate through site modification or increased user information.</p>
<p>The number and character of developments is subordinate to the naturalness of the area. Human and technological influence will be unapparent.</p>	<p>No large developments permitted, and small developments are temporary or subordinate to the environmental setting.</p>	<p>Project NEPA documents and proposals for the zone are reviewed for developments, and a visual count.</p>	<p>District Recreation Officer and the SMA Manager. Items concerning specific plans should be brought to the attention of the project leader.</p>	<p>On a project basis during the planning phase.</p>	<p>If developments are proposed in this zone they must meet with the objectives and the description of the opportunity class.</p>
<p>Visitors encounter few people while traveling.</p>	<p>Extremely low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<25% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists on the National Recreation Trail (50 to 75 % chance).</p>	<p>Exit interviews and discussions with visitors. Monitoring personnel should also field visit during high use season to check use first hand.</p>	<p>SMA Manager and/or Recreation Officer</p>	<p>Annual review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.</p>	<p>If there is a marked increase in use over the previous three samplings. An increase in use should be evaluated to determine the cause, and evaluate the impacts to determine if mitigation is necessary.</p>
<p>Management emphasizes maintaining and enhancing the natural ecosystem and its processes.</p>	<p>All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class I and the objectives for this zone.</p>	<p>Review all current and planned activities against the SMA EIS and Plan. Attention to Forest Trails Plans, and project specific NEPA documents.</p>	<p>SMA Manager and Recreation Officer reviews. Items concerning specific plans should be brought to the attention of the project leader</p>	<p>Review specific projects during the planning phase.</p>	<p>Actions that do not meet with the standard should have project design altered or mitigate conflicts in favor of SMA Implementation Plan Direction.</p>

Also see "Common to All Zones"

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RODGERS ZONE

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY SIGNALING FURTHER ACTION
The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class II	Campsites are small and temporary. Some facilities may be provided. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Campsites are >50 feet apart and are fewer than 5 per 320 acres.	Field review and inventory and review of current campsites. Sites are mapped and described using a survey form or a narrative. Areas are revisited, and checked for new additional sites.	SMA Manager or Recreation Officer.	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	If campsite conditions become dominate for an area, mitigate through site modification or increased user information.
There are few encounters between travelers.	A low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the spring (25 to 50 % chance).	Exit interviews and discussions with visitors. Monitoring personnel should also field visit during high use season to check use first hand.	SMA Manager and/or Recreation Officer	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	If there is a marked increase in use over the previous three samplings, the increase in use should be evaluated as to cause and effects. Mitigate by increasing user information on other Forest recreation opportunities outside the SMA.)
The levels of grazing, vegetation management and mining are within the scope of PL 100-150.	Use of forest resources is consistent with the long term protection of the areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources.	Review current condition of areas and identify impacted areas and improvement needs. Field check selected sites for previous impacts, and review plans for potential impacts.	SMA Manager or Staff Specialist	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	Any impacts that decrease the value of archaeological sites, and scenic resources, fish and wildlife habitat, will be mitigated. Consider moving activities, project limitations, and closures only after other mitigation does not meet desired conditions. Impacted areas should have project proposals for WINI project funding.
Management focuses on providing recreation balanced with an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.	Review all current and planned activities against the SMA EIS and Plan. Attention to Forest Trails Plans, grazing permits, Special Use Permits, Operating Plans, and project specific NEPA documents.	SMA Manager and Recreation Officer reviews documents. Items concerning specific plans should be brought to the attention of the project leader.	Review specific projects during the planning phase.	Actions that do not meet with the standard should have project design altered or mitigate conflicts in favor of SMA Implementation Plan Direction.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

SOUTH FORK ZONE

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY SIGNALING FURTHER ACTION
<p>The number of dispersed public use areas and the condition of these areas, is consistent with the Opportunity Class III</p>	<p>Dispersed recreation impacts are temporary, and are commonly only fire rings in the turnouts along Highway 180. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Use areas are generally >50 feet apart and are fewer than 2 per 320 acres.</p>	<p>Field inventory and review of current campsites. Sites are mapped and described using a survey form or a narrative. Areas are revisited, and checked for new additional sites.</p>	<p>SMA Manager or Recreation Officer. Survey may be done by Fire Prevention Technician while on patrol.</p>	<p>Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey</p>	<p>If conditions become dominant for an area or if the standard is approached, mitigate through site modification or increased user information.</p>
<p>The management of Highway 180, Boyden Cave, and Grizzly Falls, does not detract from the naturalness of the zone.</p>	<p>Adequate parking is provided, sanitation facilities meet current needs, and all facilities compliment the areas' natural scenic resources.</p>	<p>Review current condition of facilities and identify impacted areas and improvement needs. Field check selected sites for resource impacts, and review project level NEPA documents and operating plans for potential impacts.</p>	<p>SMA Manager, Resource Officer, or Special Use Officer</p>	<p>Periodic review of facilities. Project proposals should be reviewed during the planning phase. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.</p>	<p>Any impacts that decrease resource values should be evaluated for mitigation. Consider moving activities, limiting projects, and closures only after other mitigation does not meet desired conditions. Impacted areas should have project proposals for WINI project funding.</p>
<p>Aside from the activity of Highway 180, Boyden Cave, and Grizzly Falls, there are few encounters with recreationists.</p>	<p>A low probability of meeting other parties or forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the spring (25 to 50 % chance).</p>	<p>Exit interviews and discussions with visitors. Monitoring personnel should also field visit during high use seasons. check use first hand.</p>	<p>SMA Manager and/or Recreation Officer</p>	<p>Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.</p>	<p>If there is a marked increase in use over the previous three samplings. An increase in use should be evaluated as to cause and effects. Mitigate by increasing user information on other Forest recreation opportunities outside the SMA.)</p>
<p>Management focuses on providing river-based recreation experience settings and uniquely developed opportunities.</p>	<p>All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.</p>	<p>Review all current and planned activities against the SMA EIS and Plan. Attention to Forest Trails Plans, grazing permits, Special Use Permits, Operating Plans, and project specific NEPA documents.</p>	<p>SMA Manager and Recreation Officer reviews documents. Items concerning specific plans should be brought to the attention of the project leader.</p>	<p>Once per year and review specific projects during the planning phase.</p>	<p>Actions that do not meet with the standard should have project design altered or mitigate conflicts in favor of SMA Implementation Plan Direction.</p>

Also see "Common to All Zones"

SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

VERPLANK ZONE

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY SIGNALING FURTHER ACTION
The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class II	Campsites are small and temporary. Some facilities may be provided. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Campsites are >50 feet apart and are fewer than 5 per 320 acres.	Field review and inventory and review of current campsites. Sites are mapped and described using a survey form or a narrative. Areas are revisited, and checked for new additional sites.	SMA Manager or Recreation Officer.	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	If campsite conditions become dominate for an area, mitigate through site modification or increased user information.
There are few encounters between travelers.	A low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the spring (25 to 50 % chance).	Exit interviews and discussions with visitors. Monitoring personnel should also field visit during high use season to check use first hand.	SMA Manager and/or Recreation Officer	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	If there is a marked increase in use over the previous three samplings. An increase in use should be evaluated as to cause and effects. Mitigate by increasing user information on other Forest recreation opportunities outside the SMA.)
The levels of OHV use, grazing, and vegetation management are within the scope of PL 100-150.	Use of forest resources and OHV use of designated routes is consistent with the long term protection of the areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources.	Review current condition of areas and identify impacted areas and improvement needs. Field check selected sites for previous impacts, and review plans for potential impacts.	SMA Manager or Staff Specialist, Range Con.	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	Any impacts that decrease the value of archaeological sites, and scenic resources, fish and wildlife habitat, will be mitigated. Consider moving activities, project limitations, and closures only after other mitigation does not meet desired conditions. Impacted areas should have project proposals for WINI project funding.
Management focuses on providing recreation experience settings, balanced with an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.	Review all current and planned activities against the SMA EIS and Plan. Attention to Forest Trails Plans, grazing permits, vegetation management plans, and project specific NEPA documents.	SMA Manager and Recreation Officer reviews documents. Items concerning specific plans should be brought to the attention of the project leader.	Review specific projects during the planning phase.	Actions that do not meet with the standard should have project design altered or mitigate conflicts in favor of SMA Implementation Plan Direction.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

