APPENDIX I

Wallowa County Alternative

APPENDIX I
Alternative W
Wallowa County

Table of Contents

APPENDIX I
for Alternative W

Wallowa County

Introduction

Alternative W is management direction based on the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA) Act, Administrative Regulations, Wallowa County/Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan, and the needs of the people of Wallowa County.

Alternative W would supplement the current Comprehensive Management Plan and would manage the HCNRA in a manner that is consistent with Section 7, 1 through 7, and Section 13 of Public Law 94-199. Valid and Traditional uses such as Ranching, grazing, farming, timber harvesting and the occupation of homes and lands are recognized as valid activities and therefore management direction is intended to continue these practices. Increases in recreation use would be managed through implementation of visitor management strategies. Where current law and active management plans adequately define the limitations and opportunities, no additional goals, objectives or standards are recommended. It is assumed that current law will be followed as a basic premise of management. Those laws and management plans include but are not limited to:

Wallowa County Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan
Wallowa Whitman National Forest Management Plan
Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act,
Endangered Species Act
Clean Air Act
Clean Water Act
Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984
Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
Hells Canyon Wild and Scenic
Comprehensive management Plan for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area
Private Land Use Regulations
Public Land Use Regulations
Management Plans for:
- Snake Wild and Scenic River
- Imnaha Wild and Scenic River
- Snake River Management Plan
- Wilderness Management Plan
- Wild and Scenic Snake River Recreation Management Plan
- Allotment Management Plans
- Annual Operating Plans
- National Environmental Policy Act
- Federal Land Policy Act

In summary, this alternative addresses five of the significant issues as identified in the current CMP: Recreation, Ecological Condition (Forage Management, Forest Management), Heritage Resources and Traditional Uses in the following manner:

Management area Guidelines, Objectives and Standards will apply so that activities can continue until watershed analysis and site or project specific analysis under the Forest Management Plan and the Wallowa County Nez

Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan have been completed. After watershed analysis and site or project specific analysis has occurred, the site-specific analysis will be used for management direction.

We recognize that nature will re-establish a natural landscape if left alone. However we also recognize that natures methods can be harsh (large scale wildfires and insect infestations) and take centuries. We are proposing to work with natural and management processes to decrease the time needed to restore eco-system functions that fall within the normal range and to reduce the negative effects of catastrophic fires and insect infestations. The re-establishment of old growth forests will still take centuries.

Management activities within the HCNRA will continue to include traditional and valid uses as identified in the act as ranching, grazing, farming, timber harvesting, and the occupation of private homes and lands.

Recreation would be managed to provide a range of high-quality recreation settings and opportunities, emphasizing the rustic and primitive character of the HCNRA. Visitor management strategies would be utilized to manage increases in recreation use to maintain desirable recreation experience opportunity levels and desired conditions for developed and dispersed recreation sites.

Recreational facilities would continue to be managed for day and overnight use, with an emphasis on maintenance of newer facilities and replacement of old facilities.

Access would be managed at the current level with some specifically identified improvements to trail and road systems. Road and trail systems would remain open with seasonal closures as needed to eliminate resource damage or protect public or private assets. Improvement to major roads would be balanced with the upgrade of recreational facilities along those roads. Road closures would be by gate or natural degradation. Winter over-snow access is provided for in the traditional groomed trail areas.

Vegetation management will primarily be accomplished through human-induced management practices to achieve the desired condition for forested structural stages and grassland seral stages. The Wallowa County/Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan will be the guideline used to silviculturally treat forested stands to maintain a viable, healthy ecosystem, to promote natural-appearing landscapes, and to meet landscape character goals. Management-ignited fire use will be minimized but could be used in forested stands to enhance ecological values, promote natural-appearing landscapes, meet landscape character goals, and facilitate natural processes. These ignitions would be in addition to prescribed natural fire that occurs in the Wilderness Area of the HCNRA.

Range forage and soil conditions would be managed to achieve a minimum satisfactory condition of at least fair (NRCS condition classes) with an upward trend. Of the 269,425 acres currently in vacant allotments, 90,089 acres (approximately 33 percent) would be incorporated with other active allotments. Another 17,646 (approximately 7 percent) would be managed as administrative horse pasture. Approximately 134,072 acres (50 percent) in three separate sheep allotments would remain in a vacant status until such time as it can be assured that domestic sheep prove no threat to wild big horn sheep. The remaining 27,618 acres (approximately 10 percent) of the current vacant allotments would be ungrazed controls in total. Allotment management planning for incorporated allotments would be concurrent with adjacent allotments.

In areas that receive higher recreation use and outside the Hells Canyon Wilderness, prehistoric sites would be protected by custodial maintenance of existing interpretation opportunities. Prehistoric sites in lower recreation use areas and within the Wilderness would be managed for self-discovery interpretation opportunities. The most significant historic structures on public lands in the HCNRA will be maintained, stabilized, or restored. Non-historic structures and facilities outside the Wilderness would be evaluated for stabilization, restoration, or maintenance based on potential historical value.

Definitions for Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

The goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines in this section are designed to direct management activities to meet the intent and objectives of the HCNRA Act.

Goals are concise statements that describe a desired condition to be achieved sometime in the future. All goal statements perpetuate the intent of the HCNRA Act and the Land Use Regulations, and form the principal basis from which objectives are developed.

Management objectives describe the incremental progress expected to take place over a ten-year period to meet the desired conditions. These objectives help determine estimated quantities of services and accomplishments to be produced during the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (RPA) ten-year planning periods.

Standards are limitations placed on management activities to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations or to limit the discretion authority in project decision-making. Standards are limited to those actions that are within the authority and ability of the agency to meet or enforce. Compliance with relevant standards is mandatory.

Guidelines describe a preferred or advisable, but not mandatory, course of action. Consequently, implementation of a project in variance from a guideline would not initiate a Forest Plan amendment.

Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines have been coded to make it easy to relate them to each resource area. Codes for each resource area are as follows:

Rec	Recreation	TES	Threatened/Endangered
Acc	Access	BUC	Bio Unique Comm/Assoc
Fac	Facilities	RNA	Research Natural Areas
WSR	Wild and Scenic Rivers	Soi	Soils
Sce	Scenery	Fire	Fire
Wil	Wilderness	Air	Air Quality
Her	Heritage	Sci	Scientific
Veg	Vegetation	Aqu	Aquatic Habitat
For	Forestland	Wld	Wildlife Habitat
Gra	Grassland	Geo	Geologic
Cul	Cultivated	Min	Minerals
Nox	Noxious Weeds	Lan	Landownership
Bio	Biologically Unique	Tri	Tribal trust responsibility

O = Objective S = Standard G = Guideline

Example: Objectives, Standards, and/or Guidelines for recreation would be:

Objective Rec-O1
Standard Rec-S1
Guideline Rec-G1

Compatibility Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines (36 CFR 292)

Objective: Continue recreation, livestock grazing, timber harvest, and mining as traditional and valid uses of the HCNRA, compatible with Sections 7 and 13 of the HCNRA Act.

Standard: If annual monitoring and evaluation identifies potential or actual incompatibilities with the provisions of 36 CFR 292 (public lands regulations) on Federal lands, the incompatibility must be validated. Develop options for the resolution of valid incompatibilities that are programmatic in nature through public participation processes; memorandums of understanding (MOUs), as needed, with affected county, state, federal, and tribal governments; and the appropriate level of environmental analysis. Resolve site-specific incompatibilities on Federal lands with the appropriate level of environmental analysis, project design, implementation and/or administration.

Guideline: When resolving programmatic incompatibilities on Federal lands, ensure involvement of agency personnel, all affected permit holders, inholders of private lands, interested publics, county and tribal governments, technical specialists from appropriate state, federal, and public agencies and institutions.

Recreation Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Manage outdoor recreation to ensure that recreational and ecological values and public enjoyment of the area are enhanced and compatible with the objectives of the HCNRA Act.

Objective Rec-O1: Provide educational and interpretative opportunities about HCNRA resources, protection, and management.

Standard Rec-S1: Maintain recreation use levels according to individual RMUs. See **Recreation Management Direction by Alternative** in appendix C for proposed access and facility maintenance and construction.

Guideline Rec-G1: Increase recreation users' awareness of ecological functions and processes, protection of heritage resources, low impact use practices, and management practices.

Upland Outfitter and Guide

Goal: Outfitter and guides will actively promote the varied recreational uses of the HCNRA in a manner that promotes a level of use consistent with the ecological capacity of the area.

Objective Rec O2: Permit availability should maximize economic activity up to levels that allow for the maintenance of ecological integrity.

Standard Rec-S7: Limit party size: for permitted groups to:

Management Area	Number of People	Number of Stock
Hells Canyon Wilderness	12	24
Wild Snake River	12	24
*Scenic Snake River	24	24

*Party size limitations do not apply to campers accessing the corridor by trail. Party size restrictions for trail users are the same as when they are in the Wilderness.

Standard Rec S2: Permits should be considered, particularly non-traditional options, if they are not impacting other commercial users.

