

Appendix B: Forest Plan Direction

B.1 RELATIONSHIP TO FOREST PLAN

The 1986 Custer National Forest Land and Resources Management Plan (Forest Plan) directs management of all Federal lands within the Ashland Ranger District. The Forest Plan provides both Forest-wide Management direction and direction for specific management areas. Forest Plan forest-wide goals, objectives, and standards are found in chapter II, pages 3-39. Management Area direction is found in chapter III page 41-99 of the Forest Plan. Forest Plan direction related to travel management is listed in the following Table.

Table B.1. Forest Plan management direction related to travel management.

Management Area: Goal Description Acres ¹ (% of District Total Acres)	Current FP Management Direction
Forest-wide Management Direction	
Forest-wide	The goal of providing for public access to and within the Forest is to provide at least an access point per five miles of administrative boundary where there is not adequate access from inside Nation Forest System land. However, the intent will not be to provide road/trail access to all areas on the Forest (pages 3-4).
Forest-wide	The goal of recreation management is to provide a broad spectrum of recreation experience opportunities for the benefit and enjoyment of the public, with due consideration for other forest uses and resources (page 4).
Forest-wide	The Forest transportation system required by this plan will be constructed and managed to minimize adverse impacts on the resources, while providing access to public lands for the public and for the management of the resources (page 5).
Forest-wide	Travel restrictions will be developed and maintained to meet land management objectives. These restrictions will provide reasonable access for public recreation, hunting and range maintenance/administration, but will confine motorized vehicles to specific roads, trails, or areas identified on a map. Vehicular access of these designated locations will be prohibited, except by permit. A map and information showing closures, restrictions, and opportunities on the Forest for motorized and nonmotorized use will be provided to the public (page 13).
Management Area Direction	
B: To provide for continuation of <i>livestock grazing...</i> 230,844Ac (~ 46%)	C. Management Standards 1. Recreation a. Semi-primitive motorized, and roaded natural recreation opportunities will be provided (page 45). 7. Facilities a. The arterial and collector system will be maintained for public use (page 47).

¹ Acres are base on the currently avialable GIS information.

Table B.1. Forest Plan management direction related to travel management.

Management Area: Goal Description Acres ¹ (% of District Total Acres)	Current FP Management Direction
D: Maintain or improve long-term diversity and quality of <i>habitat</i> for elk, bighorn sheep, black bear, and moose... 178,419 Ac (~ 35%)	C. Management Standards 1. Recreation a. The travel plan for these areas will provide reasonable access for public recreation, hunting, and range maintenance and administration, but will confine motorized vehicles to specific roads and trails during critical periods to protect wildlife and other resources (page 53). 7. Facilities a. Access roads needed to meet legal obligations will be provided as required, but roads will be routed to minimize loss of wildlife habitat. c. Existing county and Forest Service arterial and collector roads will be maintained and reconstructed/upgraded as necessary. This may include realignment or relocation to meet public safety requirements, reduce erosion or reduce/eliminate conflicts with wildlife and fish habitat (page 56).
F: Provide a spectrum of recreation opportunities... 108 Ac (< 1%)	C. Management Standards 9. Facilities a. Roads will be maintained for safety, soil and water protection, and to provide for travel of passenger carrying vehicles. b. If specific campgrounds are closed, the roads within them will also be closed (page 63).
G: Manage these areas for the maintenance and improvement of a healthy diverse forest and as a source of <i>wood products</i>... 54,071 Ac (~ 11%)	C. Management Standards 1. Recreation a. The recreation setting will primarily be roaded-natural and rural. Small areas of semi-primitive nonmotorized/motorized will occur, particularly where key wildlife habitat areas are protected from other resource activities (page 64). 6. Facilities a. Roads within this management area are generally multiple use roads, exceptions may be some of those constructed for minerals development. b. Road management will be determined by the long-term needs of mineral and timber management. Locations will serve long-term uses for all resources. Use and travel restrictions will be considered to benefit or reduce adverse impacts to wildlife. The roads will be part of the Forest Transportation System and may be closed when not needed (page 65).
J: To maintain these areas in a <i>Low Development Area</i> setting,... 38,620 Ac (~ 8%)	C. Management Standards 1. Recreation b. On the Ashland Ranger District, this area will be closed to motorized vehicle use (page 72).
L: Existing and proposed <i>Research Natural Areas</i> 464 Ac (< 1%)	C. Management Standards 1. Recreation a. Recreation use will not be encouraged. g. Trails will not be constructed within these areas (page 78). 8. Facilities a. Roads and other facilities will not be constructed in these areas. b. Existing public roads may be retained. Reconstruction will be allowed for public safety and protection of the soil and water resource (page 79).

Table B.1. Forest Plan management direction related to travel management.

Management Area: Goal Description Acres¹ (% of District Total Acres)	Current FP Management Direction
M: [Riparian area] Manage to protect from conflicting uses in order to provide healthy, self-perpetuating plant and water communities.... Not Mapped	C. Management Standards 1. Recreation b. Motorized use will be restricted to existing roads and trails (page 80). 7. Facilities b. Road closures will be implemented as necessary to be compatible with the adjacent management area direction or protect riparian or wildlife and fishery habitat values, other resources, or public safety. c. Existing roads may be retained if necessary for resource management and reconstructed as needed for public safety and resource protection. f. Minimize the number of roads and/or pipelines crossing this management area to minimize disturbance of this ecosystem (page 81).
N: [Wood draws] To provide healthy, self-perpetuating plant and water communities.... Not Mapped	C. Management Standards 1. Recreation c. Motorized use will be restricted to existing roads and trail (page 83). 7. Facilities b. Road closures will be implemented as necessary to be compatible with the adjacent management area direction or to protect woody draws, wildlife habitat, and other resources, or public safety. c. Existing roads may be retained if necessary for resource management and reconstructed as needed for public safety and resource protection (page 84).
P: Provide adequate facilities for forest administration 333 Ac (<1%)	1. Recreation a. Interpretive facilities may be used at these sites to inform the public (page88).

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