CONVERSE ZONE

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY SIGNALING FURTHER ACTION
The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class I	Campsites are small and temporary. No facilities are provided. Impacts are not evident to the visitor. Campsites are >100 feet apart and are fewer than 2 per 320 acres.	Field inventory and evaluation of current campsites. Sites are mapped and described using a survey form or a narrative. Areas are revisited, and checked for new sites or new resource impacts.	SMA Manager or Recreation Officer. Survey may be done by Wilderness Ranger during patrol.	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	If campsite conditions become dominate for an area, mitigate through site modification or increased user information.
The number and character of developments is subordinate to the naturalness of the area. Human and technological influence will be unapparent.	No large developments permitted, and small developments are temporary or subordinate to the environmental setting.	Project NEPA documents and proposals for the zone are reviewed for developments.	District Recreation Officer and the SMA Manager. Items concerning specific plans should be brought to the attention of the project leader.	On a project basis during the planning phase.	If developments are proposed in this zone they must meet with the objectives and the description of the opportunity class.
Visitors encounter few people while traveling.	Extremely low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<25% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists on the National Recreation Trail and the Yucca Point Trail (25 to 50 % chance).	Exit interviews and discussions with visitors. Monitoring personnel should also field visit during high use season to check use first hand.	SMA Manager or Recreation Officer	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	If there is a marked increase in use over the previous three samplings. An increase in use should be evaluated to determine the cause, and evaluate the impacts to determine if mitigation is necessary.
Management strongly emphasizes maintaining and enhancing the natural ecosystem and its processes.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class I and the objectives for this zone.	Review all current and planned activities against the SMA EIS and Plan. Attention to Forest Trails Plans, and project specific NEPA documents.	SMA Manager and Recreation Officer reviews. Items concerning specific plans should be brought to the attention of the project leader	Review specific projects during the planning phase.	Actions that do not meet with the standard should have project design altered or mitigate conflicts in favor of SMA Implementation Plan Direction.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

BOOLE ZONE

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY SIGNAL-ING FURTHER ACTION
The number of campsites and the campsite condition is consistent with the Opportunity Class II	Campsites are small and temporary. Some facilities may be provided. Impacts from recreational activities may be evident to the visitor. Campsites are >50 feet apart and are fewer than 5 per 320 acres.	Field review and inventory and review of current campsites. Sites are mapped and described using a survey form or a narrative. Areas are revisited, and checked for new additional sites.	SMA Manager or Recreation Officer.	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	If campsite conditions become dominate for an area, mitigate through site modification or increased user information.
There are few encounters between travelers.	A low probability of meeting other parties or Forest users during low use periods (<50% chance), a possible encounter with other recreationists during the Boole Tree trail (25 to 50 % chance).	Exit interviews and discussions with visitors. Monitoring personnel should also field visit during high use season to check use first hand.	SMA Manager and/or Recreation Officer	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	If there is a marked increase in use over the previous three samplings. An increase in use should be evaluated as to cause and effects. Mitigate by increasing user information on other Forest recreation opportunities outside the SMA.)
The levels of OHV use, grazing, and vegetation management are within the scope of PL 100-150.	Use of forest resources and OHV use of designated routes is consistent with the long term protection of the areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources.	Review current condition of areas and identify impacted areas and improvement needs. Field check selected sites for previous impacts, and review plans for potential impacts.	SMA Manager or Staff Specialist, Range Con.	Periodic review. Field visits should be more frequent if there is an increase in visitor use or if there is an increase in impacts over the previous survey.	Any impacts that decrease the value of archaeological sites, and scenic resources, fish and wildlife habitat, will be mitigated. Consider moving activities, project limitations, and closures only after other mitigation does not meet desired conditions. Impacted areas should have project proposals for WINI project funding.
Management focuses on providing recreation experience settings, balanced with an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.	All resource conditions, social conditions and management activities reflect the characteristics described for Opportunity Class II and the objectives for this zone.	Review all current and planned activities against the SMA EIS and Plan. Attention to Forest Trails Plans, grazing permits, vegetation management plans, and project specific NEPA documents.	SMA Manager and Recreation Officer reviews documents. Items concerning specific plans should be brought to the attention of the project leader.	Review specific projects during the planning phase.	Actions that do not meet with the standard should have project design altered or mitigate conflicts in favor of SMA Implementation Plan Direction.

Also see 'Common to All Zones'

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KINGS RIVER CORRIDOR ZONE

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY REQUIRING MANAGEMENT RESPONSE
There is sufficient dead and down material to support recreational activities and wildlife.	10 tons/acre of dead and down material should be available for wildlife and recreational campfire building.	Visual observation, concentrating in areas of dispersed camping. Is the ground being picked clean?	Fuels Officer or District Biologist should notify SMA manager if action is needed.	Once per year in the Spring	10% reduction in standard, or if there is evidence that recreation use is not leaving adequate material for wildlife.
The number and character of developments complements the naturalness of the area.	Not more than 5 developments per a 320 acre area. Developments include structures, and facilities for recreation and non-recreation activities.	Resource inventory by either a project review, or a field survey.	SMA Manager with assistance from District personnel.	Once per year or during project planning.	Any increase in developments should be evaluated against the Goals and Objectives in this Plan. New developments and improvements of existing developments may be permitted if consistent with Opportunity Class descriptions and the goals and objectives for this zone.
The amount of vandalism does not impact the visual setting of the area.	No more than 3 new occurrences of graffiti vandalism or defacing of natural features located anywhere within the Zone, per year.	Visual count throughout the year. Information should be kept as to the type and location of incidents, and if there were suspected violators.	Law Enforcement Officer or District Recreation Officer should report incidences to the SMA manager. SMA manager should coordinate with District personnel to determine if there is something that can be done to prevent a recurrence of the vandalism or graffiti.	Area should be monitored throughout the year with special attention to the high use period.	If there are two occurrences of defacing within close proximity of each other, District should evaluate the behavior. If there is a pattern, additional vandalism should be implemented. Any graffiti or vandalism should be removed or repaired.
The amount and size of dispersed campsites does not disrupt the recreation opportunities, or the natural resources within the zone. Any increase of recreational use should not change the natural character of the area.	No more than 5 sites within a quarter mile length of the river corridor. Dispersed site locations should not impact the experience of other campers.	Visual count along river. Sites should be described by a survey form or a narrative. Areas are revisited, and checked for new campsites and resource damage.	SMA Manager or District Recreation Officer	Once per year along the river corridor.	Greater than 2 new campsites, per year. Consider eliminating dispersed campsites or adding barriers if resource damage occurs, or if area becomes congested.

