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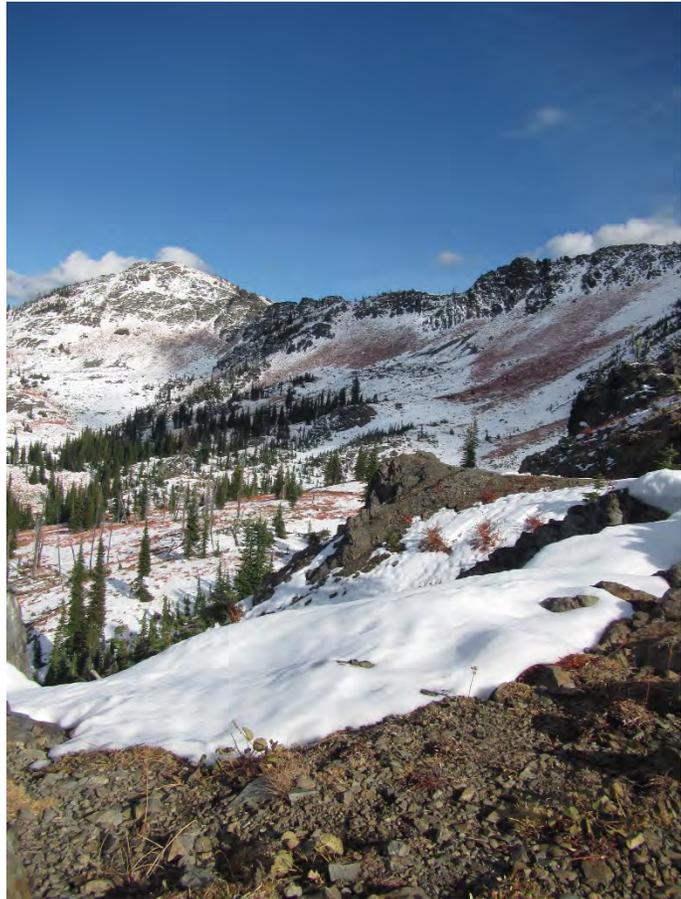
# **DRAFT RECORD OF DECISION**

## **HUCKLEBERRY LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROJECT**

**Payette National  
Forest**

**Council Ranger  
District**

**Adams County, Idaho**



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**Draft**  
**Record of Decision**  
**Huckleberry Landscape Restoration Project**  
Council Ranger District  
Payette National Forest  
Adams County, Idaho  
February 2020

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## INTRODUCTION

This Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) discloses the temporary, short- and long-term, direct, indirect, irretrievable, irreversible, and cumulative environmental impacts of a Proposed Action and alternative actions for the Huckleberry Landscape Restoration Project (Project) on the Council Ranger District of the Payette National Forest (Forest or PNF) in Adams County, Idaho. Proposed restoration activities include timber harvest, biomass harvest, road reconstruction, road realignment, temporary road construction, road decommissioning, culvert removal, culvert replacement, thinning of submerchantable trees, prescribed fire, and other actions as described in detail in Chapter 2. Proposed recreation improvements include developed and dispersed recreation site improvements, motorized and non-motorized trail development and realignment, trailhead improvements, and the conversion of Smith Mountain Lookout to a public rental cabin (if future funding permits). This document has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500–1508); National Forest Management Act (NFMA) implementing regulations of 2005, including transition language (36 CFR 219.14); and 2003 Payette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended (Forest Plan) (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] Forest Service 2003a).

The Forest's 800,000-acre Weiser-Little Salmon Headwaters Project (WLSH) was accepted in the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Program<sup>1</sup> in 2012, and the Project is within the WLSH area. The purpose of the CFLR Program is to encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. This project is based in part on recommendations provided by the Payette Forest Coalition (PFC) to the Forest Supervisor on August 18, 2016.

As part of the planning process, the PNF Travel Analysis Report (TAR), which was completed in September 2015, provided a recommendation for the Minimum Road System (MRS) for the project area and was considered in the development of alternatives. The MRS identified National Forest System (NFS) roads needed for the protection, administration, and utilization of the NFS lands within the Project area. The MRS is the minimum road system necessary to serve Forest health, emergency access, and public access while complying with resource objectives, reflecting likely funding, and minimizing adverse effects associated with road construction, reconstruction, and maintenance. This FEIS uses information from the TAR and data collected during the NFMA phase of this project as a basis for assessing existing versus desired conditions and the formulation of the Proposed Action.

### Project Area Description

The Project is located 15 miles west of New Meadows, Idaho, in the Management Area (MA) 2 (Snake River) on the PNF, Council Ranger District, in Adams County. Land ownership within and adjacent to the Project area includes NFS lands, Idaho State lands, and private ownership. Access to the area from the south is via the Council-Cuprum Road, a County road that turns into NFS Road 50002, which is accessed by U.S. Highway 95, in Council, Idaho. It can also be

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<sup>1</sup> Established with the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, PL 111-11; reauthorized with the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, H. R. 2 (Farm Bill).

accessed from the East via Grouse Creek Road (NFS Road 50123) as well as from the west via Kleinschmidt Grade (NFS Road 50050).

The Project area encompasses approximately 67,000 acres within the Council Ranger District on the PNF. The Project area falls within the Brownlee Reservoir Subbasin, and the Indian, Lick, and Bear Creek subwatersheds. The Project area includes parts of the Indian Creek, Rapid River, and Hells Canyon/Seven Devils Scenic Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs), as well as the Bear Creek Research Natural Area (RNA) (Figure ROD-1).



## DECISION AND RATIONALE

### Decision Authority

Pursuant to the delegation by the Secretary of Agriculture at 7 CFR 2.60 and Chief of the Forest Service at Forest Service Manual (FSM) 2402.2 and Exhibit 01 at FSM 2404.28, I have been delegated the authority to make this decision.

### My Decision

My decision is based on a review of the Project record, which includes a thorough review of relevant scientific information, consideration of responsible opposing views, and acknowledgement of incomplete or unavailable information, scientific uncertainty, and risk. I have considered input from groups and individuals with responsible opposing views and discussed our response to them in FEIS Appendix 8, Response to Public Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), and the Project record.

I know that my decision will not completely satisfy every group or individual; however, I have concluded that it is an informed choice that provides a reasonable mix of actions and moves the Project area toward desired conditions as defined in the Forest Plan.

I firmly believe my decision as defined in this Record of Decision (ROD) for the Huckleberry Landscape Restoration Project exemplifies the Chief's and Congress' intentions for accelerating restoration across a large landscape using a collaborative process. For more than 9 years, members of the Forest staff have worked collaboratively on this and other projects with the PFC, which represents a broad range of stakeholders. The PFC gave recommendations for restoration treatments across the 67,000-acre Huckleberry landscape that were considered during Project development. The selected treatments will move forested landscapes towards desired conditions, producing forest products that support the economic viability of the surrounding rural communities while at the same time improving habitat for threatened and sensitive wildlife species, particularly northern Idaho ground squirrel, bull trout, and white-headed woodpecker. Road and watershed treatments will improve the watershed condition in all subwatersheds through decommissioning of system roads and unauthorized routes while improving over 76 miles of aquatic habitat through Riparian Conservation Areas (RCA) road decommissioning, RCA road graveling, and culvert replacement for aquatic organism passage (AOP). Over 172 miles of road, including 49 miles of NFS road and 123 miles of unauthorized routes, will ultimately be decommissioned through implementation of this Project. Improvements to Huckleberry Campground and dispersed sites in the Project area will enhance recreation opportunities while improving public safety as well as forest and watershed health. Through the use of prescribed fire on up to 67,000 acres, we will aid in restoring the natural processes that sustain the desired forest conditions while reducing hazardous fuels and the risk of uncharacteristic fires.

As disclosed in Section 1.6 of the FEIS, this decision will answer the following questions:

Should the Forest Service implement this Project, including commercial and noncommercial vegetation treatments, fuels reduction, road management, watershed and fish habitat restoration, and recreation improvements at this time?

If so:

- What and how many acres should be treated and by what means?
- What action should be taken on recreation facilities, trails, and dispersed recreation sites?
- What watershed restoration and fish habitat improvements should be implemented?
- What road management actions should be implemented and what should the MRS for the Project area be?
- What project design features (PDFs) or mitigation measures are necessary to ensure compliance with the Forest Plan?
- What monitoring requirements are appropriate to evaluate project implementation and effectiveness?

### **Selected Alternative**

Based on my review of the environmental analysis disclosed in the FEIS, the Project record, and consideration of public comments received on the DEIS, I have decided to implement Alternative 2, as described in Chapter 2 of the FEIS, with the following modifications:

- NFS Road 50646 – Seasonal instead of decommissioning;
- NFS Road 50639 – Seasonal for the entire road instead of decommissioning in part and do not construct proposed 50639 reroute;
- Add unauthorized routes 505715000 and 507594000 to the NFS system and make Seasonal;
- Add unauthorized route 5000721000 to the NFS system as a closed Maintenance Level (ML) 2 road because it provides access to private property and has a current Special Use Permit;
- Convert unauthorized route 500720800 and a portion of 515399000 to a trail open to all vehicles (TOAV);
- Include all shaded fuel breaks (SFB) from Alternative 3 (50002, 50072, 50105, 50106, 50108, 50143, 50145, 501450255, 51575, 51575P), with the addition of an SFB along 50112 from the intersection with 50105 and 50145 at Four Corners for 6 miles just past Placer Basin. This additional SFB will exclude any riparian treatment within the one RCA it crosses on a perennial tributary to Bear Creek;
- All commercial harvest (approximately 270 acres of commercial thin-free thin [CT-FT], modified shelterwood [MSw], and patch cut [PC]) accessed from temporary roads off 50523, (Camp Creek/Upper Indian Creek) will be noncommercial thinning (NCT) only and all associated temporary roads (approximately 2.9 miles) are dropped from consideration because of lack of easement across private lands.

This suite of actions, which includes vegetation management activities, watershed restoration treatments, road management activities, and recreation management activities, is further referred to as the *Selected Alternative*.

Table ROD-1 provides a summary of activities that the *Selected Alternative* authorizes for implementation. Many other activities and associated actions are included in this decision. This

decision incorporates adherence to all Forest Plan management requirements, PDFs, and monitoring requirements as described in the FEIS (see FEIS Chapter 2, Tables 2.2-1 through 2.2-11) and Attachment 1 in this document.

**Table ROD-1. Summary of activities to be implemented under this decision.**

<b>Proposed Treatments</b>	<b>Selected Alternative</b>
<b>Commercial and Noncommercial Vegetation Treatment (acres)</b>	
<b>Noncommercial Treatments</b>	<b>36,150</b>
Within RCAs	1,100
<b>Commercial Treatments</b>	<b>17,500</b>
Commercial Thin-Free Thin	14,240
Within RCAs	1,100
Regeneration	3,260
Within RCAs	0
<b>Total Acres of Vegetation Treatments</b>	<b>53,650</b>
<b>Total Acres of Vegetation Treatments Within RCAs</b>	<b>2,200</b>
<b>Prescribed Fire (acres)</b>	
Prescribed Fire	67,000
<b>Shaded Fuelbreak (miles)</b>	
Shaded Fuelbreaks	45
<b>Temporary Roads (miles)</b>	
Existing Prism (existing unauthorized routes that would be used in harvest then decommissioned)	40.5
New Temporary Road Construction	24.1
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resource Improvement Treatment (miles)</b>	
Long-term Closure	64.8
Long-term Closure within RCAs	10.0
NFS Road Decommissioning	49.1
Unauthorized Route Decommissioning	123.4
Total Road Decommissioning (includes unauthorized routes used as temporary roads listed above)	172.5

Proposed Treatments	Selected Alternative
<b>Road Decommissioning within Riparian Conservation Areas (miles)</b>	
NFS Road Decommissioning in RCAs	13.4
Unauthorized Route Decommissioning in RCAs	44.9
Total Miles (included in the miles of road decommissioning listed above)	58.3
<b>Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP)/Habitat Connectivity</b>	
Number of Stream Crossings Improved	8
<b>Transportation Management (miles)</b>	
Road Realignment (Reroutes)	3.8
Add to System Roads	8.0
Road Surfacing (Adding gravel)	18.9
Total Road Reconstruction (includes road realignment, surfacing, and Add to System roads)	30.7
Ensure Effective Closure on Year-round and Seasonally Closed National Forest System Roads <sup>a</sup>	All
NFS Roads Open Year-round (ML2, ML3)	84.4
NFS Roads Open Seasonally (May 15 – September 30)	57.2
NFS Roads Closed Year-round	94.1
NFS Road Total (MRS)	235.2
Local, County, Private	64.3
Project area Road Total	299.5
<b>Recreation and Trails Improvements<sup>b</sup></b>	
NFS Trail Converted from Two-wheel Motorized to Non-Motorized (miles)	1.4
NFS Trail Converted from Open to 50" or less to open NFS road (open to all vehicles) <sup>c</sup> (miles)	0.7
New Trail Open to All Vehicles (miles)	2.2
Convert roads to trails (miles)	2.4
Lookout converted to rental cabin	1

<sup>a</sup>Ensuring effective closures may also be implemented in on-going road maintenance activities.

