



United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Pacific Northwest Region

1994

Final Environmental Impact Statement

Wild and Scenic Snake River Recreation Management Plan



Hells Canyon National Recreation Area

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AMP	Allotment management plan
ANILCA	Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act
AOP	Annual operating plan
AOPA	Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
ARPA	Archaeological Resource Protection Act
BPA	Bonneville Power Administration
CMP	Comprehensive Management Plan
DEIS	Draft environmental impact statement
DFC	Desired future condition -
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Threatened and Endangered Species Act
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FEIS	Final environmental impact statement
FSH	Forest Service Handbook
FSM	Forest Service Manual
FWS	U.S. Fish and Game Service (same as USFWS)
GAO	Government Accounting Office
HCNRA	Hells Canyon National Recreation Area
HCPC	Hells Canyon Preservation Council
ICL	Idaho Conservation League
ID	Interdisciplinary
IDF&G	Idaho Department of Fish and Game (same as IF&G)
IF&G	Idaho Fish and Game (same as IDF&G)
IOGA	Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association
IOGLB	Idaho Outfitter and Guide Licensing Board
IRU	Idaho Rivers United
ISSU	Idaho Steelhead and Salmon Unlimited
LAC	Limits of acceptable change
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFMA	National Forests Management Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NRA	National recreation area
NWRA	Northwest Rafter Association
NWSRA	National Wild and Scenic River Act
ODF&W	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
ONRC	Oregon Natural Resources Council
ORV	Outstandingly remarkable value
PETS	Proposed Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive Plant Species
PMW	Personal motorized watercraft
RNA	Research natural area
ROS	Recreation opportunity spectrum
S1/2	"Solitude" alternatives submitted by HCPC
SWSR	Snake Wild and Scenic River
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Same as FWS)
VQO	Visual quality objectives
W&SR	Wild and scenic river
WSRA	Wild and Scenic Rivers Act



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Cover photograph C. Johnson, USFS

Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Wild and Scenic Snake River

Hells Canyon National Recreation Area

**Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Oregon
Nez Perce and Payette National Forests, Idaho
Counties of Baker and Wallowa in Oregon
Counties of Nez Perce, Idaho, and Adams in Idaho**

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Abstract

This final environmental impact statement describes and documents the analysis of seven alternatives developed for possible management of the Wild and Scenic Snake River in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. All alternatives except Alternative A would amend the Forest Plan. Alternative A is the "no action" alternative. It retains current management strategies and would not meet desired future conditions for the corridor. Alternative B defines the proposed action. Alternative C emphasizes a balanced level of motorized and non-motorized use for the entire River corridor. Alternative D provides an opportunity for a non-motorized recreational experience in a section of the wild river and a mix of motorized and non-motorized use on the remaining wild section and entire scenic section. Alternative E is designed to allow exclusive motorized/non-motorized use on an alternating weekly schedule during the regulated season in a portion of the wild section. Alternative F would provide exclusive, year-long non-motorized use in the wild river section. Alternative G was developed between the draft and final environmental impact statements in response to public comments and emphasizes a balance of motorized and non-motorized use. It includes periods of exclusive non-motorized use in a portion of the wild river. Alternative G is the Forest Service preferred alternative.