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KINGS RIVER CORRIDOR ZONE (continued)

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY REQUIRING MANAGEMENT RESPONSE
The amount and size of group campsites does not disrupt the recreation opportunities, or the natural resources within the zone. Groups should be encouraged to use campsites outside the SMA and WSR corridor.	No more than 5 denied requests for group camping. The existing accommodations for group camping should meet user needs.	A record of requests should be kept by person taking group reservation.	District Recreation Officer	Ongoing	3 denied requests for 1 year. Visitors who can not reserve group campsites in the SMA should be directed to other appropriate campsites.
Recreation parties should travel unencumbered by other parties.	50% probability of no more than 5 encounters with other parties.	Visual count and Exit interviews.	SMA Manager or District Recreation Officer	Once per year during appropriate season	Greater than 25% variance from standard
The number of conflicts between recreation groups (e.g., anglers and boaters) or with livestock, should not cause undue conflict.	No more than 5 reported or otherwise documented conflicts between different types of users (e.g., anglers and rafters)	Written citations & reported complaints. People expressing a verbal complaint should be encouraged to write the District Ranger documenting the incident. Consideration should be given to the content of the complaints as well as the number.	SMA Manager or District Law Enforcement Officer, or Range Con.	Ongoing	3 written complaints from unrelated incidents (per year) should trigger and evaluation of seasonal use and review of potential changes to alleviate problem areas.
The public should be informed of potential risks and steps should be taken to provide an appropriate level of public safety.	No more than 4 accidents per year within the zone, with attention to rafting incidents. Accidents are incidents where there is either an incident report filed by a Forest Officer, or if a Forest visitor requires medical attention.	Exit interview and Interviews with commercial rafting companies	District Recreation or Law Enforcement Officers should provide the SMA Manager with copies of reports or other documentation of incident.	Ongoing during rafting season. Item should be discussed with permittee during field reviews and evaluations.	Greater than 10% increase from previous three year average. Incidents should be evaluated for reoccurring factors, and public information should be changed to reflect the safety concerns. Also consider regulations to prevent accidents. All health and safety concerns must be corrected.

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KINGS RIVER CORRIDOR ZONE (continued)

INDICATOR	STANDARD	MONITORING PROCEDURES	MONITORING PERSONNEL	FREQUENCY	VARIABILITY REQUIRING MANAGEMENT RESPONSE
Public parking space should be provided at a level that protects the resource and provides for public safety and comfort. Visitors should find adequate parking at trailheads, and raft put-ins and take-outs.	>25% of parties interviewed could not find a parking spot at their preferred trailhead, rafting put-in or take-out.	Exit interview and interviews with commercial rafting companies. Patrol personnel should ask visitors about parking, count cars at parking locations, and estimate % of parking capacity used. Parking areas should be evaluated for erosion and other resource concerns.	District Recreation or Law Enforcement Officer should report information to the SMA Manager.	Approximately 6 times during rafting season. The sample of parking should occur on weekends and high use periods.	Greater than 10% increase from previous three years average. Consider increasing parking in high use areas, surfacing parking areas, or other mitigation where resource impacts are evident.
Congestion at launch site.	Rafting groups do not wait longer than 60 minutes to launch	Visual count and exit interviews.	District Recreation or Law Enforcement Officer	Ongoing during rafting season.	Greater than 10% increase from previous years results.
Groups encountered on river per day	Maximum of 17 parties per day	Exit interviews and interviews with commercial rafting companies	District Recreation or Law Enforcement Officer	Ongoing during rafting season	Greater than 10% increase from previous years results.

Also see "Common to All Zones"

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APPENDIX A

LIMITS OF ACCEPTABLE CHANGE

Introduction

The limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) system is a way of setting and meeting specific objectives for managing recreation areas. The process was primarily developed for wilderness areas, but it is applicable to any area where recreation activities occur. It is based on the premise that recreational use of an area can diminish the quality of both the natural environment and the recreation experience.

Concern about overuse causing negative impacts has led managers to try to establish visitor carrying capacities. This approach focused attention on the amount of use and searched for the specific number of people that can be allowed to use an area without causing unacceptable changes to the natural environment or the recreation experience. Much of the adverse impact of recreational use is not the result of too much use, but rather the kind of use, the behavior of visitors, and the timing and distribution of use. A little use in a new area may cause a lot of impact, while a lot more use may cause only a little more impact. Recreation researchers are showing that it makes more sense to manage for acceptable results, rather than for numbers of and locations of visitors.

In applying the LAC concept, managers assume that change to the ecological and social conditions of the area are going to occur, due to both natural and human factors. The goal of management then is to keep the character and rate of change due to human factors within levels acceptable to the ecosystem and within the limits of laws and regulations.

According to the LAC scheme, managers first develop management objectives for the area they are managing and describe the recreation opportunities to be provided. Then they identify the ecological and social factors likely to change and select indicators that can be easily observed and used as a gauge to determine the amount of change occurring. For each indicator, managers then set a standard, which is a threshold value that defines the amount of change that is acceptable and unacceptable. The purpose of selecting indicators and standards is to provide managers with reference points so they can judge whether the recreation opportunity they are trying to manage for is actually being provided over time. The standards serve a trigger device rather than management policy. If conditions deteriorate and a standard is approached, mitigating action can be taken to avoid unacceptable change. Managers retain the flexibility to implement any of a wide variety of mitigating actions. In the past, limits on the amount of use were often instituted when adverse impacts occurred, but the LAC concept allows the flexibility to implement many other kinds of management actions to control specific problems.

A LAC standard is a maximum permissible level of impact or a critical threshold limit. It is not an objective that one is attempting to achieve. Managers should try to provide the best conditions possible rather than allowing conditions to deteriorate until the standard is reached. On the other hand, managers should not focus solely on the selected indicators, but should consider the whole management situation. As management experience is gained and other issues develop in the future, need may arise to select additional indicators or delete some indicators.

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LAC Planning Method as Used in the SMA and WSR Plan (Summary)

The LAC planning process has nine steps:

Step 1 - List issues and concerns involving the area. This was done during the public scoping phase of the planning process and is summarized in the Chapter 2.0 Issues and concerns. Issues and concerns are also discussed in the Environmental Impact Statement.

Step 2 - Define and describe possible opportunity classes for the SMA and WSR. This step involved dividing the Special Management Area and the Wild and Scenic River Corridor into homogeneous areas for management purposes. The use patterns of the SMA and WSR fell logically into four classes. These classes are shown on accompanying map. This map was overlaid with additional maps showing the existing resource conditions. The combined pattern of the maps was considered along with the legislative direction and the management objectives for this plan. These factors were weighed and considered in aggregate. The result was the definition and mapping of zones and "opportunity classes".

Step 3 - Select indicators of resource and social conditions. This step involved defining specific recreation and resource opportunity objectives for which the area will be managed over time. Indicators were developed in response to the resource questions/problems identified in the scoping phase, and reflecting the management objectives.

Step 4 - Inventory existing resource and social conditions. Existing resource data was acquired from both the forest's Land Resource and Management Plans. Public surveys were recorded and analyzed. Professional experience and judgment were also relied upon as the source of current-situation data for each of the above factors for this step. As implementation and monitoring occur, adjustments should occur in this data.

Step 5 - Define standards for resource and social indicators. A standard was established for each indicator to describe the amount of change that will be acceptable. The standard is the upper limit of each indicator rather than a desired goal. Management actions should seek to keep the indicator well below the standard if possible.

Step 6 - Identify and describe alternative opportunity class allocations. This step was developed in the EIS. Four alternatives were considered: PNR - Emphasize Protection of Natural Resources, CMD - Current Management Direction, ERO - Emphasize Recreational Opportunities, MOA - a Mosaic Alternative (preferred alternative).

Step 7 - Describe management actions to implement each alternative. These actions were developed by the interdisciplinary team. The Environmental Impact Statement lists the actions to be taken under each of the alternatives for each of the resources, including recreation. These actions differ with the theme of each alternative.

Step 8 - Evaluate and select an alternative. For a variety of reasons and to benefit a variety of resources, Alternative MOA a Mosaic Alternative, was identified by the interdisciplinary team and line officers (District Rangers and Forest Supervisors) as that which best answered the resource questions/conflicts while meeting Forest Service Direction. The management actions for this Alternative are described in more detail in the accompanying Implementation Plan. After public comment on the proposed Plan and EIS is received and reviewed, the Forest Supervisors will complete the Step 8 by documenting the selection and rationale for the chosen alternative in a written Record of Decision.