<sup>b</sup>See Section 2.2.2 Recreation Improvements for additional proposals in all action alternatives including developed and dispersed recreation improvements and addition trail maintenance and trailhead improvements.

<sup>c</sup>Trail 293, Decorah, would be removed from the system as a trail since it would be redundant with the underlying open NFS road.

Based on the effects analysis disclosed in Chapter 3 of the FEIS, I believe that the *Selected Alternative* best meets the Purpose and Need for the Project and is consistent with the Forest Plan as well as all laws, regulations, and policy governing NFS land management.

My decision includes the following landscape restoration treatments: silvicultural treatments, the use of prescribed fire, temporary road construction, new road construction, road realignments, open roads converted to seasonally open roads, road maintenance, road decommissioning and long-term closures, culvert upgrades and removals, unauthorized routes added to the system, unauthorized routes converted to trails, trail construction and trail improvements, vault toilet installation, dispersed camping improvements, conversion of a lookout to a public rental cabin,

PDFs/Project mitigation, and a monitoring plan. The *Selected Alternative* best meets the agency's goal to improve soil, water, and riparian and aquatic resources, which would be accomplished by the decommissioning of roads impeding proper hydrologic function.

## Implementation Flexibility

While the Forest used the best available information for Project design and analysis, it is expected that actual on-the-ground conditions will result in adjustments during implementation to meet the intent of the Purpose and Need and the Forest Plan (USDA Forest Service 2003a). I expect adjustments may be needed for any activity identified in the *Selected Alternative* but will remain within the limits of the decision. The limits are those quantities (i.e., miles, acreages, units, etc.) identified by subwatershed in the Project data and should be tracked as to not exceed authorized levels and documented in the Project Record.

Because of the variability of existing conditions in proposed activity units, treatments are not expected to occur on every acre within every identified stand. For example, if the canopy cover and species composition of trees in part of a stand meets the Desired Future Conditions (DFC), the only treatment in that part of the stand would be prescribed fire. Conversely, treatments may be more intensive if there is not the early seral species component adequate to meet the objectives of thinning and a regeneration prescription may be used. The estimated net proposed harvest acreage within the *Selected Alternative* is provided in the tables in this document. Changes that occur between planning and implementation would be within the resource parameters analyzed in the FEIS by subwatershed. This will allow flexibility to make sure the appropriate treatment type is applied to achieve project objectives during implementation.

The Forest has recently had the Project area flown to acquire LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data, which generates precise, three-dimensional information about the shape of the Earth and its surface characteristics by using light from a laser, a scanner, and a specialized global positioning system receiver to measure variable distances from an aircraft. The LIDAR data is currently being processed and will be available for implementation but not in time to inform this decision. This data could reveal unknown roads and other linear features that were not used in determining the MRS. If during implementation it is determined that a newly discovered road of comparable length is better situated to achieve the intended road network, without additional resource impacts or significant mileage increase from that analyzed in the FEIS, then I expect the change to be identified, approved by the appropriate Line Officer, and the change and disposition of any previously identified road documented in the Project Record. Alternately, if a road is discovered in an area that no other road accesses and is determined to be needed for current management it should be reviewed through the travel analysis process by the interdisciplinary team (IDT) for future management. If determined to be needed for future management, it should be deferred from decommissioning until future analysis. If determined to be unneeded it could be decommissioned with Line Officer approval. These adjustments should be done to ensure the most efficient road system is left from the existing condition while still achieving similar road densities described in the *Selected Alternative* by subwatershed.

## Vegetation Treatments

As more fully described in Chapter 2 of the FEIS, proposed vegetation treatments were developed using a combination of data derived from aerial photo interpretation and field reconnaissance. Current information was used by the IDT to estimate values, such as number of

acres treated, road miles, and timber volume. On the maps of alternatives, prescribed fire, thinning, and harvest unit locations and prescriptions are also best estimates based on current information. Some adjustments are expected to occur during Project design and layout to conform to on-the-ground conditions. In all cases, adjustments would be made to meet the intent of the Purpose and Need and the Forest Plan (USDA Forest Service 2003a).

Proposed activities for all action alternatives were developed using a combination of data derived from aerial photo interpretation and field reconnaissance. Layout of exact boundaries and treatment types would be determined based upon additional on-the-ground surveys and vegetative conditions within each stand. Based on PDFs and the intent of the proposed treatments, it is anticipated that further ground verification may result in a reduction of commercial treatments and a resultant increase in noncommercial treatments. The anticipated reduction in acreage of commercial treatments from proposed to the expected implementation acreages are based on the fact that further site-specific verification is necessary to comply with management requirements and PDFs, such as those regarding RCAs, landslide-prone (LSP) areas, wildlife concerns, and archaeological concerns, and would preclude treating some of the proposed areas. Although all acres proposed for treatment would be evaluated based on the descriptions of treatments provided below, only acres that meet the intent of the treatment descriptions, are economically feasible, and are consistent with the PDFs will be treated. Therefore, total acres of commercial treatments are anticipated to be reduced from those proposed, based on field review of proposed treatments and previous implementation of similar projects on the Forest. Actual treatment type and unit boundaries are anticipated to vary from the geographical information system (GIS) files and maps displayed in this document. The maps provided in this document are diagrammatic based on the best available data; actual unit boundaries and treatment units would be determined after further on-the-ground verification. Limitations such as slope, RCA boundaries, acres treated per 6th field watershed, and wildlife constraints would be applied during treatment unit delineation on the ground.

### ***Noncommercial Treatments***

#### **Noncommercial Treatments would consist of thinning young stands, non-forested restoration, whitebark, pine restoration, and understory thinning in mature stands—36,150 acres (1,100 acres in RCAs).**

NCT would be completed in young stands, whitebark pine restoration, and ladder fuel thinning in mature stands. This would be completed in areas of commercial harvest as well as outside commercial harvest units. All NCT outside commercial harvest treatments will be accomplished with hand-felling, pruning residual trees up to 6 feet high and/or mastication along roads and in young stands. Lop-and-scatter will be the primary and preferred method, with some limited cases of hand-piling and prescribed fire along roads or on already disturbed areas.

To help achieve DFC, NCT would be permitted within the outer half of RCAs in the Lick Creek subwatershed. All NCT in RCAs would be completed by hand and would not cut trees larger than 10 inches diameter at breast height (DBH); the majority of cut material would be lopped and scattered.

Within young stands, NCT would be completed to improve wildlife habitat, increase growth rates and tree vigor, improve stand resiliency to natural disturbance, and reduce density-related competition. Young stands targeted for NCT are generally <40 years old. Implementation of

NCT would cut trees up to 10 inches DBH and prune residual trees, when practical, up to 6 feet high. Unthinned areas comprising approximately 5% of the stand would be retained to promote spatial diversity. Post-treatment, these stands would retain approximately 70–100 trees per acre.

In mature stands, NCT would be used to facilitate the reintroduction of fire using prescribed fire by reducing density, removing ladder fuels, and increasing canopy base height. NCT implementation would cut understory and intermediate trees up to 10 inches DBH that are adjacent to or overtopped by dominant and codominant trees and prune residual trees up to 6 feet high.

Prescribed fire would be used in non-forested restoration to reduce conifer encroachment, increase productivity in sagebrush and forbs and increase spatial diversity (Bunting et al. 1987).

Thinning would favor retention of early seral species but would retain a mixture of species and variable densities, depending on site-specific objectives. Where reserve trees within plantations receiving this treatment are causing Forest health problems (primarily due to mistletoe [*Arceuthobium* species]), trees may be killed by girdling. Girdled trees would be marked with wildlife tags as necessary to meet desired snag numbers and sizes.

*Treatment intent of NCT:*

- Reduce noncommercial tree densities, increase growth rates, and improve tree vigor.
- Improve stand resiliency to natural disturbance by reducing density-related competition.
- Maintain and promote early seral species with variable densities depending upon site-specific objectives.
- Promote spatial heterogeneity in species diversity (i.e., retention of naturally regenerating aspen or other desired species when present), canopy cover, and density.
- Improve wildlife habitat.
- Expand the opportunity for prescribed fire by changing the fuel profile.
- Reduce fire severity potential and fuel loading prior to prescribed fire.
- Reduce the potential for undesired fire effects (i.e., mortality of legacy trees).
- Aid in the retention of desired leave trees.

### **Whitebark Pine Restoration Treatments**

Treatments identified as whitebark pine restoration treatments will utilize strategies and methods identified by Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS) GRT-361 *Restoring Whitebark Pine Ecosystems in the Face of Climate Change*. Treatments are to include: NCT thinning to remove competition, fuel reduction, fuel augmentation, and regeneration facilitation. GRT-361 (p.95) identifies the critical importance of designing fuel treatments in whitebark pine stands in the context of a whitebark pine restoration treatment. As such, the reduction of canopy and surface fuels should be considered a secondary objective to whitebark pine restoration goals. Thinning treatments are intended to improve vigor and resilience as competition is removed or reduced by mechanical thinning methods. Other types of mechanized treatments, such as mastication, may be used in lieu of or in conjunction with mechanical thinning. Thinning treatments may be followed by prescribed fire treatments in order to remove additional non-whitebark pine, to

reduce canopy and ground fuels, to reduce the risk of non-desirable fire impacts and/or to open up seed caching and seedling establishment sites. Fuel augmentation methods may be utilized prior to application of prescribed fire in order to assist spread over potentially low ground fuel areas. Fuel augmentation involves utilizing fine fuels from thinned material to supplement fuelbeds to assist prescribed burns and to allow for burning activities during more wet conditions. Regeneration facilitation treatments includes the use of artificial regeneration (i.e., tree planting), as well as, treatments (i.e., mechanical and prescribed fire) that would assist natural regeneration by creating conditions conducive to nutcracker seed caching. Artificial regeneration methods should be utilized with white pine blister rust resistant stock (Keane et al. 2017). The goal of all whitebark pine restoration treatments should be to maintain and bolster blister rust-resistant genetics while reducing competition of non-whitebark pine species and improving resiliency of stand to naturally occurring wildfires.

### ***Plan for Restoration Treatments (PVG 11)***

1. Survey for whitebark pine, characterize the level of encroachment by other tree species, measure fuels conditions, and document presence or absence of white pine blister rust and mountain pine beetle
2. Plan restoration activities, based upon management objectives
  - a. Re-introduce whitebark pine
  - b. Promote whitebark pine growth
  - c. No whitebark pine restoration treatment
3. Implement whitebark pine restoration
  - a. Re-introduce whitebark pine
    - i. Create caching/planting sites using one or more of the following methods:
    - ii. Implement thinning or group selection to reduce overall stand canopy closure to 10-30%
    - iii. Augment fuel loading, as needed, to facilitate late fall to early spring broadcast burning activities
    - iv. Implement prescribed burn
    - v. Plant blister rust resistant whitebark pine seedlings
  - b. Promote whitebark pine growth using one or more of the following methods:
    - i. Thin non-whitebark pine, retaining 10-30% total stand canopy closure
    - ii. Augment fuel loading, as needed, to facilitate late fall to early spring broadcast burning activities
    - iii. Implement prescribed burn
    - iv. Plant blister rust resistant whitebark pine seedlings as needed
  - c. No whitebark pine restoration treatment
    - i. Stand is already a quality whitebark pine stand
    - ii. Whitebark pine restoration is not desired
4. Monitor stand development
  - a. Stand surveys on 5-10 year cycle
  - b. Deploy adaptive management measure as needed
    - i. NCT

- ii. Fill-in planting
- iii. Prescribed burn

### **Commercial Treatments—17,500 acres**

Commercial treatments would include intermediate treatments (thinning) and regeneration cutting. Merchantable material would be removed from the site and utilized as markets allow. Where appropriate, noncommercial-sized (e.g., <8 inches DBH) trees would be cut to reduce ladder fuels and promote advanced regeneration. Following tree harvest and NCT, these stands would have prescribed fire applied as described in the prescribed fire section below. Commercial vegetation treatments have been divided into the following categories and are described below.

### **Commercial Thin-Free Thin (CT-FT)—14,240 acres (1,100 acres within the outer half of RCAs)**

CT-FT would allow flexibility to use different thinning methods or an uneven age system for varying stand conditions and objectives. The CF-FT would be accomplished by low thinning (removing trees from the lower crown classes), some crown thinning (removing trees from the dominant and codominant crown classes), free selection (uneven age), and occasional sanitation cutting (removing trees to improve stand health by reducing the anticipated spread of insects or disease, especially mistletoe infections). All RCA harvest treatments would be CT-FT. See Appendix 5 of the FEIS for a complete description of requirements associated with RCA harvest.