Standard Rec-S9: Special use permits for outfitted and guided aviation use of the back country landing strips would be permitted as follows:

	Alt W.
Number of Permits	2
Permitted Service Days per Special Use Permit	150

Standard Rec-S8: Manage outfitter and guide permits at the following level. Evaluate the need to consider new applications for outfitter and guide permits every year.

Type of Use	Number of Permittees		
	Oregon	Idaho	Total
Cougar/bear hunting (day use only, access from roads only, no horses)	3	-	3
Progressive horse/mule trips, big game, cougar/bear hunting, fishing	9	2	11
Progressive llama trips	2	-	2
Mountain biking	2	-	2
Guided fishing	2	-	2
Guided photography	2	-	2
Motorized ground transportation (roaded only)	2	-	2
White Water rafting	2		2
Snowmobileing	2		2
Back Country Skiing	2		2
TOTAL:	**27**	**2**	**29**

If conditions change substantially prior to the scheduled review, an interim review would be conducted.

Standard Rec-S10: Require outfitters to obtain heritage resource protection training as a condition of permit issuance so they can inform customers/guests of the significance and sensitivity of heritage resources and potential penalties for damaging, defacing, or removing heritage resources.

Guideline Rec-G4: Provide heritage resource protection training for outfitters and guides on an annual basis, or as needed, to foster increased sensitivity and awareness. A training video could also be made available for viewing in visitor centers and offices.

Additional recreation management direction can be found in table C.

Access and Facility Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Access

Goal: Manage the transportation system (roads, trails, airstrips, and waterways) to meet the objectives for which the HCNRA was established and to provide a wide range of recreation experience opportunities.
Objective Acc-O1: Manage the transportation system to provide safe and efficient access for the movement of people and materials in the HCNRA. Provide and manage facilities that permit access to a variety of HCNRA settings, opportunities, and experiences, regardless of visitor's physical abilities.

Objective Acc-O1: Manage lands within Wallowa County to achieve the watershed management objectives of the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Salmon Recovery Strategy.

Standard Acc -S1: Follow the watershed approaches in the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan for road management.

Standard Acc-S1: Allow construction of short-term roads for timber harvest activities. Upon completion of harvest activities, short-term roads will be immediately stabilized and closed

Standard Acc-S2: Unless specifically addressed in table C-2 in appendix C, roads will be managed to maintain existing surfacing, alignment, and prism.

Standard Acc-S3: Where appropriate, provide mountain biking opportunities during updates of the Trails Management Plan.

Standard Acc-S4: Recreation aircraft (fixed wing and rotary) landings will be limited to designated public landing strips. The Memaloose, Lord Flat, Big Bar, Cache Creek, Salmon River Bar, Dug Bar, Pittsburg Landing, Temperance Creek and Sluice Creek airstrips will be open to private, commercial, and administrative use. Any specific site usable for landing/take-off will be allowed in an emergency situation.

Guideline Acc-G1: Develop new travel opportunity guides indicating open roads, seasonal closures, and winter travel routes.

Guideline Acc-G2: Recommend to the Chief of the Forest Service that Forest Service Road 3955 (Imnaha River Road) be removed from the Hells Canyon Scenic Byway System and dust abatement implemented.

Access for Over-Snow Travel

Standard Acc-S5: Manage for motorized over-snow vehicle activities on designated routes and areas in Hat Point, McGraw, Upper Imnaha, North Pine Creek, (RMUs 36, 40, 41, and 42).

Guideline Acc-G3: Accommodate requests, where possible, for changes in over-snow vehicle routes and play areas.

Facilities

Goal: Manage facilities to meet objectives of the HCNRA and in compliance with the facility maintenance plan. Review facility maintenance plan to insure compliance with the new CMP.

Objective Fac-O1: Develop or modify recreation facilities that alleviate resource problems at existing sites; provide quality experiences commensurate with goals identified for that recreational site; reduce maintenance costs; provide, to the extent possible, barrier-free areas; and address health and safety issues.

Standard Fac-S1: Manage facilities pursuant to tables for Wilderness(C-1), non-wilderness (C-2), and facilities (C-3),

Guideline Fac-G1: Provide a range of accessibility levels for a variety of visitors regarding health, physical ability, and age. Natural impediments and challenges will generally not be removed, altered, or modified unless areas are designed specifically to accommodate physically-challenged visitors.

Wild and Scenic River Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Manage wild and scenic rivers within the HCNRA in a manner compatible with current management agreements, plans and laws.

Scenery Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Manage scenery resources to ensure their conservation and preservation as required by the HCNRA Act.

Objective Sce-O1: Implement a scenery management system that achieves landscape character goals and scenic integrity for recreational use in balance with the other valid and traditional uses.

Guideline Sce-G1: Emphasize landscape character themes which describe particular attributes, qualities, and traits, including cultural features, of a landscape that give it an image and sense of place.

Standard Sce-S1: Manage for a preferred landscape character and conserve particular traits that create the image of the area, within the historic range of variability of the area.

Wilderness Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Manage wilderness within the HCNRA in a manner compatible with current management agreements, plans and laws.

Heritage Resources Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Historic property means any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register. This includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. A heritage resource is defined as that fragile and nonrenewable evidence of human activity, occupation and or endeavor as reflected in districts, sites, structures, artifacts, objects, ruins, works of art, architecture and natural features that were or are of importance in human events. Heritage resources are further categorized in terms of their prehistoric and historic values; however, each of these aspects represents a part of the continuum of events representing the earliest evidence of man to the present day.

Goal: Ensure that management actions which may affect heritage resources are consistent with the National Historic Preservation Act, the Archaeological Protection Act of 1979, Management Standards and Guidelines for Heritage Resources within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

Goal: Manage heritage resources for their protection from damage or destruction. Manage heritage resources for scientific research, public education and enjoyment to the extent consistent with protection.

Objective Her-O1: Evaluate historic sites for preservation and restoration that typify the economic and social history of the region and the American West. Preserve and restore selected sites which typify the economic and social history of the region and the American West.

Objective Her-O2: As part of the management of American Indian heritage sites, consult with the Nez Perce Tribe to ensure that tribal concerns are addressed and treaty rights protected.

Standard Her-S1: Protect significant heritage resources on-site unless: 1) adequate on-site protection is not possible, 2) the resource is adequately represented and protected on-site elsewhere, 3) protection on-site is not consistent with administration of wilderness lands, or 4) for other good causes shown.

Standard Her-S2: Consult with the Nez Perce Tribe prior to construction of facilities within proximity to significant heritage resource sites.

Standard Her-S3: Protect Nez Perce sites, where determined to be necessary and desirable, using natural barriers such as native vegetation.

Guideline Her-G1: Consider the use of a programmatic memorandum of agreement to help meet concerns of the Nez Perce Tribe regarding traditional use and prehistoric resources.

Guideline Her-G2: Heritage resource protection and sensitivity guidelines should be provided for the general public.

Standard Her-S4: Continue mapping heritage resources, including global positioning coordinates, based on priorities of sites listed, eligible for listing, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Guideline Her-G3: Emphasize the development of a heritage resource management plan. A heritage resource management plan should include the following direction:

1. Determine the relative significance of all heritage resources within the HCNRA.
2. Establish protection, preservation, and enhancement priorities for prehistoric and historic resources.
3. Establish interpretive opportunities and priorities and tier to HCNRA interpretive plan.
4. Develop research design and establish research priorities for heritage resources.
5. ID & develop management guidelines for traditional use sites through consultation with Nez Perce Tribe.
6. Develop maintenance and protection plan for key historic structures.
7. Establish monitoring priorities and develop monitoring plan and monitoring schedule.
8. Develop/establish inventory priorities for uninventoried portions of HCNRA.

Guideline Her-G4: Develop a heritage site stewardship plan in cooperation with the public and all users of the HCNRA.

Standard Her-S5: Protect by custodial maintenance existing interpretation opportunities for prehistoric sites in areas that receive higher recreation use outside the Hells Canyon Wilderness. For prehistoric sites in lower recreation use areas and the Hells Canyon Wilderness, manage for self-discovery interpretation opportunities.

Standard Her-S6: Maintain, stabilize, or restore the most significant representative historical structures within the entire HCNRA.

Guideline Her-G5: Evaluate non-historical structures and facilities within the entire HCNRA, including Hells Canyon Wilderness, for stabilization, restoration, or maintenance based on potential historical value.

Vegetation Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

General

This section provides general vegetation management direction common to both forested and grassland vegetation categories. More specific Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines for these two vegetation categories are provided under the subheadings entitled **Forest Stand Management** and **Grassland Management**. Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines apply to all management areas unless specific areas are identified.

Management area Guidelines, Objectives and Standards will apply so that activities can continue until watershed analysis and site or project specific analysis under the Forest Management Plan and the Wallowa County Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan have been completed. After watershed analysis and site or project specific analysis has occurred, the site specific analysis will be used for management direction.

Goal: The HCNRA functions as a healthy ecosystem that is an integral component of a larger biological region. Sustainability of ecological functions and processes is deemed important to maintaining ecosystem health and shall be attained by promoting vegetation for seral stages (grassland vegetation) and structural stages (forested vegetation).