Step 9 - Implement the actions and monitor the resource and social conditions. This step starts upon approval of the Implementation Plan. The monitoring is summarized in Chapter 13.0 Monitoring

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Plan. The monitoring will not only track the conditions of the physical and social factors (vegetation, cultural resources, etc.), but will also allow evaluation of the effectiveness of the LAC standards. If more factors, indicators, or standards are needed in the future, additional ones can be selected. Or if some are found to be unnecessary they may be deleted. This feedback mechanism will allow future flexibility in the process as managers acquire experience and better information, as new issues of concerns arise, as other issues fade, or as new tools and technologies become available. As these changes occur, indicators can be modified to assure the desired quality of the resource and its uses.



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APPENDIX B

KINGS RIVER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

The Regional Forester indicated in a response to an appeal on the Sequoia National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan that an eligibility assessment for the Kings River from elevation 1595 feet to Pine Flat Reservoir will be displayed in the management plan for the Kings River Special Management Plan. This eligibility assessment is completed for the Kings River Segment 3, 4, and 5. (See Map "Boundaries" Wild and Scenic Rivers at end of Appendix.)

IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL RIVER SEGMENTS

SEGMENT 3 - Kings River from elevation 1595 feet to Garnet Dike, approximately 4 miles in length.

SEGMENT 4 - Kings River from Garnet Dike to boundary of Kings River Special Management Area, approximately 7 miles in length.

SEGMENT 5 - Kings River from boundary of Kings River Special Management Area to high water line of Pine Flat Reservoir, approximately 1 mile in length.

Segment 3 and 4 will be within the Kings River Special Management area and will be administered by the Sierra National Forest. Segment 5 is within the boundary of the Sierra and the Sequoia National Forest and will be administered by the Sequoia National Forest for purposes of determining potential inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System.

The existing designated wild and scenic rivers within the Kings River Special Management Area include Segment 1 of the South Fork Kings river and Segment 2 of the Kings River. Both of these segments have been classified as Wild as recorded in the 1st phase Environmental Assessment approved in March of 1989. Both of these segments will be administered by the Sierra National Forest. Segment 1a of the South Fork Kings has been classified as Recreational and will continue to be administered by the Sequoia National Forest. Segment 2 of the Middle Fork of the Kings River has been classified as a Wild segment and will continue to be administered by the Sierra National Forest.

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states that a river must be free-flowing and have one or more outstandingly remarkable features involving scenery, recreation, geology, fish and wildlife, history and culture, or other similar values to be included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The eligibility assessment of these outstandingly remarkable values and segment classifications for the Kings River below elevation 1595 will be analyzed in the following pages. In summary there are existing outstanding geologic, wildlife/fishery, recreation, scenic, cultural/historic, and science/education values in Segment 3 and 4. There are outstanding wildlife/fishery, recreation, scenic, and cultural/historic values in Segment 5.

An Eligibility and Classification Analysis for the Kings River below elevation 1595 feet will also be displayed in the following pages and maps which are included with the alternatives in the Environmental Impact Statement documents. In summary, Segment 3 is eligible for a "wild" classification, Segment 4 is eligible for a "scenic" classification and Segment 5 is eligible for a "recreational" classification. The basis for classification is the degree of naturalness. The most natural rivers are eligible for "wild", those with less natural features are eligible for "scenic" and those least natural "recreational."

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A summary of descriptions of features that qualify as outstandingly remarkable values are included with this analysis. Detailed descriptions of features that support ascription of outstandingly remarkable values are also found in the 1st phase Environmental Assessment for the Kings River published in 1989 and Chapter 4 of "The Kings River: A report on Its Qualities and Its Future" sponsored by the Committee to Save the Kings River. This plan will provide for interim protection of those eligible segments until either Congress acts on a wild and scenic river recommendation or a decision is made not to recommend the river.

SUMMARY OF DESCRIPTIONS OF FEATURES

GEOLOGIC AND RELATED QUALITIES

From the highest land in the basin to Pine Flat Reservoir the 13,291 vertical feetdrop in elevation includes a wide range of igneous and metamorphic rocks. Dr. Gary Girty, a geologist at San Diego State University who has studied the lower canyon extensively, said it is interesting geologically, "with the best preserved and best exposed remnants of pre-baholitihic (non-granitic) rock on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada." Segments 3 and 4.

The lower canyon includes unique and outstanding views of glacial carved high country, 1,600-foot cliffs, craggy metamorphic outcrops of Rodgers Ridge 3,400 feet above the river, and the Sierra Nevada foothills.

BOTANIC QUALITY

The only know population of the Kings River Buckwheat, *Eriogonum nudum var regirivum*, has been discovered within Segment 3.

FISH AND WILDLIFE QUALITIES

The Kings River is one of the largest Wild Trout Fisheries in the state; designated for protection by the California Department of Fish and Game.

State and Federal fisheries biologists regard the Kings River as the state's finest freestone (non-limestone) river for trout.

The lower canyon is the winter range of two major deer herds--the Hume herd and the Crown segments of the North Kings herd, part of which spends summers in Kings Canyon National Park.

The canyon and its headwaters are habitat for the golden eagle, peregrine falcon, prairie falcon, willow flycatcher, and a host of other bird species. Bald eagles winter there.

Mountain lions, gray foxes, and ring-tail cats thrive in the lower canyon.

RECREATIONAL QUALITIES

The entire canyon, from headwaters to Pine Flat Reservoir, is public land, available for recreational use by everyone. Segments 3 and 4

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Anglers come from all over California to fish the Kings River. Surveys by the Department of Fish and Game showed a 15,000 angler hours spent on the Kings River in 1988.

People take about 24,000 raft trips a year on the Kings River (Segments 4 and 5). Here is the highest amount of water that can safely be rafted in the Sierra Nevada, the second highest in California. Statewide, the Kings is the largest rafting river that is not controlled by a dam above the section that is run, and has the longest boating season among all non-dammed rivers in the Sierra.

The nine-mile section above Pine Flat Reservoir is a favorite of kayakers. An upper section from the Middle and South forks confluence to Garnet Dike is one of the most challenging runs in America for the expert paddler.

At medium and high flows, the Kings River is one of few whitewater rivers between the Colorado in Arizona and the Klamath in northern California that is suitable for river-running dories. Segments 4 and 5.

SCENIC QUALITIES

The combination of excellent water quality, undisturbed shorelines, and distant views of hills, cliffs, and high mountains make the scenery of the lower canyon unique among Sierra Nevada rivers.

The lower canyon offers better views of Sierra Nevada high country than any other low-elevation canyon in the Sierra.

CULTURAL, ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL QUALITIES

Many Indian sites, including grinding holes, pictographs, and village remains, are located along the river in the lower canyon. The archaeologist for the Sierra National Forest called the canyon "significant" and "unique to the national forest," with "the full range of archaeological sites."

The longest logging flume in the world was built along the river in 1889; remains can be seen in the lower canyon.

Evidence of tungsten mining and processing occurs at several sites in the river corridor. Segments 3 and 4

SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL VALUES

As a laboratory and a classroom, the Kings is used by many colleges and universities, as well as by YMCA groups, Boy Scouts, Outward Bound, and an elementary school.

Disabled and special needs classes from Fresno City College and the Fresno YMCA use the lower canyon.

The North Kings deer herd along the Kings River is of scientific and educational value. (Segments 3 and 4)

The biological, hydrologic, and other scientific significance of the Kings undisturbed gradient, all on public land with no dams, has been little studied. The Kings River is the finest example of a major Sierra river that is relatively unaffected by people, and one of the finest examples in the nation outside Alaska.

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TABLE 1. Outstandingly Remarkable Values - Kings River below elevation 1595 feet.