These treatments would be completed in areas dominated by mature, vigorous ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and/or western larch with canopy cover >35%.

Following treatment, these stands would be a mosaic of thinned areas, clumps of trees, and small openings. Lower canopy cover (20% to 35% post-treatment canopy cover) would be targeted in PVG 2. Higher canopy cover (30 to 40%) would be the desired post-treatment condition in PVGs 5 and 6 and greater than 40% in any RCAs treated. Portions of stands with natural openings and heavily-thinned areas would have less canopy cover, perhaps as low as 10%, outside RCAs. These openings would eventually develop more canopy cover where seedlings establish and grow. Following prescribed fire, up to an additional 10%, with an average of less than 5%, of the overstory trees would be expected to die. The average canopy cover in these stands after harvest and prescribed fire operations would be between 20% and 40%. Treatments in occupied and priority Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel (NIDGS) habitat could reduce canopy as low as 5%.

*This treatment includes the following specifications:*

- Legacy western larch, ponderosa pine, and Douglas-fir should be retained. See Appendix 7 of the FEIS for legacy tree identification guidelines.
- Seral species (western larch, ponderosa pine, aspen, whitebark pine, and/or Douglas-fir) would be favored for retention over late seral species (e.g., grand fir and subalpine fir), and preference should be given to retention of larger diameter trees.
- Nonlegacy trees >20 inches DBH would be given retention preference. When these trees must be selected for retention or removal, the following guidelines should be utilized:
  - Give preference to larger diameter, vigorous, early seral trees for retention.

- Consider the appropriateness of retaining clumps and/or skips as described below.
- Dwarf mistletoe that cannot be isolated would cause mid- to long-term forest health issues would be removed.
- Trees with lower mistletoe ratings (Hawksworth 1977) would be favored over heavily infested trees. When possible, trees with mistletoe ratings of 0–3 would be favored over trees with ratings of 4–6. When trees with mistletoe ratings of 4–6 can be isolated (i.e., greater than 40 feet from uninfected host trees) while addressing mid- to long-term stand objectives, these infected trees should be retained to meet wildlife objectives.
  - Give preference to retaining tree(s) exhibiting characteristics of high wildlife value (e.g., cavities, stem rot, broken tops with structure for nesting) even if this results in slightly higher than desired stocking.
  - Consider safety concerns when designating trees for retention/removal, including hazard trees in and/or adjacent to campgrounds, dispersed campsites, and roads/trails open to the public.
  - Consider operational concerns when designating trees for retention/removal, including hazard trees, skid trails, skyline corridors, and landings.
  - In large tree size class stands (stands that have 10% or more of the canopy cover that are  $\geq 20$  inches DBH (Forest Plan page A-2)) outside of PVG 7, retain at least 10% of the canopy cover (typically 7-10 trees) in 20-inch DBH or larger trees per acre. PVG 7 has an excess of stands in the large tree size class and would only retain early seral species (e.g., Douglas-fir and western larch)  $\geq 20$ -inch DBH trees. This consideration may require retaining large diameter trees that do not meet the description for preference as described above.
- Retention/removal of nonlegacy late seral species should follow these guidelines:
  - Give preference for retaining late seral species when necessary to meet residual structural objectives (i.e., large tree size class and/or old forest characteristics).
    - Generally, give preference to vigorous, healthy, larger-diameter, late seral trees. Preference to retaining late seral tree(s) exhibiting characteristics of high wildlife value (e.g., cavities, stem rot, broken tops with structure for nesting) should also be given, especially when not common in a stand, even if this results in slightly higher than desired stocking. These would also be good areas in which to consider skips, as described below.
  - Retain late seral trees  $> 20$  inches DBH not meeting merchantability specifications due to damage, poor form, or indicators of rot to meet wildlife objectives.
  - Give preference for removing late-seral (e.g., grand fir, subalpine fir, and/or Douglas-fir [PVG 2]) trees that are causing direct crown/root competition to large diameter and/or vigorous western larch and ponderosa pine.
    - Creation of clumps (small groups retained with spacing closer than desired spacing specifications), skips (areas with higher densities than specified in the rest of the unit that will not have any trees cut), and gaps (areas where the unit will

have a wider average spacing than specified for the rest of the unit) should follow these guidelines:

- Retain clumps of trees, commercial and noncommercial sized, throughout the harvest area to meet wildlife and visual objectives. These clumps would consist of 2-20 or more trees and should be designed to enhance spatial variability within each given stand.
- Design skips consistent with the principles identified in Franklin and Johnson (2013, pp. 81–87). Skips are defined as portions of units not treated mechanically. These skips should not exceed 15% of a stand.
- Create small openings <2.0 acres in areas dominated by grand fir, low-vigor trees, or diseased trees or in areas with a high potential of aspen regeneration. Where aspen are present, conifers could be removed within the aspen stand to improve stand integrity. These openings should not exceed 10% of a stand in a thinning treatment or 25% to 30% of a stand when free selection treatment is implemented and should consider the following recommendations.
  - Removal of all conifers except legacy trees on areas of up to 2.0 acres may be used to stimulate aspen regeneration. In aspen patches, nonlegacy coniferous trees would be removed within 50 feet of the aspen patch. To be considered an aspen patch, an area must have an average spacing of less than 20 feet between stems and be larger than 1/10 acre in size. No aspen treatments would occur in RCAs without approval of District hydrologist or fisheries biologist.
  - In openings outside of aspen patches, a minimum of 5 to 10 trees per acre would be retained, with leave tree preference given to legacy trees; vigorous serals (e.g., ponderosa pine, western larch, and aspen) in the dominant and codominant crown classes; and high wildlife value nonlegacy/late seral species. Secondary preference would be given to dominant late seral trees. These openings should rarely be wider than 50 to 100 feet and be well distributed across the area. Consideration of whether existing openings and the general thinning and fire prescription would create sufficient openings should be taken prior to intentionally creating additional openings.
- Release legacy ponderosa pine and western larch by removing younger trees for approximately twice the canopy drip line of the legacy tree(s). As discussed earlier, overlap of other legacy tree crowns is acceptable, and these other legacy trees should be retained. Release of replacement/future legacy trees/clumps should also be considered. In addition, retention of replacement trees should be considered if a desirable legacy tree replacement is within this area.

*Treatment intent of CT-FT:*

- Maintain and promote large tree forest structure and old forest characteristics while restoring the desired species composition and stand densities.
- Protect and promote legacy ponderosa pine, western larch, and Douglas-fir.
- Promote resiliency, reduce competition, and improve growth rates for remaining trees.

- Improve habitat for wildlife species that require large tree and old forest characteristics with low-to-moderate canopy cover.
- Reduce potential for crown fire initiation and spread should a wildland fire occur.
- Restore a heterogeneous, fine-scale mosaic pattern.
- Regeneration of early seral species (Graham et al. 2006)

### **Regeneration treatments would be PC or MSws — 3,260 acres**

PC treatment would be implemented in stands where approximately 50% of the stand meets the criteria for free thinning. MSw treatment would be implemented primarily in PVGs 5, 6, and 7 in stands with less than 50% of the area meeting free thin criteria with evidence (e.g., legacy trees, stumps, snags) of early seral tree species (e.g., aspen, ponderosa pine, western larch, and/or Douglas-fir) component. See Appendix 5 of the FEIS for a complete description of requirements associated with RCA harvest.

Implementing PCs would allow for regeneration (i.e., PC with reserves ranging from 3 to 10 acres, in less than 50% of a stand). In PCs, approximately 5 to 9 trees per acre would be retained as reserve trees. In MSw treatment areas, approximately 15 to 25 trees per acre would be retained as reserve trees. Artificial or natural regeneration would be used to meet objectives after treatment.

Reserve tree preference would be legacy trees, replacement legacy trees, high-value wildlife trees (i.e., cavities, broken tops with structure for nesting), dominant late serals, and healthy, vigorous early serals in any crown class.

In portions of stands with healthy, vigorous early seral component still remaining, free thinning would be implemented. Free thin treatment would occur as described above.

Following treatment, these stands would be a mosaic of thinned areas, clumps of trees, and small openings. Canopy cover in areas receiving MSw treatment would average 15 to 25%; cover could be over 40% in untreated areas. In created patch cuts, canopy cover would be 5 to 10%, opening size  $\leq 10$  acres in size, and  $\leq 50\%$  of the stand. Following prescribed fire, up to an additional 30%, and an average of 10% of the overstory trees would be expected to die. The average canopy cover in these stands following harvest and prescribed fire operations would be between 10% and 20%. Reducing canopy cover would encourage aspen restoration and no artificial regeneration would occur in areas that meet the criteria for an aspen patch.

#### *Treatment intent of PC and MSw:*

- Restore a heterogeneous fine- and landscape-level scale mosaic pattern by establishing varying patch sizes consistent with spatial patterns that improve forest resilience to disturbance.
- Retain or remove portions of stands that historically would not have been dominated by early seral species as clumps, skips, and gaps.
- Maintain and promote early seral species.
- Reduce stand density.
- Promote old forest characteristics and maintain large tree forest structure in MSw treatments while restoring the desired species composition.

- Enhance legacy ponderosa pine, western larch, and Douglas-fir.

### ***Prescribed Fire and Fuels Treatments (PFT)—67,000 acres***

Proposed prescribed fire would occur on the entire Project area over the next 20 years, excluding the Bear Creek Research Natural Area. Prescribed fire treatment (PFT) on private property adjacent to the project area would only occur if landowner agreements are in place under Wyden amendment or other authority. Commercial activities would be completed prior to applying fire in most cases. Reintroducing 500 to 10,000 acres of fire annually would move forested and nonforested vegetation towards conditions that more closely represent DFCs.

Primary target areas for treatment consist of stands with historically high fire frequencies and lower severities (grasslands and stands dominated by seral species such as ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and western larch). Secondary target areas include stands with historically moderate fire frequency and mixed severity stands comprised of both seral and nonseral species.

A mosaic-like application would reintroduce fire to approximately 75% of treated primary targeted acres and 50% of treated secondary targeted acres. All acres targeted for fire application could be treated with NCT in order to minimize mortality from prescribed fire and aid in moving towards DFCs.

Fire would only be applied to nontarget areas to minimize fire intensities and severities. These stands are comprised of young plantations, stands of historically low frequency and high severity, and stands set aside for other resource concerns or objectives (e.g., wildlife cover). Approximately 20% of nontarget acres located within the proposed prescribed fire areas would be expected to receive fire through backing (low-intensity fire spread without additional lighting). This should not alter overall stand conditions within the nontarget areas.

Prescribed fire would be used to reduce fuel loads and rejuvenate vegetation. Aspen stands in the Project area are in particular need of rejuvenation and regeneration. Coniferous trees have encroached on aspen stands due to the lack of natural fire (Swanson et al. 2010). In the past, fire killed encroaching conifers and induced aspen root sprouting.

Existing barriers to fire spread (barren ridgelines, roads, and trails) would be used where possible to contain prescribed fires within specified boundaries. In areas where existing barriers are insufficient to control fire spread, firelines would be constructed. Constructed firelines would be used only where necessary.

Fire would be ignited by hand or aurally and may occur from early spring to winter. Fire may be applied to tree wells in winter or early spring to reduce fuel accumulation and to reduce the potential for tree mortality during regular prescribed fire. Maintenance of prescribed fire areas (burning after initial application of fire) would occur every 5 to 10 years to maintain DFCs in high-frequency fire regimes. Prescription parameters (wind speed, fuel moisture, smoke dispersion, and other resource area objectives) would influence prescribed fire opportunities. Active ignition would occur within outer half of the RCAs where approved of in advance by the District hydrologist and/or fisheries biologist. Active ignition in riparian vegetation would not occur.

All prescribed fire operations would follow The Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Guide (July 2017 PMS 484) and adhere to national and state air

quality regulations. Specific conditions under which prescribed fire would occur would be described in a prescribed burn plan prior to ignition.

### **Shaded Fuelbreak (SFB) —45 miles**

The SFBs would be created along 45 miles of NFS roads (50002, 50072, 50105, 50106, 50108, 50143, 50145, 501450255, 51575, 51575P, and 50112) and terrain features to provide areas to control large or emerging fires in a safe manner, to support safe travel for firefighter access as well as to facilitate community member escape from a wildland fire. This treatment would involve reducing canopy cover, piling and burning ladder fuels (machine or hand piles), or using a masticator to reduce fuel loading. Thinning would occur up to 250 feet on either side of primary ingress and egress routes. Snags leaning toward and within reach of these travel routes would be felled. Additionally, reduced fuel conditions within this buffer would improve the ability to manage wildfire and prescribed fire along these roadways. This activity would encompass approximately 45 miles of roadway on NFS lands. Another 15 miles of these routes are on private lands. Prescribed fire would, with the approval of the District hydrologist and/or fisheries biologist, be directly applied to portions of the RCAs within the SFB and allowed to back in other portions.