Objective Veg-O1: Manage forest and grassland vegetation to maintain viable and healthy ecosystems that ensure: the maintenance and/or enhancement of fish and wildlife habitats; conservation of scenic, wilderness, and scientific values; preservation of biologically unique species, habitats, and rare combinations of outstanding ecosystems; wild and scenic river's outstandingly remarkable values.

Objective Veg-O2: Manage vegetation to control insect and disease levels.

Guideline Veg-G1: Early prevention of epidemics is favored over application of control methods after infestations have occurred. However, control must be a viable option, when necessary. Prevention methods may include silvicultural treatments, prescribed fire, biological controls, and grazing. Control options may include biological controls and spraying of appropriate pesticides.

Objective Veg-O3: Manage native and introduced vegetation at administrative and developed recreation sites to meet the objectives of the site plan, and to meet health and safety needs of all users.

Standard Veg-S1: Follow the Wallowa-Whitman NF Integrated Noxious Weed Plan and the USFS Yellow Star-thistle Management proposal to manage noxious weeds in the HCNRA.

Restoration

Objective Veg-O4: As appropriate, maintain or restore ecosystem function, conserve soil, and enhance native plant species and communities. Maintain biological diversity, and sustain long-term site productivity.

Guideline Veg-G2: Restore riparian and upland vegetation where current conditions are below (not at) desired levels as determined by site-specific analysis.

Guideline Veg-G3: To the extent practicable, seeds and plants used in erosion control, fire rehabilitation, riparian restoration, forage enhancement, and other revegetation projects shall originate from genetically local sources of native species. When project objectives justify the use of nonnative plant materials, documentation explaining why nonnatives are preferred will be part of the project planning process.

Forest Stand Management

Objective For-O1: Manage forested vegetation to maintain and/or enhance forested watershed conditions.

Standard For-S1: Follow the watershed approaches in the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan for forest management.

Standard For-S2: Timber volume removed from the HCNRA is classified as unregulated and does not contribute to the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest allowable sale quantity.

Standard For-S3: Silvicultural treatment activities shall maintain a viable and healthy ecosystem.

Guideline For-G1: The tree density should be 40-50 percent shading (winter sun) at noon on 50 percent of all forested watersheds.

Guideline For-G2: Maintain appropriate average density of trees, e.g., 50 - 110 square feet per acre basal area on south facing slopes and ridges and 90-160 square feet per acre basal area on north facing slopes.

Guideline For-G3: Riparian management should be site-specific with the realization that the design of silvicultural treatments will be to enhance all the attributes of the riparian zone.

Standard For-S4: Silvicultural treatments available to achieve a desired structure include: Uneven-aged management, single tree selection, group selection, prescribed natural fire, management-prescribed fire, commercial thinning, pre-commercial thinning, salvage, and sanitation cutting.

Uneven-Aged Management-Single Tree Selection

This silvicultural system is intended to perpetuate uneven-aged stands composed of intermingled trees of differing ages, species, and sizes. Individually selected trees are removed to maintain a desired range of tree sizes over a prescribed distribution. Cyclic entries designed to control the structure and species composition and provide the openings necessary for establishment and growth of the continuously occurring regeneration are a function of the site quality and resource considerations.

Uneven-Aged Management-Group Selection

The group selection variant of uneven-aged management is designed to facilitate the establishment of shade intolerant species, reduce damage to the residual stand, and lengthen the cyclic entry period. The

opening created under the group selection prescription will often be no larger than one to two tree heights (as influenced by aspect and slope) so as not to lose the site protection afforded by the surrounding trees. Size, shape, and location of groups should be designed to achieve landscape character goals and scenic integrity objectives.

Prescribed Natural and Management-Ignited Prescribed Fire

Since early in the 20th century, the natural role of fire has been partially excluded from ecosystems on the HCNRA by effective fire suppression. This intervention has altered the natural function of ecosystems. Fuels accumulate and stand structures become more homogeneous in the absence of periodic fire, or other disturbances. The long-term effect of these conditions is to create conditions for wildfires to burn outside of the intensities and scales that the plant community has adapted. The continued exclusion of fire may produce effects counter to values for which the HCNRA was classified. Where applicable, reintroduction of fire into the ecosystem would protect and maintain diversified stand structures across the landscape. Prescribed fire is intended to mimic natural fire regimes to 1) reduce the risk of fires burning outside of historic intensities and severities that could substantially reduce long-term productivity; 2) maintain tree species compositions that occur under the natural disturbance regime; 3) reduce competition; 4) increase nutrients; 5) prepare sites for natural regeneration; 6) improve forage resources; 7) enhance/create wildlife habitat; and 8) protect private and public property values. Prescribed fires should not consume commercial wood products or herbaceous forage that could be removed in a commercially viable manner.

Commercial Thinning

Commercial thinning opportunities are designed to accelerate the development of the "large diameter tree" component of late seral stand structure, improve stand health and vigor, and reduce the potential of major, stand-replacing disturbance events. Residual densities would be chosen to maintain wildlife habitat requirements, optimize stand vigor and health, meet landscape character goals and scenic integrity objectives, and allow for the future function of natural fire.

Precommercial Thinning

Precommercial thinning is designed to improve the health and vigor of sapling-sized material and promote stand differentiation (a condition where individual tree dominance is expressed, rather than overall stand stagnation). Stands which differentiate will maintain a higher level of growth and vigor, and a greater resistance to damaging agents such as insects, disease, fire, snow, and wind damage. A rapidly-growing, differentiating stand also offers the most options for future treatment and the most flexibility for meeting diverse management objectives. Site-specific prescriptions would be developed to be compatible with recreation, scenery and wildlife objectives. Maximum treatment areas for both commercial and precommercial thinning proposals would be limited to achieve the standard of maintaining big game cover on summer range at 60 percent of potential based on stand structure historic range of variability levels.

Salvage Cutting

Salvage cuttings are made for the primary purpose of removing trees that have been or are in imminent danger of being killed or damaged by injurious agents other than competition between trees, or are damaged by fungi, insects, fire, wind, or other agents. The goals of salvage cutting may be to: 1) capture the highly perishable values in (of) trees that are seriously damaged, dying, or already dead; 2) provide space vacancies that may be claimed by younger and more vigorous trees of desirable species; 3) reduce extremely heavy dead wood fuel loadings and thereby reduce the negative impacts of high intensity fire that may damage soils, watersheds, and long-term site productivity potential; 4) remove damaged, dying, or dead tree considered hazardous to forest users or facilities and improvements; 5) maintain long-term operability on the terrain by removing dead and dying trees that fall down and hamper current recreation uses or future resource management operations; and 6) reduce fuel loading by product utilization to reduce negative impacts to air quality produced by either prescribed or conflagration wildfire.

Sanitation Cutting

Sanitation cuttings involve the elimination of trees that have been attacked or appear in imminent danger of attack by dangerous insects and fungi in order to prevent these pests from spreading to other trees.

Sanitation cuttings differ from other forms of salvage cuttings only to the extent that they are combined with or represent precautions to reduce the spread of damaging organisms to the residual stands. They may also be undertaken in anticipation of attack in attempts to forestall the establishment of damaging organisms. They can be and usually are combined with salvage cuttings.

Grassland Management

Objective Gra-O1: Manage grassland to maintain and/or enhance watershed conditions as identified in the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan.

Standard Gra-S1: On lands determined to be unsuitable for grazing by domestic livestock or determined to be suitable but not meeting or moving toward a satisfactory condition in a timely manner, grazing would not be authorized. Authorized grazing refers to the permitting of an estimated grazing capacity for a specified parcel of land and then permitting the grazing use of that capacity by domestic livestock under one or more types of grazing permits. (This does not mean that livestock must be removed if objectives are being met, but applies only to calculation of herbage carrying capacity.)

Standard Gra-S2: Satisfactory condition* in which domestic livestock grazing would be authorized under grazing permit is as follows:

a) Range forage condition by stand is at least fair with an upward trend.
b) Soil stability rating by stand is at least fair with an upward trend.
c) Riparian hardwood age class distributions, where evaluated on key areas,show young age class plants equaling or exceeding the dead plus decadent age classes.
d) Riparian hardwood form class distributions, where monitored on key areas, show no more than 10 percent current heavy browse
e) Riparian hardwood form class distributions, where monitored on key areas, show no more than 35 percent moderate long-term browsing.

For stands in less than satisfactory condition related to range forage condition, soil stability rating, riparian hardwood age class distribution, and riparian hardwood form class distribution, domestic livestock grazing may be authorized providing the rate of recovery to meet satisfactory conditions would be a minimum 70 percent of the rate of recovery if no livestock grazing were to occur. This would be determined through comparison with reference areas of similar site potential.

*****The definition of "satisfactory condition" establishes the minimum standards for allocation of forage through the issuance of an appropriate grazing permit, but does not necessarily define site-specific desired conditions or recovery rates. Other resource goals, objectives, and standards and guidelines in this plan establish the desired conditions for management of the grasslands and understory herbaceous vegetation. The "satisfactory condition" definition is required by the LURs and relates only to the allocation of available grazing capacity under permit.

Standard Gra-S3: Allotment management plans (AMPs) would establish site-specific rates of recovery to achieve the goals for ecological status, soil conditions, and riparian management objectives, in conjunction with other applicable resource standards and guidelines contained in this management plan.