VALUES	SEGMENT 3	SEGMENT 4	SEGMENT 5
Geologic	X	X	
Botanic	X		
Wildlife/Fishery	X	X	X
Recreation	X	X	X
Scenic	X	X	X
Cultural/Historic	X	X	X
Science/Education	X	X	

X = OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE VALUE



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TABLE 2. - Eligibility and Classification Analysis, Kings River below elevation 1595

	SEG. 3	SEG. 4	SEG. 5
Group 1 *WILD*:			
Free of impoundments?	yes	yes	yes
Generally inaccessible except by trail	yes	no	no
Watershed/Shoreline primitive?	yes	yes	yes
Waters unpolluted?	yes	yes	yes
Group 2 *SCENIC*:			
Free of impoundments?	yes	yes	yes
Inaccessible or only accessible in a few places by a low level road?	yes	yes*	no
Watershed/shoreline largely primitive and undeveloped?	yes	yes	yes
Group 3 *RECREATIONAL*:			
If existing impoundments or diversions are present they are unobstrusive?	yes	yes	yes
If development along shoreline is present it is unobstrusive?	yes	yes	yes
Group 4 Summary of Values:			
Possesses outstandingly remarkable values?	yes	yes	yes
HIGHEST CLASSIFICATION/ELIGIBILITY	WILD	SCENIC	RECRE- ATIONAL

NOTE: To qualify for WILD, there must be 4 yeses in Group 1 and yes in Group 4.
 To qualify for SCENIC, there must be 3 yeses in Group 2 and yes in Group 4.
 To qualify for RECREATIONAL, there must be a yes in Group 3 and yes in Group 4.

* The basis for classification is the degree of naturalness, or the degree of evidence of people's activity in the river area. The most natural rivers will be classified WILD; less natural, SCENIC; and those least natural RECREATIONAL. For example the dirt roads flanking Segment 4 make the area less natural than the paved surfaced road flanking Segment 5. However, one could answer this question with a no if it was felt that the two roads flanking the river answered this question better. This would then only make this segment eligible for a RECREATIONAL Classification.

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POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF ELIGIBILITY/CLASSIFICATION TO KINGS RIVER FROM ELEVATION 1595 TO ELEVATION 990 HIGH WATER LINE OF PINE FLAT RESERVOIR

Segment 3 and 4 are eligible for Wild and Scenic Rivers and recommended for designation, the Kings River Special Management Area Management Plan provides interim protection of the river segments. Unless otherwise noted, the direction in the Implementation Plan provides the interim protection to one-quarter mile on each side of Segments 3 and 4 of the Kings River until either Congress acts on a wild and scenic river recommendation or a decision is made not to recommend the river. If the river is not recommended for wild and scenic river designation, all of the direction will then apply to the river area.

Four additional prescriptions for interim management include:

1. To the extent the Forest Service is authorized under law to control stream impoundments and diversions, the free flowing characteristics of the eligible river segment will not be modified;
2. Outstandingly remarkable values of eligible river segments will be protected and, to the extent practicable, enhanced;
3. Management and development of eligible river segments and their corridors will not be modified to the degree that eligibility would be affected.
4. Segment 5 will be managed according to Forest Plans and Standards for Recreation Rivers, FSH 1909.12, Chapter 8, 8.2.

Prescription 1 will not conflict with other management standards of the Kings river Special Management Area because Public Law 100-150 prohibits dams and diversions without specific authority of Congress.

Segment 3 and Segment 4 are subject to the provisions of Section 7(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. This section prohibits federal agencies from assisting or granting licenses for any projects that would have a direct and adverse impact on values for which a river was designated. Segment 5 from elevation 990 to the boundary of the Kings River Special Management Area will not be subject to Section 7 (a) provisions.

With one exception, management standards for the Kings River Special Management Area are consistent with prescriptions for the interim management of potential Wild and Scenic River segments, if the Kings River is segmented into Segments 3, 4 and 5 as proposed.

The significant exception would be road construction within the river corridor beyond Garnet Dike. Public Law 100-150 allows, at least by default, road construction in the Kings River Special Management Area. If the Forest Service classifies the Kings River above Garnet Dike (Segment 3) as a potential "wild" wild and scenic river segment, any new road beyond Garnet Dike would be un-acceptable under this classification.

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APPENDIX C

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

A special case of mitigation is the result of a cooperative agreement between the U.S. Forest Service and the State of California Water Resources Control Board. In this agreement the Forest Service developed a set of recommended "Best Management Practices" (BMPs) designed to ensure high standards of water quality on National Forest Lands in California.

The Forest Service handbook entitled "Water Quality Management for National Forest System Lands in California" describes approximately 100 BMPs dealing with activities ranging from the timber sale planning process to control of livestock within grazing allotments. The specific BMPs to be applied, with the exception of those directly related to planning, need to be determined during project design. The application of BMPs is mandatory, even when significant environmental effects cannot be demonstrated in their absence.

The following list (special emphasis BMP's) shows how applicable BMP's will be used within the SMA and WSR for site-specific conditions where non-point pollution potential exists and how the BMP's are effective in mitigating water quality impacts. The BMP's are from the Forest Service publication, "Water Quality Management for National Forest System Lands in California", March, 1988. All applicable water quality BMP's shall be implemented whether they are listed here or not. These practices are implemented at various levels for all action alternatives.

BMP 1-8: Streamside Management Zone Designation

All streams displayed on the Zone Map have will SMZs established in accordance with the Riparian Area Management Direction for the KRSMA and the WSR. These zones will be prohibited from equipment entry. This zone provides a filter which removes sediments from any overland flow of water and in so doing maintains water quality. This practice has been successful on previous timber sales.

BMP 1-18: Meadow Protection

This BMP is designed to avoid damage to the ground cover, soil, and water in meadows. Unauthorized operation of vehicular or equipment on meadows is prohibited. Equipment shall not be used on meadows except where roads are approved. This practice has been successfully used in timber sale operations.

BMP 1-19: Streamcourse Protection

This BMP is used to maintain streamcourse water quality. All streams shown on Zone Map will be protected through the application of the Riparian Area Management Direction for the KRSMA and the WSR. Existing streamside vegetation will be maintained to sustain the existing Stream Surface Shade which in turn will ensure that the existing stream temperature regime will remain constant. This activity is enforceable by the Recreation Officer, and/or the SMA Manager, District Wildlife Biologist, District Fisheries Biologist, and District Ranger.

BMP 2-7: Control of Road Drainage

This BMP minimizes the erosive effects of water that is concentrated by road drainage features. Again the process starts when the project location, design criteria, and mitigative measures are determined during the environmental assessment process using an interdisciplinary approach. This activity is enforceable by the Recreation Officer, and/or the SMA Manager, District Wildlife Biologist, District

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Fisheries Biologist, and District Ranger. This practice is employed on all timber sales and most recently proved effective on the Cherry Timber Sale, Hume Lake District.

BMP 2-17: Bridge and Culvert Installation

This BMP minimizes sedimentation and turbidity resulting from spoil material produced in excavating for in-channel structures. It will apply to bridge construction at the connection of the National Recreation Trail with the Yucca point Trail. This BMP is enforced by the Construction Inspector, Engineering Representative, or Forest Service Representative. It keeps excavated material out of live streams and floodplains adjacent to the streams.

BMP 2-21: Water Source Development Consistent With Water Quality Protection

This BMP maintains existing water quality where water is supplied for roads and fire protection. Various areas within the SMA area used as water sources. Water use will be primarily for dust abatement and fire protection. At no time will water use be allowed to reduce water supplies to the level that further use may be detrimental to aquatic resources or other established use. This is a standard practice on all timber sales and most recently proved effective on the Buck Rock Timber Sale.

BMP 2-23: Road Surface Treatment to Prevent Loss of Materials

This BMP minimizes wind and water erosion of road surface materials and consequently reduces the likelihood of sediment production. All roads within the SMA, with the exception of a section of the Garnet Dike road are native soil and will be dust abated through the use of water. All native surface roads will be bladed as need to ensure proper drainage to minimize soil erosion. This activity is enforceable by the Recreation Officer, and/or the SMA Manager, Engineer and District Ranger. This practice has been proven effective by previous activities within the SMA.