Thinning (commercial and noncommercial), piling (machine or hand), and prescribed fire treatments are proposed in SFBs.

#### *Treatment intent of SFBs:*

- Increase firefighter safety.
- Provide protection for values at risk (wildland urban interface [WUI], private land, past investments).
- Maintain legacy trees while reducing stand densities and ladder fuels.
- Promote resiliency and reduce competition for remaining trees.

### **Treatment Criteria Specific to RCAs**

- Outside Community Protection Zones (CPZs)
  - No direct ignition or thinning within RCAs unless approved by a fish biologist and/or hydrologist.

- Within CPZs

Direct ignitions and NCT would be allowed within RCAs excluding the inner 25 feet adjacent to both perennial and intermittent streams within 50 feet from private property (Figures ROD-2 and ROD-3). This will aid in the application of fire along private property. Approximately 50 streams, originating on NFS lands, flow onto private property across the project area within CPZs (i.e., approximately 32 acres of treatment within RCAs).

- No thinning would occur within 25 feet of intermittent and perennial stream channels
- This thinning would occur up to 50 feet (perpendicular distance) from the private property boundary

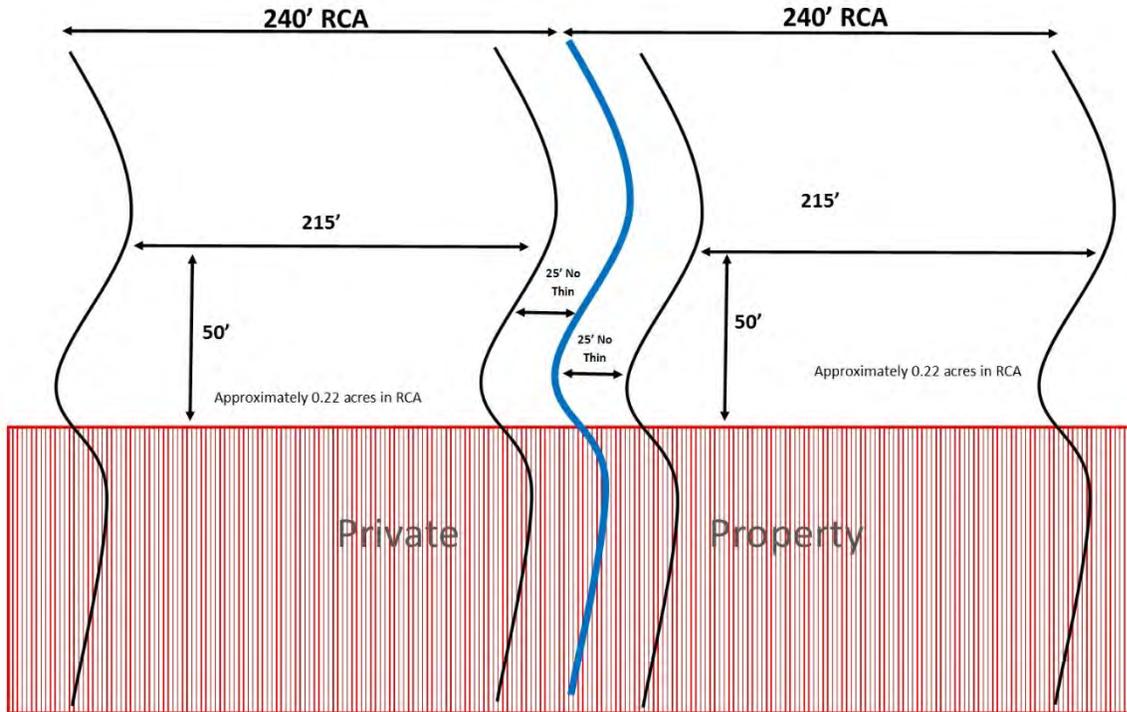


Figure ROD-2. Illustration of proposed RCA treatment along a perennial stream within CPZ.

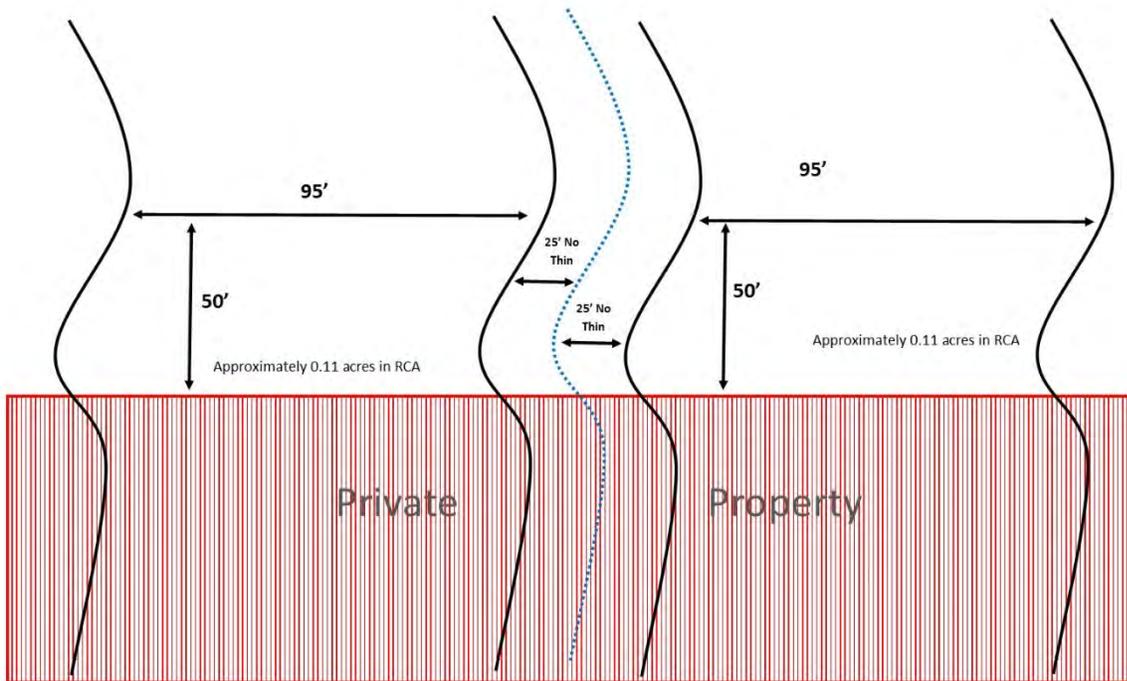


Figure ROD-3. Illustration of proposed RCA treatment along an intermittent stream within CPZ.

### Shaded Fuel Break Treatments within RCAs

NCT and direct ignition would be allowed immediately upslope of the following roadways to improve ingress/egress routes. Intermittent streams intersecting roadways would be treated in a manner similar to Figure ROD-3.

- NFS Road 002
  - Huntley Gulch
  - 1.8 miles of road
- NFS Road 105
  - Indian Creek (from Cuprum, northeast, to where Camp Creek comes into Indian Creek)
  - 4.6 miles of road

### Water Draft Site Improvements within RCAs

NCT would be allowed immediately adjacent to the stream channel to improve or maintain access and visibility. There are two draft sites on NFS lands proposed for treatment. Treatments would not extend beyond 50 feet from draft sites. All treatments would be completed by hand and would not cut trees larger than 5 inches DBH. All efforts will be made to maintain shading to the stream. Upon approval from the District Fisheries Biologist and Hydrologist, slash produced from thinning treatments will be lopped and scattered or removed from RCAs (Slash piling will not occur within RCAs).

- Indian Creek Site
  - Sheep Rock Road Junction (Junction of NFS Roads 50105 and 50106)
- Bear Creek Site
  - Upper Bear Creek (0.6 miles south of Bear GS, Junction of NFS Road 50130 and Bear Creek)

As with the prescribed fire treatments described above, prescribed fire would, with the approval of the District Hydrologist or Fisheries Biologist, be directly applied to portions of the RCAs within the SFB and allowed to back in other portions. Active ignition would occur within the RCA only where soil and water resource conditions would be maintained or improved. Following activities, coarse woody debris (CWD) would be maintained at desired conditions or trend toward desired conditions.

**Table ROD-2. Vegetation treatment summary.**

Type of Vegetation Treatment	Acronym	Total Acres
<b>Noncommercial Treatments</b>		<b>36,150</b>
Noncommercial Thinning	NCT	17,810
Within RCAs		890
Non-Forested Restoration		17,410
Within RCAs		210
Whitebark Pine Restoration	WBP	580
Within RCAs		0
<b>Commercial Treatments</b>		<b>17,500</b>
Commercial Thin-Free Thin	CT-FT	14,240
Within RCAs		1,100
Regeneration (Patch Cut Modified Shelterwood)	PC/MSw	3,260
Within RCAs		0
<b>Total Acres of Vegetation Treatments</b>		<b>53,650</b>
<b>Total Acres of Vegetation Treatments Within RCAs<sup>a</sup></b>		<b>2,200</b>
<b>Total Prescribed Fire Treatments<sup>b</sup></b>	PFT	<b>67,000</b>

Note: All acreages are rounded to the nearest 10 acres, 'within RCAs' are not additional acres but a subset of the treatment type.

<sup>a</sup>Includes the additional 10 acres of treatment from the shaded fuelbreaks described in Alternative 3 of the FEIS.

<sup>b</sup>The PFT is not counted in the grand total of treatment acres due to the overlap of treatment acres with many of the vegetation treatments. The intent is to not exclude areas from prescribed fire use; any private land treatments will be under agreement.

### **Associated Actions**

Several activities associated with implementing these vegetation treatments are necessary.

*Project Induced Road Maintenance*—Road maintenance work on open and closed NFS roads that are used for project activities that may include the following actions, dependent on designated ML: surface blading, culvert and ditch cleaning, removal of encroaching brush, installation of drivable dips or water bars, culvert installation and replacement, culvert removal and crossing stabilization, cut and fill stabilization, and surface replacement. This maintenance would occur on NFS roads used by the Project, both those open for public and/or administrative use, including seasonally open roads, and those designated for long-term storage (ML1).

*Temporary Roads*—Temporary roads are defined as roads authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization, or emergency operation that are not intended to be part of the Forest transportation system; that are not necessary for long-term resource management; that are not forest roads or forest trails; and that are not included in a forest transportation atlas. Both planned and incidental temporary roads would be utilized and fully recontoured after Project implementation (within 3 years of construction). Planned temporary roads are defined as routes identified during the planning process as needed for Project activities. Some of the temporary roads would be newly constructed; however, most of the planned temporary roads will utilize existing roadbeds (unauthorized routes). Up to 24.1 miles of new construction and 40.5 miles of existing unauthorized routes would be used as temporary roads and obliterated after use.

Incidental temporary roads are roads needed to complete vegetation treatments but cannot yet be identified because of the level of site-specificity necessary. These incidental temporary roads would be preferentially located on existing roadbeds if present (unauthorized routes not previously identified) and be obliterated when logging is complete. Incidental temporary roads would require approval by resource specialists prior to construction and would be limited to 7.0 miles or less (not on an existing roadbed) throughout the Project area. Calculating the mileage of incidental roads that may be needed is based on stands identified as having no direct access to existing roads.

*Harvest Residue Management*—Management of forest residues may include machine and hand pile burning, mastication, residue recycling via fuelwood and within-unit residue redistribution, prescribed fire, lop and scatter, and removal for biomass or biochar for energy.

*Site Preparation*—After harvest activities are completed, but prior to planting in proposed areas, site preparation may be completed to reduce competition with seedlings from brush and grass.

*Planting*—Planting of ponderosa pine, rust-resistant whitebark pine, western larch, Douglas-fir, and/or Engelmann spruce seedlings on all proposed regeneration treatments would be completed as necessary to meet desired stocking levels. The species mix would depend on elevation and site conditions. Fencing or tree tubes may be used where necessary, especially in whitebark pine planting units.

*Firewood Availability*—Areas and roads currently closed and used for timber harvest would be evaluated for firewood retrieval, including firewood decks. These areas may be made available for public use for a limited time period. The NFS roads currently closed may be opened for a limited time to the public in the summer for firewood retrieval if resource objectives are met and the road has a minimum of 10 cords of firewood available. Snags identified for retention to meet wildlife habitat needs would be tagged as not to be cut. Roads in long-term closure (ML1) would not be opened. Areas not meeting the minimum number of snags as defined in the Forest Plan (USDA Forest Service 2003a) would not be opened.