Guideline Gra-G1: Emphasize enhancement of native vegetation.

Standard Gra-S4: Include wildlife, recreation stock, and outfitter and guide forage along with permitted use when setting range management objectives.

Standard Gra-S5: Implement Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan utilization standards (pages 4-52 and 53) for summer season, and the following standards for fall, winter, and spring forage utilization. Based on plant phenology, climate, and plant responses to grazing, there are three basic periods to manage: fall/winter, early spring, and late spring:

Fall/Winter Standards

This period basically begins when all key perennial forage plants have achieved dormancy. It runs through the dormant period and ends just prior to the initiation of new growth on the key cool season perennial forage species in the spring. In very general terms, this often begins in mid to late October and runs through February, March, or April depending on the elevation, aspect and the weather patterns for a given year.

Forage utilization standards for this period will be set at 60 percent on the key species (on a site-specific basis). This will be based on a percent of the weight removed from the total annual growth resulting from the previous growing season. Adjustment to this utilization standard may be made based on other than plant physiology needs to respond to issues such as visual quality objectives, soils, wildlife, etc.

Browse utilization standards for this period will follow the standards from the Forest Plan.

Early Spring Standards

Early spring is defined as that period when the perennial cool season forage plants initiate growth and begin shoot elongation. It extends through the period of maximum carbohydrate use and the beginning of carbohydrate storage. The end of this period is determined by soil moisture. It ends prior to the time that soil moisture is expected to become limiting to the extent that essentially full re-growth cannot be ensured.

Forage utilization standards for this period will be set at 60 percent of current key cool season species forage production (on a site-specific basis). This is determined on an air-dried weight basis of total current annual production occurring until livestock are removed. Further, all livestock will be removed from the unit based on ensuring that adequate soil moisture exists at the time of removal to provide for essentially full re-growth. Additional monitoring will be conducted on a spot check basis following termination of annual growth for the summer to document that re-growth was achieved.

Browse utilization standards are not normally needed during this period as the browsing animals (both domestic and wild) focus on the highly palatable and nutritious green growth of the forage species. If they are needed, the existing Forest Plan standards will apply.

Late Spring Standards

Late spring is defined as that period when the key perennial cool season forage plant growth is still occurring but livestock removal is not planned to occur because full re-growth will occur. This is the period when soil moisture becomes limiting.

Utilization standards for both forage for this period will be the same as established by the Forest Plan for the standard summer season grazing.

Guideline Gra-G3: For allotment NEPA projects, analyze effects and management of both wildfire and prescribed fire in conjunction with domestic livestock grazing to achieve grassland goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines.

Guideline Gra-G4: Where appropriate Consider initiating enhancement projects to reintroduce and/or increase existing native decreaser species to improve the biodiversity of the Wallowa-Snake province rangelands.

Guideline Gra-G5: After fire or other disturbances, facilitate the natural recovery of vegetation as much as possible. Seed native or adaptable introduced species when natural recovery is not feasible timely, or as needed for soil protection.

Disposition of Existing Vacant Allotments

Standard Gra-S7: Management direction for the ten vacant allotments is as follows:

Administrative allotments:

The WWNF owns approximately 75 horses/mules (including the southern division). The wintering options for these livestock are; to feed hay in the Wallowa Valley or winter them out on a winter allotment. The most cost effective method is to winter them on a winter allotment which will acclimatize the horses to the canyon terrain and habitat for spring use. An administrative winter allotment would be formed by combining the Jim Creek allotment and portions of the Cherry Creek and Cache Creek allotments.

One administrative pasture is near Memoloose and is used to maintain the stock during summer. This minimizes the need to haul stock up and down the Hat Point Road. The use of this allotment should be continued.

Ungrazed control areas:

The USFS is establishing "islands without livestock grazing" to have comparison sites within the HCNRA that are not allocated for livestock grazing. This is to allow for comparisons, long term, what the effect of livestock grazing is having on the landscape.

Cattle & Horse (C&H) Allotments

071 Jim Creek

This 12,397 acre allotment would continue to be used, in its entirety, as an administrative horse pasture.

082 Cherry Creek

Of the approximate 22,012 acres in this allotment, approximately 67 percent (14,779 acres) would be allocated to other allotments, 5,304 acres would be allocated to Rhodes Creek Allotment, 9,475 acres to Chesnimnus Allotment, 1,967 acres (approximately 9 percent) would be allocated to an administrative horse pasture. The remaining approximately 24 percent of the Cherry Creek Allotment would be converted to Ungrazed Control (5,266 acres).

108 Hope Creek

This allotment would be incorporated in its entirety into Dunn Creek Allotment with actual stocking and management decisions to be deferred until such time as site-specific analyses and NEPA decisions are reached for the affected allotment.

118 Turner Creek

This entire allotment would be allocated to the Chalk Creek allotment with actual stocking and management decisions to be deferred until site-specific analyses and NEPA decisions are reached for the affected allotment.

167 Big Canyon

This 7,971 acre allotment would be incorporated in total into the Pittsburg Allotment. A site-specific NEPA planning effort is currently in progress that evaluates the specific management of these two allotments.

183 Cache Creek

Of the approximate 8,237 acres in this allotment, approximately 27 percent (2,190 acres) would be allocated to the Lost Cow Allotment, with actual stocking and management decisions to be deferred until site-specific analyses and NEPA decisions are reached for the affected allotment. Approximately 27 percent (2,196 acres) would be used as administrative horse pasture. The remaining approximately 46 percent (3,851 acres) of the Cache Creek Allotment would be converted to Ungrazed Control.

191 Canyon

Approximately 76 percent (61,509 acres) would be allocated to other allotments (Cayuse 25,006 acres, Lone Pine 32,550 acres, and Cow Creek 3,953 acres), with actual stocking and management decisions to be deferred until site-specific analyses and NEPA decisions are reached for the affected allotment. Approximately one percent would be used as an administrative horse pasture (1,086 acres). The remaining approximately 23 percent (18,501 acres) of the Canyon Allotment would be converted to Ungrazed Control.

Sheep & Goat (S&G) Allotments

As per the Bighorn/Domestic Sheep Compatibility Decision Notice of August 2, 1995, these three allotments will remain as sheep and goat allotments during this planning cycle based on the potential development of a vaccine (for either domestic or wild sheep) that would then provide re-stocking at the time that the compatibility issue is resolved.

084 Temperance-Snake: This allotment of approximately 42,825 acres would remain vacant.
162 Mud Duck: The HCNRA portion of this allotment (approximately 50,650 acres) would remain vacant.
164 Sheep Creek: This allotment contains approximately 40,597 acres. This allotment would remain vacant.

Table II-1. Vacant Allotment Disposition

Vacant Allotment	Total Acres	Disposition	Alternative W
Jim Creek	12,397	Admin. Horse	12,397
Cherry Creek	22,012	Ungrazed Control Admin. Horse To:Chesnimnus To:Rhodes Creek	5,266 1,967 9,475 5,304
Hope Creek	2,206	To:Dunn Cr	2,206
Turner Creek	1,434	To:Chalk Cr	1,434
Big Canyon	7,971	To:Pittsburg	7,971
Cache Creek	8,237	Ungrazed Control Admin. Horse To:Lost Cow	3,851 2,196 2,190
Canyon	81,096	Ungrazed Control Admin. Horse To:Cayuse To:Lone Pine To:Cow Cr	18,501 1,086 25,006 32,550 3,953
Temperance - Snake	42,825	Vacant	42,825
Mud-Duck (NRA)	50,650	Vacant	50,650
Sheep Creek	40,597	Vacant	40,597
Total			
Total	269,425		269,425
Composite Summary (all)	269,425	Vacant Ungrazed Control Admin. Horse To: Other Allotments	134,072 27,618 17,646 90,089
Total			269,425

Water Use and Management/Vegetative Cultivation

The following is direction for water use and management, and associated vegetative cultivation. Although the major focus is on field irrigation, the water rights can include domestic use, livestock use, fire protection, and irrigation of orchards, gardens, and lawns.

Objective CuI-O1: Maintain existing water rights.

Standards for Oregon Side of HCNRA

Standard CuI-S1: Use water for the purposes described in the water rights at least one year in a five-year period to avoid forfeiture by nonuse (ORS 540.610).

Standard CuI-S2: Comply with Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) water use reporting requirements, including installation, maintenance, and monitoring of OWRD-approved water measurement devices for diversions of 0.1 cubic feet per second (cfs) or larger (OAR 690-85).

Standard CuI-S3: Install and maintain fish screens and fishways at irrigation diversions on fish-bearing streams in compliance with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) requirements (ORS 498 and 509).

Standards for Idaho Side of HCNRA

Standard CuI-S4: Use water for the purposes described in the water rights at least one year in five to avoid forfeiture by nonuse (Idaho Code 42-222).

Standard CuI-S5: Install and maintain fish screens and fishways at irrigation diversions on fish-bearing streams in compliance with Idaho Department of Fish and Wildlife (IDFW) requirements (Idaho Code 36-906).

General Guideline CuI-G9 for all sites: As needed to maintain water rights, manage the HCNRA and implement traditional uses, continue to irrigate areas covered by the water right.