BMP 2-24: Traffic Control During Wet Periods

This BMP reduces road surface disturbance and subsequent sediment washing. The Forest Service authority to use road closures and traffic control measures to prevent rutting of roads during wet periods. This practice is especially used on the Davis Flat Road that borders the SMA. OHV activity can be controlled by the Forest Recreation Officer, Resource Officer and the District Ranger. During wet periods when OHV use will rut roads and disrupt proper road drainage use will be prohibited. This is a common practice on all district roads and most recently proved effective on the Cherry Timber Sale.

BMP 4-5: Control of Sanitation Facilities

This BMP is to protect surface and subsurface water from bacteria, nutrients, and chemical pollutants resulting from the collection, transmission, treatment, and disposal of sewage at Forest Service Facilities. Toilet facilities are provided at Camp 4½, Camp 4, Garnet Dike and Mill Flat. The type and number depends on the capacity of a given site. Any additional sanitation facilities will be planned, located, designed, constructed, operated, inspected and maintained to minimize the possibility of water contamination. This activity is enforceable by the Recreation Officer, and/or the SMA Manager and District Ranger. This activity has been proven to be effective at Kirch Flat Campground.

BMP 4-6: Control of Refuse Disposal

This BMP is to protect water from nutrients, bacteria, and chemicals associated with solid waste disposal. Visitors to the SMA and WSR are encouraged to use the Pack-it-in/Pack-it-out ethic. A public education effort will be included in SMA and WSR visitor information, printed material, and personal contact. Public cooperation is vital. This activity is enforceable by the Recreation Officer, and/or the SMA Manager and District Ranger. Pack-it-in/Pack-it-out is a common Forest Service sanitation policy and it has been successful at the nearby Kirch Flat Campground. Since the removal of garbage bins, and the initiation of the "pack-it-out" policy, many visitors and Forest Officers have stated that the campground is much cleaner than before the policy.

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BMP 4-10: Protection of Water Quality Within Developed and Dispersed Recreation Areas

This BMP is to protect water quality by regulating the discharge and disposal of potential pollutants. This practice prohibits placing in, or near a stream lake or other body of water, substances which may degrade water quality. This includes, but is not limited to, human and animal waste, petroleum products, and other hazardous substances. Areas may be closed in order to restrict use in problem areas. The public will be encouraged through the use of signs, pamphlets, and public contact to conduct their activities in a manner that will not degrade water quality. Officers may issue citations to violators. This activity is enforceable by the Recreation Officer, and/or the SMA Manager and District Ranger. This activity has been proven to be effective at Kirch Flat Campground.

BMP 6-2: Consideration of Water Quality In Formulating Fire Prescriptions

This BMP provides for water quality protection while achieving management objectives through the use of prescribed fire. Fuel treatment options will be evaluated during the environmental process. Factors like slope, fuel types, and amount of vegetative management needed will be considered and influenced fuel treatment proposals. Future Fuel Treatment Plan(s) will provide direction for all prescribed treatments (see BMP 6-3). This practice is enforceable by the District Fuels Officer and/or the Fire Management Officer. This practice has proven effective on the Barton Chaparral Management Project.

BMP 6-3: Protection of Water Quality From Prescribed Burning Effects

This BMP maintains soil productivity, minimizes erosion, and prevents ash, sediment, nutrients, and debris from entering bodies of water. The amount of remaining ground cover can significantly affect erosion rates. Measures that maintain slash, down logs, browse species, and oaks will also help limit erosion. The Riparian Area Management Direction for the KRSMA and the WSR maintain the integrity of streamside zones and help keep by-products of burning out of the water supply. Fire used in treating fuels will be confined to the burning of machine piles. This helps to ensure that effective ground cover left during site preparation will be retained to provide a filter for any sediments that might be in suspension in any overland water flow. This practice is enforceable by the District Fuels Officer and/or the Fire Management Officer. This approach proved effective on the Barton Chaparral Management Project.

BMP 7-1: Watershed Restoration

Watershed Improvement Needs Inventory projects will be identified within the SMA and WSR area. Activities will serve to improve watershed and soil stability through reduced surface runoff and infiltration. Actions will also serve to restore riparian areas making them more functional for riparian dependent species through increased diversity and the development of shade and cover. This activity is enforceable by the Recreation Officer, and/or the SMA Manager, District Wildlife Biologist, District Fisheries Biologist and District Ranger.

BMP 7-3: Protection of Wetlands

This practice is to avoid adverse water quality impacts associated with destruction, disturbance or modification of wetlands. The Forest Service does not permit the implementation of activities and new construction in wetlands wherever there is a practical alternative. The Kings River SMA and WSR Final EIS and Implementation does propose any further development in wetlands. This activity is enforceable by the Recreation Officer, and/or the SMA Manager, District Wildlife Biologist, District Fisheries Biologist, and District Ranger.

BMP 7-5: Control of Activities Under Special Use Permit

This practice is to protect surface and subsurface water quality from physical, chemical, and biological pollutants resulting from activities that are under special use permit. This practice is currently used and practiced in the special use permits issued to Kings River Expeditions, Zepher, and Whitewater Adventures for conducting raft trips, and their corresponding base camps. The permit is written, and inspected by the District Recreation Officer. Previous activities by the rafting permittees have proven this activity to be effective.

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BMP 7-8: Cumulative Off-Site Watershed Effects

This BMP requires the evaluation of cumulative effects including additive effects of multiple land management activities. Construction of trails or other roads or developments within the SMA will be evaluated using the equivalent roaded area (ERA) method developed by the Region (FSH 2209.22 ch. 20) and adapted to fit local conditions. This methodology is currently undergoing review but is the best estimation of cumulative effects available at this time. This practice will be completed during the evaluation of the Tehipite trail and other trail or developments within the SMA. The project leader for the trail will be responsible for the analysis. This activity has been proven to be effective on many timber sales on the Hume Lake RD.

BMP 8-2: Controlling Livestock Numbers and Season of Use

This practice is to safeguard water quality by precluding over use of available forage/ground cover, and/or precluding use of the range when soil is vulnerable to impacts. In addition to proper socking rate and season of use specified in the grazing permit, adequate field checks are made by the Range Conservation Officer and/or District Wildlife Biologist. The Range Officer, working in conjunction with the permittee, enforces this practice. This practice has been effective on the White Deer and Sampson Range Allotments.

BMP 8-3: Controlling Livestock Distribution Within Allotments

This practice precludes concentration of stock in areas that are sensitive to concentrated use and/or preclude prolonged use of an area which will result in lost vegetative cover and soil compaction. Several techniques used to achieve proper distribution, or lessen the impact on areas which are sensitive or which would naturally be overused include: construction of fences, water developments, riding and herding to shift livestock locations, placing salt or supplements away from water, and range improvement activities including prescribed burning or seeding. This activity is enforceable through the Range Allotment Permits. The Range Officer, working in conjunction with the permittee, enforces this practice. This practice has been effective on the White Deer and Sampson Range Allotments.

Additional information on these and other BMPs is included in the Soil and water conservation Handbook, CHapter 10 - Water Quality Management for National Forest System Lands in California - Best Management Practices.