## **Watershed Improvement, Restoration Treatments, and Transportation Management**

Road treatments proposed for this Project were developed using the Travel Analysis Process documented in the TAR for the Forest completed in 2015 (USDA Forest Service 2015d) and refined during Project level planning. Changes to the NFS road network are proposed to reduce road-related impacts to water quality and fish habitat, as well as reduce overall road density and comply with the Travel Rule (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, and 295, 2005) requirement of establishing a MRS.

Roads that are recommended to remain on the landscape as part of the MRS would be maintained and/or improved to reduce sediment production (guided by recommendations from field surveys and sediment modeling). AOP would be improved at eight crossings as described below. The NFS roads and unauthorized routes identified as not needed for future management or access are proposed for decommissioning.

The NFS road treatments proposed throughout the Project area include maintenance and/or improvement.

**Long-term Closure of Roads—64.8 miles**

NFS roads that were either known to resource specialists as high-priority candidates for long-term closure (e.g., located within an RCA or known to be contributing sediment to streams) and were identified as unneeded for a period of at least 30 years would be put into long-term closure (total of 64.8 miles; Table ROD-3). To improve the condition of these roads, work includes scarifying (if needed), installing cross-ditches, removing culverts or constructing a dip down gradient on the road surface, and establishing vegetation at stream crossings, and blocking or recontouring the entrance. This would both reduce impacts on watershed function and save road maintenance funds, enabling maintenance-free storage of the road.

**Road Decommissioning—172.5 miles**

Based on the best available data from field surveys collected over the summers of 2015 through 2017, decommissioning treatments proposed range from full recontour to spot treating isolated areas such as stream crossings on roads that have little to no defined prism and have recovered based on the professional judgment of the District hydrologist or soil scientist to a point where features blend with the surrounding terrain and hydrologic and soil functions are largely restored. Natural recovery is not a common occurrence, and usually these “recovered roads” are legacy, non-engineered skid trails or temporary roads that were never recontoured following past management activities. Roads that were engineered (prism and drainage structures present) require treatment to restore natural physical and biological processes (Lloyd et al. 2013). A subset of unauthorized roads with no drainage structures and little to no cut and fill, where vegetation has recovered to the point it is difficult to distinguish the road from surrounding terrain, are proposed as “abandon”; no further treatment is recommended. Road treatments are specified in Appendix 2 of the FEIS.

Approximately 23.8 miles of roads identified for decommissioning that were also recognized during planning for administration of grazing permits (i.e., as stock driveways or access to range improvements) would be treated to allow passage of cattle and provide for other necessary grazing permit activities but would only be designed for motorized access, such as limited all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or motorcycle use for salting, in rare instances. The maximum restoration of soil-hydrologic function would be achieved while providing access to grazing permittees as well as a barrier to unauthorized use, which would result in decompaction of most of the road surface and a remnant path wide enough for livestock passage and grazing permit activities. These roads are exceptions to the description of road treatments above; they would be closed to public use and be incorporated into the grazing annual operating instructions as authorized infrastructure for use by the permittee only. These roads are identified in the Project data and Appendix 2 of the FEIS.

Approximately 172.5 miles of road would be decommissioned, including 49.1 miles of NFS roads and 123.4 miles of unauthorized routes (Table ROD-3). A total of 58.3 miles of routes proposed for decommissioning are located within RCAs, including 13.4 miles of NFS roads and 44.9 miles of unauthorized routes (Table ROD-3).

**Road Reconstruction—30.7 miles**

Road reconstruction in the Project area includes any activity that improves or realigns an existing NFS road as defined below:

- Road improvement—Activity that results in an increase of an existing road’s traffic service level, expansion of its capacity or a change in its original design function.
- Road realignment—Activity that results in a new location of an existing road or portions of an existing road and treatment (decommissioning) of the old roadway.

*Road Improvement—18.9 miles*

Approximately 18.9 miles of road would have crushed aggregate or gravel added to improve the road surface and reduce stream impacts from sedimentation. This activity would be completed on sections of the following NFS roads: 50105 (Landore Road), 50110 (Bear Creek Road), 50129 (Cold Springs Road), 50130 (Bessie Gulch Road), 50144 (Hoo Hoo Gulch Road), 50640 (Fawn Creek Road), and several newly constructed reroutes. Roads with gravel added within RCAs total 8.6 miles.

In addition to the areas identified above, spot graveling of roads would occur at crossings, dips, and soft spots where needed.

*Road Realignment (Reroutes)—3.8 miles*

To reduce sediment and other road effects on water quality and riparian habitat, 13.0 miles of existing NFS road would be realigned away from RCAs, of which 6.8 miles would be decommissioned within RCAs; 3.8 miles of road would be constructed in the realignment (0.5 miles within RCAs) for a net decrease of 9.2 miles of road. Roads to be realigned include segments of the following NFS roads: 50064, 50130, 50141, 50144, 50506, 50630, 50717, 50984, and 51808.

*Add to System Roads—8.0 miles*

Unauthorized routes identified as being needed for present and future management as well as public access will be included in the Forest Service Road Atlas as NFS roads. Several of the routes added provided access to dispersed camping sites and were longer than 300 feet from a System road. A total of 8.0 miles of unauthorized routes have been identified for adding to the System, of which 0.9 miles are in RCAs. All roads would be brought up to the appropriate maintenance level indicating road improvement and included in the road reconstruction total above.

**Table ROD-3. Soil, water, riparian, and aquatic resource improvement treatment summary and other transportation management actions.**

Type of Treatment	Miles or Number
Long-term Closure	64.8 miles
Long-term Closure in RCAs	10.0 miles
Total Road Decommissioning	172.5 miles
National Forest System Road Decommissioning	49.1 miles
Unauthorized Route Decommissioning	123.4 miles
Total Road Decommissioning in RCAs	58.3 miles
National Forest System Road Decommissioning	13.4 miles
Unauthorized Route Decommissioning	44.9 miles
Add to System Roads	8.0 miles
Add to System in RCAs	0.9 miles
New Construction	0.3 miles
Road Realignment (Reroutes)	3.8 miles
Road Realignment in RCAs	0.5 miles
Surfacing (adding gravel or rock)	18.9 miles
Surfacing in RCAs	8.6 miles
Aquatic Organism Passage/Habitat Connectivity	8 culverts
Note: All road miles are based on GIS data rounded to the nearest 0.1 mile	

**AOP/Habitat Connectivity**

Eight culverts that restrict proper hydrologic function and passage of fish and other aquatic organisms have been identified for replacement or removal (Table ROD-3):

**Indian Creek Subwatershed**

- 1) NFS Road 50362 at Garnet Creek

**Bear Creek Subwatershed**

- 2) NFS Road 50984 at Bessie Gulch

**Lick Creek Subwatershed**

- 3) NFS Road 50143 at Hoo Hoo Gulch
- 4) NFS Road 50144 at Hoo Hoo Gulch
- 5) NFS Road 50764 at Hoo Hoo Gulch
- 6) NFS Road 50751 at Butterfield Gulch
- 7) NFS Road 50121 at Deer Creek
- 8) NFS Road 50121 at Doe Creek

**Table ROD-4. Fish passage barriers identified for replacement or removal in the Huckleberry Project in each 6th level subwatershed.**

Subwatershed	# of Fish Passage Barriers Identified for Replacement	WCI Rating
Indian Creek	1	FUR
Bear Creek	1	FR
Lick Creek	6	FUR

Temporary crossings such as culverts or bridges (unless otherwise approved by the Forest Service) would be installed where planned temporary roads cross intermittent or perennial streams or on closed system roads where culverts have been removed. Where fish passage is needed (SWST08), AOP would be provided.

#### *Soil Restoration*

Improvement of soil productivity would be achieved on currently impaired and disturbed areas that receive soil rehabilitation treatments. These areas could include skid trails, landings, NFS roads, and unauthorized routes or other areas in an unproductive condition. Reducing compaction and rutting; increasing infiltration; and adding woody debris, organic matter, and native vegetation would be the primary techniques to improve soil quality and function. Equipment would be used to decompact soils, recontour excavated areas, and add organic material as cover for stabilization and support for revegetation. These soil improvement activities would enhance soil productivity in the project area and contribute to reductions in total soil resource commitment (TSRC) and detrimental soil disturbance (DD).

#### **Other Road Actions**

Thirteen sources of material are identified and would be used for road improvement (Table ROD-5). Road surface material sources will be the same in each of the action alternatives.

**Table ROD-5. Material to be used for road improvement, including the source, location, access road, material type, and planned development.**

Material Source	Location	Access Road	Material Type	Existing / Planned Acres
Grouse Fawn 2 (121-0019b)	T19N, R2W, S10	50123	Basalt – Pitrun/Crush	0/5
Deer Hornet (121-0087s)	T19N, R2W, S29	50507	Basalt	3/5
Lick Creek (121-0020)	T19N, R2W, S5	50123	Basalt	1/5
Bull Ridge (121-0107)	T19N, R3W, S7	51644	Basalt – Crush	0/5
Unnamed (121-0053)	T20N, R2W, S18	50678	Alluvial – Crush	0/5
Steve's Creek (121-0124)	T20N, R2W, S19	50141	Basalt	0/5
Unnamed (121-0050)	T20N, R2W, S7	50105	Alluvial - Crush	1/5
Black Lake Junction	T20N, R3W, S1	501053200	Basalt - Pitrun/Crush	1/5
Unnamed (121-0056)	T20N, R3W, S22	50145	Basalt - Pitrun/Crush	0/5
Unnamed (121-0055)	T20N, R3W, S28	500710400	Basalt	3/5
Flat Creek	T20N, R3W, S32	51635	Basalt	0/5
Windy Ridge (121-0021)	T20N, R4W, S24	500722200	Metamorphic	1/5
Lockwood Saddle (121-0004s)	T21N, R3W, S25	50108	Metamorphic - Crush	0/5

## Recreation

Recreational use levels within the Project area are relatively low in the spring and winter, moderate during the summer, and higher in the fall, during hunting seasons. One developed campground, Huckleberry, is located in the Project area, and additional camping occurs in dispersed sites adjacent to open roads. The project area contains non-motorized trails, two-wheel motorized trails, and one relatively short ATV trail. Recreation personnel have observed regular trail use, though use levels are lower than in more urban-proximate or tourism destination settings. Use levels are highest during fall big game hunting seasons. Trail improvement, trail realignments, trail reestablishments, trail reroutes, and installation of drainage and erosion mitigation structures will all be used as necessary to bring trails back to NFS standards. In addition, trailheads for trails 226, 231, and 229 will be improved with signage, small delineated parking areas, and establishment of distinct trailheads. This may involve relocation from existing trailhead locations.

### Developed and Dispersed Recreation Improvements

#### Huckleberry Campground

- Replace the existing fee tube, install accessible tables, and build an accessible pathway to the water system.
- Gravel the main campground loop road and widen the turnaround loop to accommodate larger recreational vehicles (RVs).
- Repair or replace the non-functional existing well and water system. This may include construction of a new well or spring box and installation of piping necessary to bring potable water into the campground.
- Replace campground fence with split rail or buck and rail fence around the campground perimeter.

#### Bear Creek Trailhead Improvements

The existing restroom at Bear Creek Trailhead is a single unit vault toilet in poor condition and is of an outdated design. It will be replaced with a modern precast concrete single unit vault toilet.

In addition, hitching rails, metal fire rings, new trail signs, and a kiosk to display a map of the area's trail system will be installed at the trailhead site.

#### Smith Mountain Lookout

Smith Mountain Lookout—an unused fire lookout that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places—is located at the summit of Smith Mountain within the Project area. Should funding become available and if work to repair and maintain it is within the capacity of Forest personnel, it will be restored to safe and historically appropriate conditions for future use as a rental cabin. This may include construction of a small parking area near or at the lookout or at a location further from the lookout, necessitating recreationists walk in to the facility. In addition, a new restroom would be installed at the closest feasible location to the lookout.

#### Road Decommissioning and Dispersed Recreation

Roads identified for decommissioning that intersect open or seasonally-open roads would be evaluated for dispersed camping or other recreation opportunities. Motorized access in these sites

would be limited to areas within 300 feet of the intersecting open road in cases where no resource concerns are identified. While many sites would be intended to accommodate motorized “car camping,” some may be constructed to facilitate walk-in camping, if topography, the type of road decommissioning used, and vegetation characteristics make this feasible. Here, a walking path would be constructed from the end of the remaining spur to a cleared camping area.

#### Road 50143, Lick Creek Road

Travel management signage would be placed on the road as it enters NFS lands stating that camping is allowed only in designated sites. Signage may also be added at other points along this road system to provide clear guidance to visitors.