Noxious Weeds

The following would supplement the Wallowa-Whitman Integrated Noxious Weed Management Plan:

Objective Nox-O1: Manage noxious weeds to reduce negative impacts to native plants, wildlife, and other resources. Use all feasible means to eradicate, control, contain, or otherwise reduce negative impacts of noxious weeds.

Standard Nox-S1: Continue implementation of the Wallowa-Whitman Integrated Noxious Weed Management plan. Prioritize species and sites to treat infestations with the most potential for control, or to eliminate new invaders that are still isolated.

Standard Nox-S2: In coordination with the State of Idaho voluntary certification program, follow the Forest Service closure order prohibiting the use of noncertified feeds. The statute prohibits:

> "The possession or storage of hay, straw, or mulch that is not certified as being noxious weed free or noxious weed seed free by an authorized State Department of Agriculture Official or designated County Official (36 CFR 261.58)."

Standard Nox-S3: Wallowa County Ordinance (91-001) prohibits importing hay into Wallowa County.

Guideline Nox-G1: In Oregon, encourage the use of pelletized feed, or weed-free feed and straw bedding for pack and saddle stock. Encourage feeding of pelletized feed, or weed-free feed for 72 hours before entering the HCNRA.

Guideline Nox-G2: For all of the HCNRA (Oregon and Idaho), provide information to HCNRA users to prevent the spread of noxious weeds. Inform the public about and encourage the use of animal hygiene techniques that prevent the spread of noxious weeds such as grooming (brushing of animals, including tail and mane), and cleaning trailers before entry into the HCNRA. Also, encourage the reporting of noxious weed sites.

Guideline Nox-G3 Active grazing allotments appear to have fewer noxious weeds, therefore, encourages active use of allotments.

Biologically Unique Resources Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Ensure the preservation of rare and endemic plant species, rare combinations of aquatic, terrestrial, and atmospheric habitats, and the rare combinations of outstanding and diverse ecosystems and parts of ecosystems. Protect and manage habitat for the perpetuation and recovery of plants, which are listed as threatened or endangered, and prevent sensitive species from becoming listed.

Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Plant Species

Objective Bio-01: Determine the occurrence and distribution in the HCNRA of endangered and threatened plants and animals listed in the Federal Register.

Objective Bio-O2: Provide protection of threatened and endangered species found in the HCNRA. To the extent practical, provide opportunities for them to expand their numbers and distribution.

Objective Bio-O3: Maintain or enhance the well being of sensitive animal and plant species.

Standard Bio-S1: Ensure that legal and biological requirements of endangered, threatened, and sensitive plants and animals are considered prior to, and during, all management actions.

Standard Bio -S2: Inventory the occurrence and distribution of endangered, threatened, and sensitive plant and animal species in the NRA.

Biologically Unique Plant Communities and Plant Associations

Objective BUC-O11: Maintain biologically unique plant communities and plant associations in a healthy condition.

Standard BUC-S10: Document and map biologically unique plant communities and plant associations when they are encountered during range analysis, rare plant surveys, and timber stand examinations.

Research Natural Areas

Goal: Manage RNAs to preserve significant natural ecosystems for comparison with those influenced by man; for provision of ecological and environmental studies; and for preservation of gene pools for threatened and endangered plants and animals.

Objective RNA-O1: To manage all proposed RNAs as if they have been formally established until such time that establishment reports and management plans are completed. Once each area has been formally designated, promote research and educational opportunities, while maintaining the integrity of the ecosystem.

Objective RNA-O3: Planning and implementation would continue on proposed RNAs identified in the Forest Plan for the following areas: Lightning Creek, Pleasant Valley, Bill's Creek, Alum Beds, Little Granite, Duck Lake, Lake Fork, Basin Creek, and Bob Creek.

Soils Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Objective Soi-O1: Manage grassland and shrubland soil conditions to achieve a soil stability rating of good (NRCS Standards).

Standard Soi-S1: Supplement Forest Plan soils S&G 2 with the following definition for detrimental conditions on an activity area:

> **Soil Compaction (Non-Volcanic Soils):** Fifteen percent increase in bulk density; 50 percent decrease in macro pore space; less than 15 percent macro pore space**
>
> **Soil Compaction (Volcanic Ash):** Fifteen percent increase in bulk density**
>
> **Soil Displacement:** Removal of 50 percent of A and/or AC horizons from a 100-square-foot or larger area
>
> **Soil Puddling:** Loss of soil structure by rutting at greater than 6-inch depth
>
> **Burning:** Top layer of mineral soil changed in color to red, next 0.5 inch blackened

Guideline Soi-G1: Consider using the following activities to achieve soil and riparian/water quality standards and guidelines:

-Proper location and design of all system and temporary roads, recreation developments, and trails
-Control traffic during wet periods
-Designate landing locations for tree removal projects
-Re-establish vegetation following wild fire or management activities
-Locate and construct sanitary facilities, when needed, to minimize pollution and contamination of surface and ground water

Standard Soi S2: Follow Watershed approaches in the Wallowa County Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan for Roads, Forests, and Campground management.

Fire Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Within the Hells Canyon Wilderness, as nearly as possible, ensure that fire plays its natural role. In other parts of the HCNRA, manage natural and prescribed fire to emulate historic function of fire. Provide basic protection to human life and property.

Standard Fire-S2: Management-ignited fires shall be conducted to mimic historic fire effects to the extent that safety, fuel accumulations, and social constraints permit. The use of fire would help reduce the negative impacts of future wildfires and past fire exclusion. Historic patterns of fire frequency, patch size, and seasonality would be considered in project design and program management. The role of fire as a vital component of landscape function will be assessed for all significant land management actions within the HCNRA.

Standard Fire-S3: Management-ignited fire from planned ignitions may be used in developed recreation sites, consistent with the management direction from adjacent management areas.

Standard Fire-S4: Fire suppression shall continue as a necessary management action to protect life, property, and the resources found within and adjacent to the HCNRA. Suppression actions will be conducted so as to provide the least-cost-plus-loss that will meet land management objectives and provide the greatest degree of fire fighter safety.

Standard Fire-S5: Prescribed fire will be used for range management, watershed improvement and improve scenic values. Prescribed fires should not consume commercial wood products or herbaceous forage that could be removed in a commercially viable manner.

Air Quality Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Preserve the atmospheric habitats in a manner compatible with the preservation of rare combinations of outstanding and diverse ecosystems and parts of ecosystems associated within the HCNRA.

Standard Air-01 Manage the Hells Canyon Wilderness Class I airshed to meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

Aquatic Habitat Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Ensure the protection and maintenance of aquatic habitat.

Objective Aqu-O1: Manage lands within Wallowa County to achieve the watershed management objectives of the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Salmon Recovery Strategy.

Standard Aqu-S1: Follow the watershed approaches in the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan for Aquatic management.

Wildlife Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Ensure the protection and maintenance of wildlife habitat.

Objective Wld-Ol: Provide habitat for all existing native and desired nonnative vertebrate wildlife species and invertebrate organisms.

Objective Wld-O1: Manage lands within Wallowa County to achieve the watershed management objectives of the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Salmon Recovery Strategy.

Standard Wld-S1: Follow the watershed approaches in the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan for wildlife management.

Standard Wld-S4: Protect Townsend's big-earred bats inhabiting caves and mine tunnels from negative human disturbance by managing access at the entrances.

Guideline Wld-G1: Build and manage gates for Townsend's big-earred bats at the entrance of each cave and mine tunnel which is negatively affected by human disturbance.

Guideline Wld-G2: Cave and mine shafts used for hibernation should be identified and protected from human disturbance from November 1 to April 1, each year.

Guideline Wld-G3: Maternity colonies for Townsend's big-earred bats should be identified and protected from human disturbance from May 1 to August 15.

Guideline Wld-G4: Known habitat areas for Townsend's big-earred bats should contain buffers of uninterrupted canopy (brush or trees) of 100 feet, where possible.

Guideline Wld-G5: Maintain a diversity of wildlife habitats.

Objective Wld-O3: Manage vehicular access seasonally, as necessary to protect or maintain wildlife habitat during critical life cycle functions of wildlife species. Project-level planning or a district access travel plan would be used to determine specific restrictions.

Objective Wld-O4: Provide quality big game habitat to meet the elk and deer herd populations, calf, fawn, buck, and bull ratios established by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Idaho Department of Fish and Game; and to promote a large mature male segment into the populations, wherever practicable.

Objective Wld-O5: Manage for compatible numbers of big game and livestock within appropriate carrying capacities for both species.

Guideline Wld-G14: Manage recreational livestock to minimize the potential for transmission of harmful domestic animal diseases to wildlife.

Geologic Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Provide for the protection of paleontological and unique geologic resources from damage or destruction. Manage paleontological resources for scientific research to the extent consistent with protection. Provide for interpretation and education of unique geologic events.

Standard Geo-S1: Allow for the collection of invertebrate and vertebrate paleontological materials only by professional paleontologists/geologists with legitimate research interests and research plans. Collections would require permits issued by the Area Ranger.

Guideline Geo-G1: All geological research should be coordinated, particularly consumptive research involving fossil collection, to reduce and/or eliminate redundant collection and research efforts.