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BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP's) COMPLETE LISTING

TIMBER

- 1-1 Timber Sale Planning Process
- 1-2 Timber Harvest Unit Design
- 1-3 Use of Erosion Hazard Rating for Timber Harvest Unit Design
- 1-4 Use of Sale Area Maps for Designating Water Quality Protection Needs
- 1-5 Limiting Operating Period of Timber Sale Activities
- 1-6 Protection of Extremely Unstable Lands
- 1-7 Prescribing the Size and Shape of Clearcuts
- 1-8 Streamside Management Zone Designation
- 1-9 Determining Tractor Loggable Ground
- 1-10 Tractor Skidding Design
- 1-11 Suspended Log Yarding in Timber Harvesting
- 1-12 Log Landing Location
- 1-13 Erosion Prevention and Control Measures During Timber Sale Operations
- 1-14 Special Erosion Prevention Measures on Disturbed Land
- 1-15 Revegetation of Areas Disturbed by Harvest Activities
- 1-16 Log Landing Erosion Prevention and Control
- 1-17 Erosion Control on Skid Trails
- 1-18 Meadow Protection During Timber Harvesting
- 1-19 Streamcourse Protection
- 1-20 Erosion Control Structure Maintenance
- 1-21 Acceptance of Timber Sale Erosion Control Measures Before Sale Closure
- 1-22 Slash Treatment in Sensitive Areas
- 1-23 Five-Year Reforestation Requirement
- 1-24 Non-recurring 'C' Provision That Can Be Used For Water Quality Protection
- 1-25 Modification of the Timber Sale Contract

ROAD AND BUILDING SITE CONSTRUCTION

- 2-1 General Guidelines for the Location and Design of Roads
- 2-2 Erosion Control Plan
- 2-3 Timing of Construction Activities
- 2-4 Road Slope and Spoil Disposal Area Stabilization (Preventative practice)
- 2-5 Road Slope Stabilization (Administrative Practice)
- 2-6 Dispersion of Subsurface Drainage from Cut and Fill Slopes
- 2-7 Control of Road Drainage
- 2-8 Constraints Related to Pioneer Road Construction
- 2-9 Timely Erosion Control Measures on Incomplete Road and Streamcrossing Projects
- 2-10 Construction of Stable Embankments
- 2-11 Control of Sidecast Material
- 2-12 Servicing and Refueling Equipment
- 2-13 Control of Construction in Streamside Management Zones
- 2-14 Controlling In-channel Excavation
- 2-15 Diversion of Flows Around Construction Sites
- 2-16 Streamcrossings on Temporary Roads

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- 2-17 Bridge and Culvert Installation
- 2-18 Regulation of Streamside Gravel Borrow Areas
- 2-19 Disposal of Right-of-Way and Roadside Debris
- 2-20 Specifying Riprap Composition
- 2-21 Water Source Development Consistent with Water Quality Protection
- 2-22 Maintenance of Roads
- 2-23 Road Surface Treatment to Prevent Loss of Materials
- 2-24 Traffic Control During Wet Periods
- 2-25 Snow Removal Controls to Avoid Resource Damage
- 2-26 Obliteration of Temporary Roads
- 2-27 Restoration of Borrow Pits and Quarries
- 2-28 Surface Erosion Control at Facility Sites

MINING

- 3-1 Water Resources Protection on Locatable Minerals Operations
- 3-2 Administering Terms of BLM Issued Permits or Leases for Mineral Exploration and Extraction on National Forest System lands
- 3-3 Administering Common Variety Mineral Removal Permits

RECREATION

- 4-1 Sampling and Surveillance of Designated Swimming Sites
- 4-2 On-site Multidisciplinary Sanitary Surveys Will Be Conducted to Augment the Sampling of Swimming Waters
- 4-3 Provide Safe Drinking Water Supplies
- 4-4 Documentation of Water Quality Data
- 4-5 Control of Sanitation Facilities
- 4-6 Control of Refuse Disposal
- 4-7 Assuring that Organizational Camps Have Proper Sanitation and Water Supply Facilities
- 4-8 Water Quality Monitoring Off-Road Vehicle Use According to a Developed Plan
- 4-9 Sanitation at Hydrants and Faucets Within Developed Recreation Sites
- 4-10 Protection of Water Quality Within Developed and Dispersed Recreation Areas
- 4-11 Location of Pack and Riding Stock Facilities in Wilderness, Primitive, and Wilderness Study Areas

VEGETATIVE MANIPULATION

- 5-1 Seed Drilling on the Contour
- 5-2 Slope Limitations for Tractor Operation
- 5-3 Tractor Operation Excluded from Wetlands and Meadows
- 5-4 Revegetation of Surface Disturbed Areas
- 5-5 Tractor Windrowing on the Contour
- 5-6 Soil Moisture Limitations for Tractor Operation
- 5-7 Contour Disking
- 5-8 Pesticide Use Planning Process
- 5-9 Pesticide Application According to Label Directions and Applicable Legal Requirements

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- 5-10 Pesticide Application Monitoring and Evaluation
- 5-11 Pesticide Spill Contingency Plan
- 5-12 Cleaning and Disposal of Pesticide Containers and Equipment
- 5-13 Untreated Buffer Strips for Riparian Area and Streamside Management Zone (SMZ) During Pesticide Spraying
- 5-14 Controlling Pesticide Drift During Spray Application

FIRE SUPPRESSION AND FUELS MANAGEMENT

- 6-1 Fire and Fuel Management Activities
- 6-2 Consideration of Water Quality in Formulating Fire Prescriptions
- 6-3 Protection of Water Quality from Prescribed Burning Effects
- 6-4 Minimizing Watershed Damage from Fire Suppression Efforts
- 6-5 Repair or Stabilization of Fire Suppression Related Watershed Damage
- 6-6 Emergency Rehabilitation of Watersheds Following Wildfires

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

- 7-1 Watershed Restoration
- 7-2 Conduct Floodplain Hazard Analysis and Evaluation
- 7-3 Protection of Wetlands
- 7-4 Oil and Hazardous Substance Spill Contingency Plan and Spill prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan
- 7-5 Control of Activities Under Special Use permit
- 7-6 Water Quality Monitoring
- 7-7 Management by Closure to Use (Seasonal, Temporary, and Permanent)
- 7-8 Cumulative Off-site Watershed Effects (Practice needs Improvement)

GRAZING

- 8-1 Range Analysis, Allotment Management Plan, Grazing Permit System, and Permittee Operating Plan
- 8-2 Controlling Livestock Numbers and Season of Use
- 8-3 Controlling Livestock Distribution Within Allotments
- 8-4 Rangeland Improvements



APPENDIX D

PL 100-150

Public Law 100-150
100th Congress

An Act

To designate a segment of the Kings River in California as a wild and scenic river,
and for other purposes.

Nov. 3, 1987
[H.R. 799]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF KINGS RIVER.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by adding the following new paragraph at the end:

"(62) KINGS, CALIFORNIA.—The Middle Fork of the Kings River from its headwaters at Lake Helen between Muir Pass and Black Giant Mountain to its confluence with the main stem; the South Fork, Kings River from its headwaters at Lake 11599 to its confluence with the main stem; and the main stem of the Kings River from the confluence of the Middle Fork and the South Fork to the point at elevation 1,595 feet above mean sea level. The segments within the Kings Canyon National Park shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior. The remaining segments shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture. After consultation with State and local governments and the interested public and within one year after the enactment of this paragraph, the respective Secretaries shall take such action as is required under subsection (b) of this section. In the case of the segments of the river administered by the Secretary of the Interior, the requirements of subsection (b) shall be fulfilled through appropriate revisions to the general management plan for Kings Canyon National Park, and the boundaries, classification, and development plans for such segments need not be published in the Federal Register. Such revisions to the general management plan for the park shall assure that no development or use of park lands shall be undertaken that is inconsistent with the designation of the river under this paragraph. For the purposes of the segments designated by this paragraph, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary, but not to exceed \$250,000, to the Secretary of Agriculture for development and land acquisition."

National parks,
monuments, etc.

State and local
governments.

Appropriation
authorization.

(b) RENUMBERING.—Section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by redesignating the paragraphs relating to the Cache La Poudre River, the Saline Bayou, Black Creek, the Klickitat, and the White Salmon as paragraphs (57) through (61), respectively.

SEC. 2. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—In order to provide for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of certain areas within the Sierra National Forest and the Sequoia National Forest, to protect those areas' natural, archaeological, and scenic resources, and to provide for appropriate fish and wildlife management of those areas, there is hereby established the Kings River Special Management Area

Conservation.
16 USC 539g.
National Forest
System.

(hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "special management area"). The special management area shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter in this Act referred to as "the Secretary") through the Sierra National Forest.

Public
information.