#### Trail Open to All Vehicles at Lynes Point and Associated Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) Changes

A 2.2-mile-long TOAV would be constructed between Lynes Point and the east (upper) end of Kleinschmidt Grade using unauthorized roads 515399000 and 500720800. This would include rerouting and introduction of drainage structures to mitigate steeper grades.

Addition of this trail will necessitate reclassification of the ROS status of approximately 260 acres from Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized (SPNM) to Semi-Primitive Motorized (SPM) in order to accurately reflect this newly authorized motorized use. This is directly adjacent and in addition to the change of 246 acres from SPNM to Roaded Modified (RM) discussed under *Selected Alternative*, above. SPNM land within 0.25 miles of the TOAV would be reclassified as SPM.

#### *Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Travel Opportunities*

##### Butterfield Gulch to Grouse Creek Route

A seasonally open OHV loop opportunity would be created by opening unauthorized road numbers 505715000 and 507594000, thereby connecting 50571, 50758, and 50759. This would create an opportunity for scenic driving between Butterfield Gulch and Grouse Creek in a large loop. The route would be open to public use between May 15 and September 30. These routes will be classified as NFS roads.

##### Dispersed Camping and Recreation Sites

Dispersed use sites with identified resource concerns would be hardened or have vehicle barriers installed as a means of limiting access to ensure use may continue without unacceptable biophysical impacts. In cases where this use is incompatible with recreation use (e.g., occupied NIDGS sites), some dispersed sites may be closed to public use and have barriers installed.

Five existing dispersed campsites were identified by recreation personnel that lie more than 300 feet from an open road (see map in Appendix 1 of the FEIS), making occupancy with motor vehicles a violation of existing travel management regulations. Routes used to access these sites would be added to the Forest’s open road system to provide for continued use by the public.

#### **Trail Improvements**

The 34.7 miles of system trails within the project area would be brought up to defined trail class standards. This work would include trail maintenance, trail reestablishment, trail reroutes, installation of directional and identification signage, and installation of drainage features and

structures such as rock walls as necessary for trail sustainability. The following paragraphs detail more specific trails proposals.

#### Trail 231, Lick Creek Ridge

Road improvement work is needed to access Trail 231. The trailhead location is not ideal, at the endpoint of a road with a rutted surface. The first 2.5 miles of the trail lay on a continuation of this roadbed, which is set almost immediately adjacent to the Hoo Hoo Gulch stream channel. The trailhead would be relocated approximately ½ mile to the south to allow safe vehicle turnaround. If feasible, the turnaround would be large enough to accommodate a horse trailer. Erosion and sediment delivery from the trail would be addressed with a mixture of drainage feature construction, trail tread correction, and trail reroutes out of the drainage bottom, as necessary. Creek crossings would have culverts removed and replaced with either hardened crossings or bridges, as dictated by topography and flow regimes.

#### Trail 229, Upper Lick Creek

Because a defined parking area and trailhead pullout are lacking at Trail 229, the trailhead would be relocated away from the end of the seasonally open segment of road 50129. The trail currently continues on both sides of the road and connects to unauthorized road 50129X611. This section of trail (between 50129X611 and 50129) is excessively steep and would be rerouted to a trailhead location lower on 50129, where the road is open year-round (see project maps). The short, 0.6-mile section of seasonal system road 50129 beyond this point would be closed on a year-round basis. Keeping this short section of road open has little value for recreation or forest access purposes. Segments of trail no longer needed due to reroutes would be rehabilitated.

#### Trail 226, Little Bear Creek, Reconstruction and Designation Change

Currently, this trail is accessed on its south end via a closed system road with no closure mechanism. This road will be officially opened to public use and signed as trailhead access. In addition, a basic trailhead with parking and turnaround space will be constructed at this south end of the trail with new signage. Reroutes and reconstruction are necessary at several locations along this trail. The trail is currently diverted onto a section of road 51799. The trail would be reconstructed/ rerouted off the road prism or appropriate directional signage will be installed.

Currently, 1.4 miles on the northwestern end are designated open to two-wheel motorized, while the remaining 4.0 miles are designated non-motorized. This 1.4-mile segment forms an out-and-back with no further opportunity for motor vehicle authorized by the motor vehicle use map. The trail would be changed to a non-motorized designation for its entire length. Motorcycle access to this area is already provided by trail 517, located approximately 0.5 miles to the north, which provides a large network of open two-wheel motorized route connections.

#### Trail 293, Decorah

This trail and the underlying closed system road may be rerouted to avoid crossing Garnet Creek if this can be achieved with acceptable pitch and turn radius. The underlying road would be opened to all vehicles removing the need for this route as part of the trail system. Functionally, this would convert the route from one open to vehicles 50 inches or less in width to one open to all vehicles.

### Trail 228, Upper Bear Creek, Improvement and Bridges

In order to mitigate sediment delivery to bull trout spawning habitat and restore more natural channel dimensions and vegetation, trail bridges would be constructed at crossings of Mickey and Wesley Creeks. Erosion on the north side of the Wesley Creek crossing would be addressed with a mixture of hardening and rerouting of the trail and may include relocating the crossing to a new site.

### Trails 227 (Upper Indian Creek), 228 (Upper Bear Creek), and 230 (Mickey Creek), Junctions with Closed Routes

These trails are all currently open to two-wheeled motorized use and intersect closed road systems. Trail 230 crosses three closed roads (50984, a closed portion of 50130, and 50986). Trail 228 crosses closed road 50983 and a closed portion of 50130. Trail 227 crosses unauthorized road 501056000. In addition to this situation presenting route finding problems for trail users, it has the potential to introduce motorcycle users into road systems closed to motor vehicles—many motorcycle recreationists may not even realize their use of these roads would be unauthorized. To remedy this, more effective closure mechanisms would be constructed at junctions with closed roads and route-finding signage would be installed as necessary. The unauthorized route would be decommissioned.

### *ROS Changes*

An area of approximately 246 acres in the area immediately surrounding open system road 51539 is currently classified as SPNM (see Chapter 1 of the FEIS and Appendix F of the Forest Plan for a description of ROS classifications). This classification is not consistent with the current on-the-ground situation. The area would be reclassified as RM to accurately reflect the existing conditions and provide consistency with adjacent roaded lands. See the Recreation Specialist Report for more detailed discussion of ROS classifications in the project area.

## **Rapid River, Indian Creek, and Hells Canyon/Seven Devils Scenic IRAs**

### Rapid River IRA (Classification: Wildland Recreation)

Within the project area, no unauthorized or NFS roads lie in the Rapid River IRA. Within the Project area, 11.1 miles of two-wheel motorized trail and 2.8 miles of non-motorized trail are located inside the IRA.

The following activities are proposed within the IRA:

- The northeastern segment of Trail 226 would be converted from two-wheel motorized to non-motorized. This would include conversion of 1.2 miles of trail within the IRA.
- Trail improvements would be implemented to bring two-wheel motorized trails 517, 228, 229, 230, and 231 up to standard including rerouting, drainage structure installation, hardening or bridging water crossings, and addition and replacement of trail signage. This includes work on all 10.0 miles of trails.
- Trail improvements would be implemented to bring non-motorized trails 226, 229, 286, 358, and 516 up to standard including rerouting, drainage structure installation, hardening or bridging water crossings, and addition and replacement of trail signage. This includes work on 4.0 miles of trails.

- Smith Mountain Lookout may be converted into a rental cabin if implementation proves feasible. The boundary for this IRA is the ridge upon which the lookout is located.

#### Hells Canyon/Seven Devils Scenic IRA (Classification: Primitive)

Within the project area, 0.9 miles of unauthorized road lie inside the Hells Canyon/Seven Devils Scenic IRA. Within the project area, 3.0 miles of NFS two-wheel motorized trail lie inside the IRA.

The following activities are proposed within the IRA:

- Trail work to bring all 3.0 miles of two-wheel motorized trail 217 up to standard including rerouting, drainage structure installation, hardening or bridging water crossings, and addition and replacement of trail signage.
- 0.9 miles of unauthorized road exists within Hells Canyon/Seven Devils Scenic IRA. This would be decommissioned using a full recontour treatment.

#### Indian Creek IRA (Classification: Primitive)

Within the Project area, 4.5 miles of unauthorized road and 1.6 miles of NFS roads lie within the Indian Creek IRA. The following activities are proposed within the IRA:

- 1.0 miles of unauthorized road would be decommissioned and outsloped 20%.
- 0.6 miles of unauthorized road would be decommissioned and outsloped 20% with livestock permittee coordination.
- 0.6 miles of unauthorized road would be decommissioned and outsloped 20% with permittee coordination, leaving an ATV travel route for permittee use.
- 2.0 miles of unauthorized road would be decommissioned by abandonment.
- 0.1 miles of unauthorized road would be decommissioned using spot treatments to mitigate resource impacts.
- 0.2 miles of NFS Road (50897) currently closed to public motor vehicle use would be decommissioned using full recontour obliteration.
- 1.4 miles of NFS Road (50072) within the project area currently seasonally open would be closed to public use on a year-round basis but remain on the system. (The total length of the seasonally open road segment 3.5 miles, 3.4 of which would be closed on a year-round basis). This road skirts the northern boundary of the IRA. This will decrease or eliminate future prohibited motor vehicle use of connected unauthorized routes by the public.
- 0.1 miles of NFS Road (50072) would remain open, due to use of the most effective location for the closure gate. This road skirts the northern boundary of the IRA.

#### **Bear Creek RNA**

Trail 228 runs through the Bear Creek RNA for approximately 0.9 miles. Trail maintenance in the RNA would consist of restoring proper trail clearing width, installing drainage features, restoring trail tread and proper outslope, and reroutes as necessary to address erosion and sediment delivery to adjacent stream channels. All 0.9 miles within the RNA would receive maintenance to bring the trail up to standards. Work to address sediment delivery to Bear Creek would be performed on the trail including construction of a bridge to the crossing of Wesley

Creek and rerouting the northern approach to the creek crossing, which would include restoration of the substantial gully along this approach. Rerouting may add as much as 0.3 miles to the length of trail within the RNA due to an excessively steep grade on the existing approach to the Wesley Creek crossing.

## Changes between the Draft and Final EIS

In addition to minor edits and corrections to the DEIS, tables and parts of the text containing road mileages were updated to reflect roads that were omitted that weaved in and out of the Project area. This error occurred when computing road mileage totals for the DEIS because only roads and unauthorized routes that occurred in Bear, Indian, and Lick Creek subwatersheds were counted. This resulted in excluding many miles of road that were on ridgetops and entered other subwatersheds not specifically analyzed in the Watershed analysis. As such, updated road mileages have increased slightly for most categories in the FEIS and now include all roads associated with the Project for actions proposed by alternative.

An error to the elk security analysis was corrected in the FEIS. The change in designation of a trail, from two wheel motorized to non-motorized (trail # 226), resulted in a larger security area that was not previously displayed on the maps and tables in the Wildlife Resources section of Chapter 3. Figures and tables were updated to reflect this change.

An appendix (Appendix 8 -Response to Comments) was added to the FEIS that documents the Forest's response to comments received during the 45-day public comment period from the release of the DEIS. Responses to comments specify any additional changes made to the DEIS in order to respond to the specific comments.

## Rationale for Decision

### Why was the *Selected Alternative* Chosen?

Based on a review of the FEIS and Project record, I have decided to implement the *Selected Alternative* because it best meets the Project objectives while remaining sensitive to the issues and concerns identified in the FEIS and through internal and external comment. The *Selected Alternative* addresses the Purpose and Need for the Project by moving vegetation towards desired conditions in the long term, with improvement of habitat for NIDGS and species associated with dry ponderosa pine forests, such as the white-headed woodpecker, in concert with the need for watershed and fisheries restoration activities to improve bull trout habitat. In addition, the *Selected Alternative* best reduces the risk of uncharacteristic and undesirable wildfire and protects key ingress / egress routes for public and fire fighter safety, implements restoration activities in all subwatersheds that will move the soil, water, riparian, and aquatic resources (SWRA) resource conditions toward desired conditions, and authorizes recreation management activities that improve recreational opportunities while providing for improved safety, sanitation and public health. The *Selected Alternative* will also contribute to the economic vitality of the communities adjacent to the Forest.

I have confidence that my decision to implement the *Selected Alternative* affirmatively addresses and fulfills the Purpose and Need for action, is responsive to the comments received on the DEIS, and is consistent with the Forest Plan.

I have considered the best available scientific information. My decision will maintain or promote large tree size class (LTSC) on over 17,000 acres and emphasizes improving habitat for the threatened NIDGS and sensitive wildlife species such as the white-headed woodpecker. My decision also maintains habitat for other sensitive and listed species.