Guideline Geo-G2: Consider placing signs at major portals and/or at specific locations (not on site) where damage to significant fossil-bearing formations is occurring to educate the public about the collection of paleontological materials and associated prohibitions.

Guideline Geo-G3: Continue to identify, inventory, and map paleontological resources.

Standard Geo-S2: Maintain integrity and scenic quality of geologic features such as caves, rock shelters, talus slopes, natural salt licks, cliffs, rims, limestone outcrops, and uplifts, by avoiding alteration or allowing for protection.

Guideline Geo-G4: Public access may be limited to prevent damage to special geologic features, or if there are determined safety hazards to visitors.

Guideline Geo-G5: Provide interpretation and education of paleontologic resources through off-site methods rather than on-site signing to protect locations of the sites.

Guideline Geo-G6: Visitors should be informed about the value of special features, management actions being taken to protect their value, and opportunities for public use. Scientific or educational use of special features may be allowed under permit.

Minerals Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Emphasize meeting the objectives for which the HCNRA was established with managing mining and its associated activities of valid existing mineral rights.

Objective Min-O1: Manage common variety mineral materials for the sole purpose of construction and maintenance of facilities within the HCNRA including, but not limited to roads, airfields, trails, and recreation developments.

Standard Min-S1: Subject all mining activity, whether it be by pan, sluice box, suction dredge, or some other means, to valid existing rights determination as of December 31, 1975.

Guideline Min-G2: Reclaim abandoned mine portals to minimize risk to public safety and provide wildlife habitat.

Standard Min-S3: Mineral materials extracted from within the HCNRA, including, but not limited to common varieties of gravel, sand, or stone would be used only within the HCNRA for the purpose of construction and maintenance of facilities such as roads, existing landing strips, trails, and recreation developments necessary for

the administration and safe use of the HCNRA. Exception: facility development in adjacent areas where government to government agreements are made is acceptable.

Standard Min-S4: On public lands collection of mineral materials including, but not limited to, common varieties of gravel, sand, or stone for noncommerical, personal uses (e.g., landscaping material) would not be permitted.

Guideline Min-G3: Develop plans to reclaim abandoned mineral materials sites. Reclamation plans could allow for future closure of existing sites and final reclamation of the sites.

Guideline Min-G4: Site reclamation may include contouring the land, re-establishing vegetation, and other measures deemed appropriate by the Area Ranger to blend the site into the surroundings environment and meet the goals and objectives of this plan.

Standard Min-S8: Analysis for using rock sources for common variety minerals for site-specific projects would consider the need for each pit, stockpiling common variety material, future use, closure, and rehabilitation.

Land Management and Special Use Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines

Goal: Manage land ownership patterns to best meet the objectives for which the HCNRA was established. Implement the standards established for the use and development of private lands within the HCNRA.

Objective Lan-O1: Coordinate with comprehensive land management plans for Baker and Wallowa Counties in Oregon, and Idaho, Nez Perce, and Adams Counties in Idaho in the implementation of private Land Use Regulations.

Standard Lan-S4: Give prompt and careful consideration to any offer from a willing seller if adequate funds are available.

Guideline Lan-G3 for Wilderness: Acquisition of wilderness lands would be in fee as the opportunity occurs.

Guideline Lan-G4 for the Rapid River Corridor: Present use of private land is livestock grazing in conjunction with national forest grazing allotments. This use is within the intent of HCNRA objectives as long as it is done without reducing the water quality of the Rapid River. If any change of use occurs, or is likely to occur, that is not in furtherance of the management objectives for the Rapid River corridor, utilization of section 11(b)(1) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to provide limited financial or other assistance would be pursued.

Standard Lan-S5: Manage access to non-federally-owned lands within the boundaries of the HCNRA. Access authorizations would secure owners use and enjoyment of those lands.

Guideline Lan-G8: Participate fully in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing process for Hells Canyon Dam in cooperation with Idaho Power Company and other local, state, federal, and tribal governments.

Tribal Trust Responsibilities

Goal: Manage natural resources consistent with trust responsibilities of the treaty with the Nez Perce, 1855.

Standard Tri-S1: Consult with the Nez Perce Tribe to prioritize and manage plant species significant to the Tribe for harvesting, gathering, and for cultural, spiritual, and religious activities identified as documented by the Tribe.

Standard Tri-S2: Protect the Tribal rights of taking fish in all usual and accustomed places in common with other citizens of the United States and of erecting suitable buildings for curing; together with the privilege of hunting, gathering roots and berries, and pasturing stock on unclaimed lands through sound management of appropriate resources such as aquatic habitat, wildlife habitat, forage, and riparian areas as stated in the Treaty of 1855.

Guideline Tri-G1: Work closely with the Nez Perce Tribe in supporting efforts to restore, manage, and rehabilitate vegetative resources which are not currently meeting tribal goals and responsibilities or are expected to decline in the future.

Guideline Tri-G2: Consult with the Nez Perce Tribe and other agencies to establish a monitoring and tracking system, as needed, for tribal harvest, population trends of harvest species, effectiveness of treatments, and conflicts with other users, management, or resources demands.

Guideline Tri-G3: Monitor the taking and harvesting of natural resources for which the Forest Service has management responsibilities to determine whether the activity adversely impacts habitat or reduces populations of species to the point where federal listing may become necessary, or where federally listed, proposed, or candidate (C1) species are adversely affected.

Guideline Tri-G4: Consider a permit system to allocate resources where user conflicts develop, or demand exceeds supply for harvest and gathering resources desired by tribal and nontribal users.

Standard Tri-S3: Consult Nez Perce Tribe to assure that management actions do not prevent access to usual and accustomed fishing places. Consult with Nez Perce Tribe before changing access, closing roads, or exchanging these lands.
Standard Tri-S4: Consult with the Nez Perce Tribe on changes in access or ownership that may affect treaty reserved rights or the exercising of said rights on public land.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Various activities would be monitored to provide an evaluation of the effect of management activities upon the HCNRA environment. Evaluations would measure compliance in achieving the goals and objectives of the Forest Plan and meeting the intent of the enabling legislation. Based upon an evaluation of the monitoring results, the planning team would recommend to the Forest Supervisor such changes to the management direction for the HCNRA.

Monitoring and evaluation has a distinctly different purpose and scope. In general, monitoring is designed to gather the data necessary for evaluation. During evaluation, data provided through monitoring are analyzed and interpreted. This process would be conducted and displayed through the annual Forest Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Report. The *Forest Plan Monitoring and Implementation Plan* provides an avenue in which management accomplishments, trends, and needs for the HCNRA are reported and evaluated by the responsible managers. Because of the unique nature of the HCNRA and the more refined management direction that would be established as part of a selected alternative, there is a need to conduct more specific monitoring and evaluation within the HCNRA. Implementation of the specific monitoring items are dependent upon funding levels. Pre-project implementation would be based on an assessment of compatibility with the goals, objectives, and standards and guidelines of the CMP.

Implement monitoring of dust and CO2 on upper Imnaha Road.

The FS would actively pursue cooperative agreements for monitoring and inventory with HCNRA users, organizations, and the Nez Perce Tribe.

Recreation Management: Alternative W
(Table C)

Access would be managed at the current level with some specifically identified improvements to trail and road systems. Road and trail systems would remain open with seasonal closures as needed to eliminate resource damage or protect public or private assets. Improvement to major roads would be balanced with the upgrade of recreational facilities along those roads. Road closures would be by gate or natural degradation. Winter over-snow access is provided for in the traditional groomed trail areas.

01 Sheep Creek
08 Granite Creek

Access: Maintain current trail access in both RMU's. Minor reconstruction of the Granite Creek to Butler Bar trail on the Snake River. Construct trail to Stormy Point approximately .75 miles. Maintenance objectives as spelled out in the Hells Canyon Trail Management Plan should meet wilderness WRS classifications of primitive, semi-primitive, and pristine. See RMU's 10, 11, and 12 for Roaded Natural access to trailheads.

Facilities: Manage pristine for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage semi-primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance.

02 Dry Diggins

Access: Maintain current trail access in the entire RMU. Maintenance objectives as spelled out in the Hells Canyon Trail Management Plan should meet wilderness WRS classifications of primitive and semi-primitive. See RMU 11 for Roaded Natural access to trailhead.

Facilities: Manage primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage semi-primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Dry Diggins Lookout maintain as lookout and for visitor information at a custodial level.

03 Sheep Lake
05 Baldy Lake
06 East Face

Access: Maintain current trail access in all three RMUs. Maintenance objectives as spelled out in the Hells Canyon Trail Management Plan should meet wilderness WRS classifications of primitive and semi-primitive. See RMU 11 for Roaded Natural access to trailhead.

Facilities: Manage primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage semi-primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance.

04 Seven Devils

Access: Maintain limited current trail access in the entire RMU. Emphasis is on travel by overland means. Maintenance objectives as spelled out in the Hells Canyon Trail Management Plan should meet wilderness WRS classifications of primitive and semi-primitive. See RMU 11 for Roaded Natural access to trailhead.

Facilities: Manage primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage semi-primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance.