(b) **AREA INCLUDED.**—The special management area shall consist of the lands, waters, and interests therein within the area generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Kings River Special Management Area", dated April 1987. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture may from time to time make minor revisions of the boundary of the special management area.

National Forest
System.

(c) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The Secretary shall administer the special management area in accordance with this Act and with the provisions of law generally applicable to units of the National Forest System. In the case of any conflict between the provisions of such Acts, the provisions of this Act shall govern. In the administration of the special management area the Secretary may utilize such statutory authority as may be available to him for the conservation of wildlife and natural resources as he deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit grazing within the special management area to the same extent, and in accordance with the same rules and regulations as applicable in the absence of this Act. The Secretary may permit the cutting of timber within the special management area only in those cases where in the judgment of the Secretary the cutting of such timber is required in order to control the attacks of fire, insects, or diseases or to otherwise conserve the scenery or the natural or historical objects in the area.

Forests and
forest products.

(d) **MINING AND MINERAL LEASING.**—Subject to valid existing rights, lands within the special management area are withdrawn from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws of the United States, from the operation of the mineral leasing laws of the United States and from operation of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970.

State and local
governments.

(e) **HUNTING AND FISHING.**—The Secretary shall permit hunting and fishing on lands and waters within the special management area in accordance with applicable Federal and State law. The Secretary may designate zones where, and establish periods when, such activities will not be permitted for reasons of public safety, administration, fish and wildlife management or public use and enjoyment. Except in emergencies, regulations issued by the Secretary under this subsection shall be put into effect only after consultation with the appropriate State agencies responsible for hunting and fishing activities.

(f) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—After consultation with the State of California, the Secretary shall publish a management plan for the special management area within three years after the enactment of this Act. The plan shall provide for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of the special management area, protect the area's natural, archeological, and scenic resources, and provide for appropriate fish and wildlife management within the area. The plan shall contain provisions for management of vegetation within the area designed to enhance the wildlife carrying capacity of the area. The plan shall permit off-road vehicular use of off-road trails to the same extent and in the same locations as was permitted before enactment of this Act. The plan shall provide for the development of hiking

trails in the special management area and shall include a trail from Garlic Creek to Little Tehipite Valley.

(g) **ACCESS TO PRIVATE LANDS.**—If any State or privately owned land or any valid mining claim or other valid occupancy is within the special management area, or if State or private subsurface rights underlie public lands within the special management area, the Secretary shall provide the State or private owner, claimant, or occupier and their successors in interest such rights as may be necessary to assure adequate and feasible access for economic and other purposes to the site concerned. Such rights shall be subject to reasonable regulations issued by the Secretary to protect the natural and other values of the special management area, taking into account the traditional and customary means of access used prior to the enactment of this Act.

(h) **SPECIFIC PROTECTIONS.**—In recognition of the dispute that exists over whether a dam project should be constructed in the segment of the Main Stem of the Kings River from the point at elevation 1,595 feet above mean sea level downstream to the point at elevation 990 feet above mean sea level, Congress declares its intention at this time not to designate that segment of the Kings River as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Federal lands may be used for the construction of any dam or diversion within the boundaries of the special management area without specific authority of the Congress. In order to protect the natural, cultural, recreational, fishery, and wildlife values of the river segment referred to in this subsection, that segment shall be subject to the provisions of section 7(a) of the Act of October 2, 1968 (82 Stat. 906), in the same manner as if it were designated. Nothing in this Act shall preclude the Kings River Conservation District from conducting studies as it may deem appropriate. Dams.

Approved November 3, 1987.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 799:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 100-49 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
SENATE REPORTS: No. 100-185 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 133 (1987):
Apr. 21, considered and passed House.
Oct. 1, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Oct. 13, House concurred in Senate amendments.

○

SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

APPENDIX E

ACTION PLAN

These are action items to be completed within the first year after the approval of the final EIS/Plan. They should be reviewed annually. All action items are found in 5.4 of the Plan.

ADMINISTRATION

Designate a SMA/WSR manager.

Plan what has to be done within the project area the 1st year.

Determine and assign who will be doing the work action items the 1st year.

Plan and organize the annual budget.

AIR QUALITY

Consider if prescribed burning activities should be implemented the 1st year.

BOUNDARIES

Field determine and mark the termini boundaries of the segments.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Use oral history and ethnographic research to help determine the location of historical and cultural remains.

Complete a cultural resource inventory prior to any Forest or Forest permitted action, activity or program identify all potentially eligible cultural properties that may be affected.

Comply with 36 CFR 800 Regulation by completing cultural resource inventories prior to any action which may effect cultural resources.

ELIGIBILITY OF UN-DESIGNATED SEGMENTS

Manage the un-designated river segments of the Kings River from elevation 1595 to Pine Flat Reservoir following guidelines contained in the Land Management Planning Handbook, Chapter 8.

SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

FACILITIES

Maintain a Pack-it-in/Pack-it-out policy within the SMA and WSR

Provide sanitation facilities in the areas of or during periods of concentrated use, where either increased management presence or resource protection is necessary and/or potential development exists for which a specific site plan is prepared.

FISHERIES

Manage stream channels and riparian zones to maintain quality habitat for self-sustaining trout populations.

Design management activities so that they are compatible with the State of California, Kings River Wild Trout Management Plan within its area of jurisdiction.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

Determine the suppression alternative for fires that escape initial attack through an "Escaped Fire Situation Analysis" (EFSA)

FUELS MANAGEMENT

Reintroduce fire to appropriate areas through prescribed burning and where applicable, also use hand and mechanical fuel manipulation.

GRAZING

Apply the standards and guidelines set forth in the most current version of the Range Environmental Analysis Handbook.

GEOLOGY

Avoid activities in geologically sensitive areas.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND USE

Pursue the acquisition of Keller Ranch.

MINERALS

Manage the rivers to make sure no recreational dredging takes place within the SMA or WSR corridors.

NOISE

SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

Limit helicopter overflights of the SMA and WSR, where the USFS has the ability and authority.

PLANNING DIRECTION

Start site specific projects only after following and completing the NEPA requirements.

Implement management direction as described in the Sierra National Forest Land and Resource Plan after it is final and the Final Sequoia National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND INTERPRETATION

Provide VIS and information materials at all designated, developed recreation sites and all centralized trailheads.

Install informational and guide signs concerning the WSR and SMA.

RECREATION

Identify new trail construction and reconstruction, and identify types of uses permitted on the trail system, through the Sequoia and Sierra Forest Trails Plans.

Start designing the Spanish Mountain Trail and the NRT extension to Yucca Point.

Identify, field locate, and start planning for the recreation sites (day use, group camping, information, trail head) improvements as conceptually located on the alternative 5 project maps and alternative development scale summary identified in the EIS.

SOCIAL

Promote the use of symbol signing for all user groups.

Ensure that all existing and new facilities are responsive to the design needs of the physically challenged.

Ensure that federally conducted and assisted programs administered by the Forest Service are responsive to the needs of minority groups.

SOILS

Protect water quality and soil productivity through the implementation of Best Management Practices.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Identify the species location, and habitat requirements of T&E species within the SMA and WSR areas.

SMA and WSR Implementation Plan

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Manage the road system to assure resource protection.

VEGETATION

Identify riparian zones, and evaluate for compliance with Riparian Standards and Guidelines as established for the SMA and WSR.

Design all management actions to maintain maximum biological diversity in the SMA and the WSR.

VISUAL RESOURCES

Maintain visual quality to the VQO level specified.

WATER QUALITY

Implement Best Management Practices to protect water quality and maintain soil stability.

WILDLIFE

Designate natural zones according to site-specific value for wildlife.

Designate a few selected wildlife areas as watchable wildlife educational area.

Maintain the current program of direct habitat improvement by submitting requests for funds to appropriate county, state, and federal agencies.

***NOTE* For additional action items see Monitoring Plan and Appendix C.**

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE MAP

ZONE AND WILD AND SCENIC MAPS