My decision will improve conditions for SWRA resources. Road densities will decrease across all subwatersheds through 172.5 miles of NFS road and unauthorized route decommissioning. Because of private land ownership within the Project area and the need to provide access for future management activities, it was not possible to meet the road density recommended in the Forest Plan but it will be a substantial improvement from the existing condition. The total road density for the Project area will be 2.9 miles per square mile for all ownership and 2.6 miles per square mile on NFS land only. The reduction in road density is between 1.0 and 2.6 miles per square mile among subwatersheds for NFS lands only and between 0.9 and 2.2 for all ownership.

The *Selected Alternative* includes recreation improvements to developed and dispersed sites needed within the Project area. My decision will maintain access for motorized recreation at the current level with some changes in motor vehicle designations. Several trailheads will be improved with new signage and infrastructure as well as sections of some trails being rerouted to reduce impacts to streams. Also included is the maintenance to the 36.1 miles of trails within the Project area.

My decision also took into consideration cumulative effects. The Project area is used by many recreationists and contains valuable resources including the habitat for wildlife and fish species, soil and watershed resources, and other natural resources. Many past, present, and future projects, as described in Appendix 3 and Chapter 3 of the FEIS, were considered while developing this Project, in the design PDFs and mitigation measures, and in making this decision.

## **How the *Selected Alternative* Responds to the Purpose and Need**

The Purpose and Need for the Project is disclosed in Section 1.1.1 of the FEIS. The FEIS provided detailed objectives in Section 1.5 that were elements of the Purpose and Need that the Project was designed to address. The IDT developed quantifiable measurements for each objective. These measurements are discussed below to demonstrate how the *Selected Alternative* responds to each Purpose and Need statement.

### ***Purpose and Need 1:***

*Move vegetation toward the desired conditions defined in the Forest Plan and in the most recent science addressing restoration and management of wildlife habitat, with an emphasis on:*

- *Improving habitat for specific wildlife species of concern such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed NIDGS and species dependent on dry coniferous forests (e.g., white-headed woodpecker), while maintaining habitat for other Forest sensitive and ESA-listed species;*
- *Maintaining and promoting large tree forest structure, early seral species composition (e.g., aspen, western larch, ponderosa pine, and Douglas-fir) and forest resiliency;*

- *Reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildland fire, with an emphasis on restoring and maintaining desirable plant community attributes including fuel levels, fire regimes, and other ecological processes;*
- *Moving forest stands toward desired conditions as described in the Forest Plan by returning fire to the ecosystem; promoting the development of large tree forest structures mixed with a mosaic of size classes; and improving growth, species composition, and resiliency to insects, disease, and fire.*

## **Vegetation**

The Project area is composed primarily of forest types that were historically maintained by relatively frequent, low-to-mixed severity fire. Historically, a significant portion of the forest in the Project area was composed of stands with medium and large tree structure, as well as some stands with old forest habitat characteristics. Species composition in much of the Project area was historically dominated by early seral species, such as ponderosa pine, western larch, and aspen, and canopy closures were relatively open. Spatial patterns in these forest types varied but were historically more heterogeneous than existing conditions.

The vegetation objective responding the purpose and need statement is: Move vegetation toward the desired conditions, with an emphasis on promoting large tree forest structure, early seral species composition, and forest resiliency.

As disclosed in the FEIS Chapter 3 (Section 3.2.4), the current vegetative conditions are departed from the desired conditions. Within the Project area, the primary differences between the current and desired conditions for vegetation include: less LTSC than desired, especially in drier forest types; higher stand densities than desired; and an underrepresentation of early seral species, especially western larch, aspen, and ponderosa pine. The vegetation objective responding the purpose and need statement is: Move vegetation toward the desired conditions, with an emphasis on promoting large tree forest structure, early seral species composition, and forest resiliency.

The *Selected Alternative* addresses the discrepancies between the existing and desired conditions by proposing treatments that reduce stand densities and emphasize the retention of tree species and sizes that will aid in moving toward the desired conditions. My decision allows for manipulation of vegetation by thinning (both commercial and noncommercial) on 50,390 acres, regeneration treatments on up to 3,260 acres, and prescribed burning on 67,000 acres. This will maintain and promote over 17,000 acres to the large tree size class and over 34,000 acres maintain and promote desired species composition. The design of these treatments and associated PDFs took into consideration the desired conditions, ecological functions and processes, and other resource concerns, and is consistent with the underlying most current philosophy and science regarding conservation of wildlife species and habitats for species of greatest concern (referenced in the Project record).

The *Selected Alternative* also includes all the identified treatments that emphasize whitebark pine restoration and non-forested restoration treatments. I considered these treatments important to meet the Purpose and Need for maintaining this declining species and non-forested habitats within the Project area.

## Fire and Fuels

The objectives for Fire and Fuels (FEIS Section 1.5.1.2) includes restoring and maintaining desirable fuels levels, fire regimes, and ecological processes as measured by the amount of departure from historic fire regimes. Also included is to establish and maintain strategically placed SFBs to improve firefighter and public safety and to improve the defensible space adjacent to private lands through creation of CPZs in the Project area. The *Selected Alternative* would substantially improve fire regimes conditions across 48,890 acres where both thinning and fire are prescribed. As such, 73% of the Project area will have significant improvement in the fire regimes post implementation. It also establishes 45 miles of SFBs along primary ingress/egress routes.

Use of prescribed fire will help maintain forest conditions and natural processes within and outside the harvested areas. The *Selected Alternative* will restore fire regimes within the Project area by altering predicted fire types from conditional/active crown fires to primarily surface fires with passive crown fires. Additionally, my decision will restore vegetative structure and composition as well through the managed use of fire and will improve the integrity of the landscape and its resilience to wildland fires.

Where stand structure and species composition would be altered mechanically or by hand to meet Forest Plan desired conditions and where fire is reintroduced, fire regimes are expected to move towards historic conditions at the greatest rate.

## Wildlife

The *Selected Alternative* benefits Family 1 species, including white-headed woodpecker, through vegetation treatments that restore habitat. As disclosed in the FEIS (Section 3.4.6.2) under the No Action alternative, only 1,217 acres of modeled habitat for white-headed woodpecker currently exist in the Project area. The quantity of Family 1 habitat is modeled by acres of PVG 2, 5, and portions of 6 in the LTSC and low canopy cover class. The *Selected Alternative* will increase modeled habitat for white-headed woodpeckers up to approximately 11,600 acres immediately post-harvest. Although the habitat model for white-headed woodpeckers focuses on the LTSC, treatments in the medium tree size class will allow these stands to grow more rapidly into the LTSC with the low canopy cover preferred by this species. This will result in another 10,000 acres of habitat for the species in the mid term (15–30 years). Treatments will also improve the size and distribution of habitat patches compared with current conditions. Forest treatments should include clumps of trees, as well as small openings that mimic the heterogeneity of historical conditions.

My decision balances the need to maintain habitat for other species. Family 2 species use mixed conifer forests in medium and large tree size classes and generally moderate canopy cover classes. Habitat for Family 2 species will decrease as forests are thinned to restore open canopy, seral large-tree habitats, but it is still predicted to remain widespread. For example, about 5,000 acres of habitat for the pileated woodpecker (a Family 2 focal species and a Forest management indicator species [MIS]) will remain in the Project area following treatments. However, habitat for Family 2 species is expected to increase over time as many medium-size forests grow larger and denser.

The *Selected Alternative* increases total elk security when looking at open and seasonal roads. While it doesn't increase the number of elk security areas it does increase the total number of acres of the same four elk security areas by over 1,300 acres.

In addition, the Selected Alternative improves habitat for NIDGS and bull trout while maintaining habitat for lynx and wolverine.

### **Opposing Science**

My decision has been made with the recognition that there are conflicting opinions, uncertainty, and opposing scientific views regarding some of the restoration strategies included in the *Selected Alternative*. While I recognize that the vegetation treatments in the *Selected Alternative* will not satisfy all interested parties, I feel they provide a balance between achievement of the Project Purpose and Need with issues and concerns. Indeed, if no treatments were implemented the Project area would continue to diverge from desired conditions. I also believe that treatment of the acreage identified in the *Selected Alternative* better responds to the issues and balances the restoration opportunities with the uncertainty regarding historical fire regimes in mixed conifer forests (Kennedy and Fontaine 2009; Stine et al. 2013).

I acknowledge that the science regarding vegetative treatments in RCAs is still developing and that a level of uncertainty exists with such treatments. The *Selected Alternative* includes 2,200 acres of RCA treatments and would move vegetation conditions within these RCAs towards desired conditions as defined in Appendix A of the Forest Plan. All RCA treatments would be in the outer half of the RCA, except for along SFBs and in CPZ. I fully considered all of the science balanced with the need for treatment when determining vegetative RCA treatments and associated mitigations in the *Selected Alternative*. As a result, my decision includes the placement of RCA treatment units in drier forest types, incorporation of PDFs to protect all riparian resource values, and monitoring requirements associated with these vegetative treatments in RCAs.

My decision also considers the science regarding which old trees and large trees to retain along with the best method(s) to achieve these conditions. I believe that the incorporation of PDFs and clarification of treatment specifications provided between the DEIS and FEIS, in Appendix 7 – Legacy Tree Guide, and included in the *Selected Alternative*, will successfully retain adequate old trees, large trees, and stocking levels necessary to move toward the desired conditions.

As noted in the description of the *Selected Alternative*, I anticipate that additional ground verification and application of necessary PDFs (such as protection of nest sites) may reduce commercial treatments by 10–40% from the amount estimated. By selecting the acreage of commercial treatment associated with the *Selected Alternative*, I believe I am selecting the areas that will benefit the most from vegetation treatments.

### **Purpose and Need 2:**

*Support the development of fire-adapted rural communities.*

- *Creating conditions that provide firefighters a higher probability of successfully suppressing fire in the wildland urban interface by reducing potential fire behavior near values at risk (e.g., homes, communication towers, and power lines) and primary ingress/egress routes, essential to firefighter and public access.*

- *Creating conditions where rural communities are less reliant on suppression forces.*

The *Selected Alternative* provides the most acres of SFB along main NFS roads within the Project area when compared to other alternatives because additional mileage was identified. These fuelbreaks will help maintain main ingress/egress routes in the event of a wildfire in the Project area. Prescribed fire treatments will help to restore fire regimes within the Project area that would alter predicted fire types from conditional/active crown fires to primarily surface fires with passive crown fires. Additionally, my decision will restore vegetative structure and composition through the managed use of fire throughout the Project area and will improve the integrity of the landscape and its resilience to wildland fires.

The *Selected Alternative* will achieve the greatest amount of improvement to firefighter and public safety.

### **Purpose and Need 3:**

*Move all subwatersheds within the project area toward the desired conditions for SWRA as described in the Forest Plan and the Watershed Condition Framework (WCF) (USDA Forest Service 2011b) by:*

- *Reducing overall road density, road-related sediment, and other road-related impacts across the project area; restoring riparian vegetation and floodplain function. This includes restoring fish habitat connectivity across the project area, especially in streams in or adjacent to ESA-listed bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) Critical Habitat.*
- *Improving soil productivity, quality, and function through decompacting soils, recontouring excavated areas, and adding organic material as cover for stabilization and support for revegetation.*

Because of past management activities, SWRA resources are functioning at a lower than Forest Plan desired condition based on Watershed Condition Indicators (WCIs) analyzed in the FEIS. Roads have the ability to impact these resources the most when not properly placed in storage or maintained. The unauthorized routes and NFS roads that are not needed for future management and public access will be decommissioned.

The *Selected Alternative* will move all subwatersheds within the Project area toward the desired condition for SWRA resources. Across the Project area, the *Selected Alternative* will improve almost 77 miles of stream. Miles of stream improved includes miles of restored stream connectivity, miles of RCA road decommissioning, and road improvements (graveling) in RCAs. Eight barrier culverts will be replaced to provide AOP, of which two are in bull trout critical habitat. Road-related sediment will be reduced in the long term through decommissioning 172.5 miles of roadway, including 49.1 miles of NFS roads and 123.4 miles of unauthorized routes. Of these decommissioned roadways 58.3 miles are in RCAs.

Long-term closure of NFS roads is greatest for the *Selected Alternative*. I have decided to add 8 miles of unauthorized roads to the NFS road atlas for future restoration and management access as well as to improve public access and recreation opportunity. This addition of road

mileage is reasonable to maintain future access considering the amount of overall road decommissioning authorized throughout the Project area.

My decision to implement the road-related activities in the *Selected Alternative* addresses the Purpose and Need for watershed restoration to move all subwatersheds analyzed within the Project area towards the desired condition.

#### **Purpose and Need 4:**

*Manage recreation use with an emphasis on hardening dispersed recreation sites where needed to reduce impacts and improve existing trail opportunities.*

The recreation improvements that are included in the *Selected Alternative* best meet the Purpose and Need to manage recreational use in the Project area. I considered the needs of the various types of recreation users, associated facilities, and recreation needs balanced with the existing need for resource improvement, species habitat conditions, and opportunity types provided.