07 Horse Heaven
09 Lakes Basin

Access: Maintain current trail access in all three RMUs. Maintenance objectives as spelled out in the Hells Canyon Trail Management Plan should meet wilderness WRS classifications of pristine, semi-primitive and primitive. See RMU 10 for Roaded Natural access to trailhead.

Facilities: Manage pristine for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage semi-primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage the following as an administrative site within wilderness - Horse Heaven Cabin.

30 Tryon/Deep Creek
31 Somera Point
37 Saddle Creek

Access: Maintain current trail access in all three RMUs; except, in the Temperance Creek bench area, build a trail between 1778 and 1751 (approx. 1.25 miles) to create a loop. Maintenance objectives as spelled out in the Hells Canyon Trail Management Plan should meet WRS classifications of pristine, semi-primitive, and primitive. See RMUs 29, 32, and 36 for Roaded Natural access to trailheads.

Facilities: Manage pristine for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage the following as administrative sites within wilderness: 1) Tryon and 2) Wisenor.

38 Lookout Mountain
39 32/Buck Creek

Access: Maintain current trail access in both RMU's. Maintenance objectives in the Hells Canyon Trail Management Plan would meet wilderness WRS classifications of pristine, semi-primitive, and primitive. Maintain current access to Cooper Creek trailhead on BLM land. See RMUs 35 and 40 for Roaded Natural access to trailheads.

Facilities: Manage primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Manage semi-primitive for: 1) no facilities and 2) self-reliance. Assumption: Preliminary analysis indicates that the majority of facilities located in the wilderness are historic resources. As such they are potentially eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, any decisions which would result in the removal of alternation of structures would require sec. 106 consultation.

10 Black Lake

Access: Maintain Roads 112 and 112A in current alignment and corridor. Maintenance objectives meet the high level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Emphasize drainage improvement. Provide additional turnouts for safety on narrow passageways.

Facilities: Facility upgrade of Black Lake campground and trailhead, through environmental analysis, maintaining similar capacity and experience level. Level II campground. Maintain campground as Roaded Natural node within Semi-Primitive Motorized.

11 Windy Saddle

Access: Minor improvements would provide access for low clearance vehicles. Maintenance objectives meet the low level of Roaded Natural. Emphasize additional turnouts and grid-rolled native surface and removal of rock protrusions.

Facilities: Provide for a facility upgrade at the Seven Devils Campground. Develop as a level III campground with similar capacity and experience level. Location to be selected by environmental analysis. Provide a facility upgrade of the Seven Devils Guard Station. Maintain historic integrity. Maintain the Windy Saddle Campground at maintenance level II. Manage the horse facilities as maintenance level I. Provide for a facility upgrade of the Heavens Gate Lookout.

12 East Rim Loops

Access: Complete upgrade of Pittsburg Saddle to Triangle Mountain (Kirkwood Azimuth) Road and Cow Creek Saddle to Low Saddle and Sawpit Saddle Road per CMP. Maintenance objectives would meet the mid level of Roaded Natural. Single-lane aggregate with turnouts. Implement previous road closures. Manage remaining open roads with existing maintenance levels, surface, and alignment. Maintenance objective would meet existing mixture of high and low Semi-Primitive Motorized. Construct 1.25 miles of trail to Triangle Mountain (Kirkwood Azimuth).

Facilities: A - Develop Low Saddle Viewpoint. Develop Kirkwood Azimuth Viewpoint. Develop Sawpit Saddle Viewpoint. Develop trailhead and level II campsites at Low Saddle. Provide day-use facilities at Sawpit Saddle Viewpoint. Develop trailhead at Triangle Mtn (Kirkwood Azimuth) Viewpoint.

13 Kirkwood

Access: Manage the Kirkwood Road per the CMP. Maintenance objectives meet low level of Semi-Primitive Motorized. Emphasize correction of drainage problems for resource protection. Construct trail to Stormy Point approximately .75 miles.
Facilities: No proposed facilities development or maintenance.

14 Pittsburg Landing

Access: Manage Road 493 in its current condition and maintenance level. Maintenance objectives meet high level of Roaded Natural. Work cooperatively with Deer Creek Road District to maintain as gravel surface road with dust abatement. Maintain other existing roaded opportunities. Maintenance objectives for these roads meet the low level of Semi-Primitive Motorized.

Facilities: Manage the Pittsburg complex per the existing site plan and Wild & Scenic Snake River Management Plan and at a custodial maintenance level. Manage the Circle C administrative site as custodial. Manage vehicular use outside of developed sites as Semi-Primitive Motorized.

15 Big Canyon

Access: Maintain Road 1805 in current condition and experience level unless resource needs warrant maintenance. Maintenance objectives meet the low level of Semi-Primitive Motorized. Emphasize correction of drainage problems for resource protection.

Facilities: There are no existing facilities or proposed facilities.

26 Cottonwood
27 Buckhorn/Cold Springs

Access: Improve Cold Springs Road. Open access to Cherry Creek with gated access seasonally. Buckhorn Campground up to Level IV overlook improved and maintained. Dougherty Campground Level II.

Access: Manage Tepee (595), Wild Horse (596), and Cherry Creek (788(Roads as a mixture of high and low Semi-Primitive Motorized. Emphasize grid-rolled surface on roads not managed as Semi-Primitive Motorized and manage drainage on all roads.

28 Jim Creek/Cherry Creek

Access: Cache Creek Rd. open year around. (Seasonal closures will occur naturally with snow) Jim Creek Rd. to Downey Gulch open year around - gate at Downey Gulch for seasonal closures. Maintenance objectives for Jim Creek and Cherry Creek (788) Roads meet low level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Emphasize correction of drainage problems for resource protection.

Facilities: Manage the Jim Creek administrative facility at maintenance level I. Manage the Cache Creek administrative site per the Wild & Scenic Snake River Management Plan.

29 Lower Imnaha

Access: Manage Road 4260 from Cow Creek to Dug Bar as low level Roaded Natural. Apply pit run only on slick spots from Fence Creek to Cow Creek. Outside the road right-of-way, manage as Semi-Primitive Motorized. Emphasize turnouts and drainage. Maintain access and manage road (880) to Indian Village trailhead to meet high level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Replace Cow Creek bridge. Develop 2 mile river trail at Dug Bar. Manage remaining roads as high and low level Semi-Primitive Motorized.

Facilities: Develop Level II campground at Dug Bar & Cow Creek. Manage Dug Bar administrative Facilities at Maintenance level I. Provide for facilities upgrade at Thorn Creek.

32 Lord Flat

Access: Manage as Semi-Primitive Motorized in existing condition. Close the grassy Knoll and Parliament spur roads. Maintain Lord Flat landing strip as open to commercial, private, and administrative use. Maintenance objectives for the Lord Flat Road should meet the low level of Semi-Primitive Motorized. Emphasize drainage.

Facilities: Manage the Lord Flat administrative site at maintenance level II, per the site plan.

33 Mormon Flat
34 Horse Creek

Access: Maintain current access and experience levels. Only access if via trail, no roads exist in either RMU.

Facilities: There are no developed facilities and none are proposed.

35 Imnaha

Access: Maintain current access and experience levels. Maintenance objectives for Imnaha Road (3955) would meet mid level Roaded Natural. Manage Road 3935 as high level Roaded Natural. Emphasize turnouts and safety on Freezeout Road. Manage all other roads as mix of high and low level Semi-Primitive Motorized as existing. Emphasize safety and drainage. Recommend removal of byway designation from County Road 3955/727. Pursue dust abatement for county road 3955/727.

Facilities: Manage Freezeout and College Creek trailheads as custodial. Develop a trailhead for Crazyman Creek at the low end of Roaded Natural ROS.

36 Hat Point

Access: Manage 4340-315 from 4240-345 to Warnock Corral to meet high level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Maintenance objective would meet existing mixture of high and low Semi-Primitive Motorized. Maintain existing access, experience levels, and seasonal closures. Maintain Memaloose landing strip as open for commercial and private use. Manage remaining open roads at existing maintenance levels, surface and alignment. Maintenance objective would meet existing mixture of high and low Semi-Primitive Motorized.

Facilities: Develop trailhead at Warnock Corral. Provide for facility upgrade of the old Memaloose facility per the site plan. Consider issuing a special use permit for managing new Memaloose for other uses. Explore other uses through and environmental analysis. Manage Sacajawea as a level II campground.

40 McGraw

Access: Maintain Overlook 1 at high level Roaded Natural. Implement Overlook II decision. Maintenance objective McGraw complex meet the high level of Roaded Natural with hardened surface. Maintenance from McGraw Complex to PO Saddle should meet mid level of Roaded Natural. Maintenance objectives from PO Saddle to wilderness boundary should meet the low level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Upon resolution of wilderness boundary location, manage the road from PO Saddle to Lookout Mountain as low level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Maintain other existing roads at current maintenance level and surface as a mixture of high and low Semi-Primitive Motorized. Emphasize drainage for resource protection.

Facilities: Manage new facilities at custodial level.

41 Upper Imnaha

Access: Maintain access on arterial Road 39. Maintenance objective would meet high-level Roaded Natural. Complete Gumboot section to a double lane standard. Emphasize safety. Maintain access on collector Road 3960 to Indian Crossing. Maintenance objective would meet high level Roaded Natural. Emphasize safety and drainage. Maintain access on collector roads 3930, 3935, and 3955 as mid level Roaded Natural, and 3950 and

3925 as high level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Manage open roads at existing maintenance levels, surface, and alignment. Maintenance objective should meet existing mixture of high and low level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Maintain access to campgrounds.

Facilities: Develop level IV campground in Upper Imnaha area (approx. 30 unites). Manage campgrounds as level I maintenance unless changes are needed to meet management objectives for riparian habitat conservation areas which could include level II maintenance or facility upgrade. Manage developed campsite facilities so as not to exceed current carrying capacities. Site-specifically manage dispersed camping within riparian habitat conservation areas. Manage Lick Creek, Coverdale, and Ollokot administrative sites as custodial.

42 North Pine Creek

Access: Maintain access on arterial Road 39 and collector Road 66. Maintenance objectives for Roads 39 and 3900-750 should meet high level Roaded Natural. For Road 66 objectives, meet existing condition of mid level of Roaded Natural. Emphasize safety and drainage. Manage remaining open roads at existing maintenance levels, surface, and alignment. Maintenance objectives would meet existing mixture of high and low level Semi-Primitive Motorized. Overall roading would be directed by road density standards for sub-watersheds that make up the RMU and recreation needs as identified in a separate analysis.

Facilities: Custodial maintenance on all facilities.

Definitions

Recreation Management Direction

RMU - Recreation Management Unit. (Management Unit numbers precede names below and correlate with the attached map).

ROS - Recreation Opportunity spectrum (A framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation).

WRS - Wilderness Recreation Spectrum. These are the same as ROS except in the wilderness area.

Pristine - Visitation is very limited. Emphasis is placed on maintaining a natural and unmodified environment. Visitors seldom and only temporally displace wildlife throughout the year. This is the best opportunity for isolation and solitude requiring a maximum degree of primitive skills, challenge, and risk. Access is difficult requiring cross-country travel or the use of routes created by animals or previous human visitation. Three percent of the wilderness is pristine.

Primitive - Visitation is limited. The environment is essentially unmodified and natural with no long-term changes to the landscape except for facilities or structures that are deemed historically important to the area or experience. Sings of human use is minimal. Visitation does not displace wildlife during critical periods. High opportunity exists for exploring and experiencing considerable isolation and solitude. Primitive recreation skills are required with a high degree of challenge and risk. Access is via trails maintained to a most difficult standard. Twenty-percent of the wilderness is primitive.

Semi-primitive - Visitation is at a low to moderate level. The environment is essentially unmodified and natural with no long-term changes to the landscape except for facilities or structures that are historically important to the area or experience. Visitation does not displace wildlife during critical periods. Moderate opportunity exists for exploring and experiencing isolation, independence, and closeness to nature. No trace and primitive skills are required with a moderate to high degree of challenge and risk. Access is via constructed and maintained trails managed to more and most difficult standards. Six percent of the wilderness is semi-primitive.

Campground development levels (6)

Level I - Minimize site modifications. Improvements mostly for protection of the site but rustic or rudimentary improvements are to be provided for the comfort of the users. Use of synthetic material should be avoided. Minimum controls are subtle. No obvious regimentation, spacing informal and extended to minimize contacts with others.

Motorized access may not be provided or permitted.

Level II - Little site modification. Improvement mostly for protection of the site but rustic or rudimentary improvements may be provided for the comfort of the users. Use of synthetic materials should be avoided. Minimal controls are subtle. Little obvious regimentation. Spacing informal and extended to minimize contacts with others. Motorized access provided or permitted. Primary access over primitive roads.

Level III - Site modification moderate. Facilities about equally developed for protection of site and comfort of users. Rustic design may use native or synthetic materials which approximate the look of native materials. Inconspicuous vehicular controls usually provided. Roads may be hard surfaced and trail formalized. Development density may approximate three family units per acre. Primary access to site may be on a higher standard, more traveled road. VIS, if available is informal and incidental.

Level IV - Site heavily modified. Some facilities designed strictly for comfort and convenience of users but luxury facilities not available. Facility designs are rustic but tend to incorporate more synthetic materials. Vehicular traffic controls present and usually obvious. Primary access over more highly developed roads. Development density may be greater than three family units per acre. Visitor information facilities frequently available.

Level V - High degree of site modification. Facilities, mostly designed for comfort and convenience of users, include flush toilets, may include showers, bath houses, laundry facilities, and electrical hook-ups.

Synthetic material commonly used. Formal walks or surfaced trails. Regimentation of users is obvious. Access usually by higher speed travelways. Development densities are eight or more family units per acre. Formal VIS services usually available. Architecture may be more contemporary. Mowed lawns and clipped bushes are not unusual (class 5 sites only provided in special situations or close to large cities where other lands are not available).

Campground maintenance levels

Custodial maintenance - Replacement of nonfunctional site elements or facilities with in-kind materials or structures. Location, design, and configuration remain constant. Accessibility standards, where possible, are compatible with designated ROS settings.

Level I maintenance - Total or scheduled replacement of all existing facilities with new facilities. Location and configuration remain constant; design and construction materials are simple, durable, and cost efficient. The overall goal is to maintain a rustic appearance while reducing the operation and maintenance costs of the facility. Some adjustment may be made in unit size and parking accommodations. Accessibility standards would be compatible with the designated ROS settings.

Level II maintenance - The same as level I with the following exception: Design configuration and location may change slightly to accommodate ecological or environmental concerns. Increased capacity could result even though the general location and area of the campground is the same.

Facility upgrade -Total redesign and construction of a camping facility. Location may change considerably depending on ecological, environmental, or social concerns. The overall goal would be to maintain a rustic appearance but promote designs and materials that would result in lower operation and maintenance costs. Some campground classifications may change to the next higher level but none would exceed a level 4 campground development for this planning period. Accessibility standards would be appropriate to the designated ROS. A change in design standards has the potential to move the ROS to a higher development setting although that is not the intent of upgrading a facility.

New construction - The design and construction of a new facility which meets designated ROS settings, ecological, environmental concerns, and accessibility standards. Design standards have the potential to move the ROS to the next higher development setting although it is not the intent of the new facility to effect such a change.

Road management objectives

Semi-primitive nonmotorized (SPNM) - A pedestrian or equestrian trail may utilize a closed or obliterated road bed. All motorized traffic is prohibited. Most SPNM areas do not have developed roads.

Semi-primitive motorized (SPM) - The **low** end of this spectrum would be a native surface road suitable for high clearance vehicles but not passenger cars or vehicles towing trailers. Users need to back long distances if oncoming traffic is met. This corresponds to a maintenance level 2 and traffic service level D (the abbreviated form: mtce 2 D). Maintenance activities occur usually every three years or when resource needs are identified. Drainage is the principal concern. These roads are generally used for 4-wheeling, logging, or ranching activities. They are allowed to ``brush in'' and removal of trees blocking the road are the user's responsibility. Rutting and potholes are permitted if they do not contribute to sediment loading. Passenger car use is discouraged by entrance conditions or signing. Users can expect this standard of road where there are no attractors such as viewpoints or trailheads.

The **high** end of this spectrum may be a single lane native strip surface or spot surfaced with pit run material and with infrequent turnouts. This mtce 2 C standard is maintained for high clearance vehicles. The pit run material is laid down and not processed, leaving a rough rocky surface that drains well, but discourages passenger car use. User maintenance is the same as for the low end of the SPM spectrum. This is the standard that meets resource and safety needs and should be the minimum standard for accessing attractors. Emphasize current alignment surface treatment and road corridor.

Roaded natural (RN) - Roaded natural provides access for passenger cars and are subject to safety standards of the Highway Safety Act. Maintenance activities occur annually or every two years based on funding and need. The Forest Service clears these roads of brush and logs. Surface maintenance increases with the level. Because of increased speeds, turnouts are needed more frequently. In addition open local roads and some collector roads within the RN ROS are to be managed for high clearance vehicles. In such cases, maintenance standards defined for SPM would be used.

The roaded natural low end of the spectrum corresponds with an mtce 3 C. The surface is either native or pit run. The pit run material is processed to provide a rough but suitable service for passenger cars. Dust increase during dry conditions and the road provides good resource protection when wet.

The roaded natural medium end of the spectrum also corresponds with a mtce 3 C or B. The surface is crushed aggregate and maintained for passenger cars. Usually maintained annually, the surface washboards and becomes dusty with increased use.

The high end of the road natural spectrum is a surfaced treated aggregate, often double lane and corresponds to a mtce 4 A or B. The surface is treated with dust abatement, soil or silicone stabilizers, or asphalt emulsions. A dust free, smooth surface for passenger cars is the desired end product. This standard is often applied to provide access to viewpoint or campgrounds.

Rural - This is generally the highest standard of forest road and corresponds to an mtce 5 A. The road is double lane with a form of asphalt surfacing (BST or AC). It builds to a full 24-foot width. The road has center striping and often shoulder stripes. These arterial roads provide the main access to the forest but generally lack the speeds and alignment provided by the state highway.

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