The *Selected Alternative* includes extensive improvements to the only developed campground, Huckleberry, in the Project area. Improvements would include replacement of the existing fee tube, installing accessible tables, building an accessible pathway to the water system, graveling and widening the main campground loop to accommodate larger RVs, repair or replace the non-functional existing well and water system, and replacing campground fence around the campground perimeter.

New dispersed sites will also be evaluated in conjunction with road decommissioning where roads being decommissioned could support a dispersed site at their intersection with open or seasonal NFS roads.

My decision includes all proposed trail actions identified in the *Selected Alternative*.

#### **Purpose and Need 5:**

*Contribute to the economic vitality of the communities adjacent to the Payette National Forest.*

Ecological benefits and economic impacts from the *Selected Alternative* would accrue over the life of the Project. As shown in FEIS Tables 3.12-14 and 3.12-15, the commercial forest products, recreation-related improvements, restoration activities, and road work associated with the *Selected Alternative* would support an average of 233 jobs annually and more than \$8.2 million in local labor income over the estimated 10 years that activities will be implemented.

## **How the Selected Alternative Responds to the Issues**

Issues were used to develop alternatives and/or appropriate mitigation measures or PDFs to address the effects of proposed activities. Each issue was tracked using indicators, which compare the effects of the proposed activities by alternative. Issues and indicators identified are discussed in the FEIS Section 1.11. The *Selected Alternative* responds to these issues as discussed below.

### **Wildlife Resources Issues**

**Issue 1:** *High open road densities affect wildlife (e.g., elk) security and can lead to the removal of important habitat components (e.g., snags).*

My decision to include the road decommissioning activities in the *Selected Alternative* best addresses this issue when compared with the other action alternatives. *The Selected Alternative* will decommission 123 miles of unauthorized routes, effectively close 94 miles of system roads, and decommission 49 miles of system roads that will benefit elk and numerous other wildlife species. The *Selected Alternative* also puts the most miles of NFS road into long term closure (ML 1) than other alternatives. The overall road density in all Lynx Analysis Units will be reduced which may benefit connectivity of lynx habitat in the higher elevations as well.

**Issue 2:** *Treatments may adversely affect source habitat for wildlife species dependent on mixed conifer forests with multilayer structural characteristics. Such forests are associated with mixed to lethal fire regimes and associated processes (larger scales of insect and disease outbreaks and fire effects). Species of concern include ESA-listed, sensitive species, and MIS.*

*Background: A primary need Forest-wide and in the Project area is to maintain and promote dry, lower-elevation, large tree and old forest characteristics for the associated wildlife species and reduce fragmentation that negatively affects species of concern. The processes, function, patch-size, and diversity of forested habitats must all be considered in order to properly address wildlife habitat needs.*

While habitat for Family 2 wildlife species, such as the pileated woodpecker and northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) will decrease in the short-to-mid term, loss of habitat is likely to be less than predicted because of PDFs and vegetation treatment measures. Additional measures require that we “give preference to retention of tree(s) exhibiting characteristics of high wildlife value (i.e., cavities, stem rot, broken tops with structure for nesting, etc.) even if this results in slightly higher than desired stocking” and retain “clumps of trees” and “skips” for wildlife. Skips are defined as portions of units not treated mechanically (Franklin et al. 2013).

Commercial thinning by various prescriptions will begin the process to restore these stands to more varied and natural conditions that will benefit a wide array of wildlife species. This decision includes Forest Plan direction and PDFs to protect important habitat components for wildlife species. See FEIS Table 2.2-1.

Wildlife monitoring will continue throughout project implementation. The Forest has partnered with the RMRS, US Geological Survey, and universities to monitor the effectiveness of treatments for white-headed woodpeckers and NIDGS (*Urocitellus brunneus*). District wildlife staff will continue monitoring for flammulated owls (*Otus flammeolus*), great gray owls (*Strix nebulosa*), and northern goshawks to identify nest sites and implement PDFs for nest site protection, if necessary.

### **Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic (SWRA) Resources and Transportation Issues**

**Issue 3:** *Treatments that propose thinning of vegetation in RCAs may affect sediment delivery, stream temperatures and large woody debris (LWD).*

The *Selected Alternative* includes approximately 2,200 acres of vegetation treatments located in RCAs. Vegetation treatments would only occur in the outer half of the RCAs, except on approximately 32 acres for treatments in CPZ in Bear and Indian Creek subwatersheds. Aside from these 32 acres of treatments, all RCA treatments are located in Lick Creek. Prescribed fire would be allowed to back into inner RCAs, but no active ignition would occur. Where RCA treatments are not proposed, stream buffers with no vegetation treatment of 240 feet and 120 feet on perennial and intermittent streams respectively would be applied.

### *Stream Temperature*

The *Selected Alternative* is expected to maintain current stream temperatures at the subwatershed scale, as indicated in the literature cited in FEIS Section 3.6, through use of PDFs, and because intermittent streams would be dry during the hottest months. Direct solar radiation is the primary factor influencing stream temperatures in the summer. The RCA treatments will maintain riparian vegetation for stream shading. Low-intensity prescribed fire in RCAs is expected to produce a mosaic of low-intensity fire effects and not expected to reduce the canopy and shade providing vegetation to the extent that stream temperatures would be affected. Rapid regeneration of burned riparian areas is also expected. Actions associated with roads, including culvert activities and road reconstruction in RCAs, are expected to incrementally reduce stream shading, but no measurable effects on stream temperatures are expected. Road decommissioning is expected to result in an incremental improvement to stream shading in the short- and long-term timeframes as vegetation becomes reestablished on streambanks and in RCAs. Recreation improvements proposed in the *Selected Alternative* are also expected to maintain the current temperature conditions. Maintaining stream shading is also an important point with the expected effects to stream temperature from climate change.

### *Large Woody Debris (LWD)*

Removal of trees from RCAs has the potential to affect recruitable LWD. Forest Plan standard SWST10 states that “trees or snags that are felled within RCAs must be left in place unless determined not to be necessary for achieving soil, water riparian and aquatic desired conditions.” RCA treatments in Bear and Indian Creek are not expected to have a measurable effect. Lick Creek, where most RCA treatments are proposed is “*Functioning Appropriately*” with respect to LWD along with the other two subwatersheds. Design of RCA treatments and PDFs are expected to maintain the current and recruitable LWD conditions. The *Selected Alternative* is expected to maintain the current and recruitable LWD at the subwatershed scale and would not slow the attainment of properly functioning LWD.

***Issue 4:*** *Proposed activities may change timing and duration of peak runoff, which may affect bank stability in sensitive channels.*

### *Changes to Peak Flows*

In making my decision, I considered the miles of road restoration at the subwatershed scale; the *Selected Alternative* would achieve the reduction in drainage network and flow routing due to roads. I believe that choosing to implement the *Selected Alternative* will result in overall watershed improvements at the 6th field subwatershed scale and contribute to achieving the goals of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy across the Project area. Decommissioning roads in RCAs as well as properly maintaining and storing system roads will decrease sediment delivery to streams and allow hydrologic networks to be more resilient to the effects of climate change.

### *Minimum Road System*

The *Selected Alternative* results in a total of 235.2 miles of NFS roads in the Project area, a reduction of 40.5 miles from the existing road system. The Geomorphic Road Analysis and Inventory Package Lite (GRAIP Lite) model estimates reductions for all subwatersheds over the long term for annual percent over natural sediment due to the reduction in system road miles. As discussed above, the reduction of road density in the Project area is expected to contribute to road-related sediment reduction across the Project area in the long term.

**Issue 5:** *Proposed changes to the transportation network may affect access within the Project area for public and administrative uses.*

The TAR (located in the Project record) was completed by the Forest in 2015 and considered the risk and benefit of most roads in the Project area and provided a recommendation in designating the MRS. The MRS is the minimum system roads that will serve Forest health, emergency access, and public access needs while complying with resource objectives, reflecting likely funding, and minimizing adverse effects associated with road construction, reconstruction, and maintenance. The *Selected Alternative* will retain 235.2 miles of NFS road on the landscape for potential future use for active management activities (Table ROD-6). This MRS has been determined to be sufficient for current and future expected access and is justified by analysis in the FEIS.

**Table ROD-6. Selected alternative Minimum Road System (MRS).**

Subwatershed	Existing Condition			Selected Alternative		
	Maintenance Level			Maintenance Level		
	1	2	3/4	1	2	3/4
Bear Creek	23	43	6	17	36	6
Indian Creek	28	40	3	20	39	3
Lick Creek	41	73	17	27	68	17
Herman Creek	1	1	0	1	1	0
McGraw Creek	0	1	0	0	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	93	158	25	65	145	25
<b>Total System Roads (MRS)</b>	276			235		

Note – All figures are rounded to the nearest mile. Change in miles is due to decommissioning, conversion to trail, add to system, and realignments. See Attachment 2 for TAR recommendations compared with the Selected Alternative.

### Cumulative Effects

My decision also took into consideration cumulative effects. The Project area is used by many recreationists and contains valuable wildlife habitat (i.e., MIS species, elk, and northern goshawk, among others detailed in Chapter 3 of the FEIS), soil and watershed resources, and other natural resources. Past, present, and future projects, as described in Appendix 3 and Chapter 3 of the FEIS, were considered while developing this Project, in the design of mitigation measures, and in making this decision.

## How the *Selected Alternative* Responds to Public Comments

### *Public Involvement*

Opportunities for the public to participate in and help shape this Project prior to issuing the FEIS and Draft ROD have been considerable.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) defines scoping as, “...an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action” (40 CFR 1501.7).

Among other things, the scoping process is used to invite public participation, help identify public issues, and obtain public comment during the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. Scoping should begin early and continue until a decision is made. The public was invited to participate in the Project in various ways, as described below.

The IDT developed the Proposed Action, and on September 26, 2016, a scoping letter describing the Project was sent via email over the GovDelivery system (Project record) to approximately 263 individuals, livestock permittees, and other agencies and groups. In addition, a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS was published in the September 30, 2016, edition of the Federal Register (FR) (Volume 81, Number 190), and a Request for Comments was published in *The Idaho Statesman*, the newspaper of record, on September 30, 2016. Nine public comment letters were received during the scoping period.

The Proposed Action in the DEIS was further developed in response to agency direction and policy, input from interested members of the public, and from recommendations received in comments provided by the PFC to the Forest Supervisor on November 11, 2016.

The PFC's objectives are to collaborate on the design of a project at a landscape scale that would restore and improve wildlife habitat, forest resiliency to wildfire, and watershed health; enhance forest access and recreation; and recommend actions that are financially responsible and contribute to the economic vitality of communities adjacent to the Forest.

Additionally, the District and PFC conducted public field tours of the Project on October 8, 2015, June 23, 2016, and June 14, 2019, to view potential vegetation treatments, watershed improvements, and recreation improvements.

The DEIS was released for public comment on June 21, 2019. During the DEIS public comment period, 12 comment letters were received. These comments and the Forest's responses to them are located in the FEIS, Appendix 8 – Response to Comments.

### ***Concerns Raised During the DEIS Public Comment Period***

The DEIS was released for public comment on June 21, 2019, with a Notice of Availability in the FR. The DEIS was posted on the Forest's website, with paper and electronic (CD) copies available upon request.

Twelve comment letters on the DEIS were received. One letter was received after the deadline. Appendix 8 of the FEIS includes these comments and the Forest Service responses to them. I fully considered all public comments received and the agency responses in my decision-making process (See FEIS Appendix 8 – Response to Comments).

### ***Predecisional Administrative Review***

The FEIS and Draft ROD were completed in January 2020. Letters will be sent, notifying interested agencies, groups, and individuals, of the availability of the FEIS and Draft ROD in February 2020 via email on the GovDelivery system. These letters will state that the FEIS is subject to a 45-day predecisional objection period as required by 36 CFR 218 Part B and described how objections were to be submitted. A legal notice of the opportunity to object, initiating the 45-day predecisional objection period, will be published in *The Idaho Statesman* (the legal newspaper of record). A Notice of Availability will also be published in the Federal Register the same day if possible.

### ***Tribal Consultation***

Tribal governments have a special and unique legal and political relationship with the United States government as reflected in the United States Constitution, treaties, statutes, court

decisions, executive orders, and memoranda. This relationship imparts a duty on all Federal agencies to consult, coordinate, and communicate with Native American tribes on a government-to-government basis. Because Native American tribes can be affected by the policies and actions of the Forest Service in managing the lands and resources under its jurisdiction, the Forest Service has a duty to consult with them on matters affecting their interests. Because of this government-to-government relationship, efforts were made to involve local tribal governments and to solicit their input regarding the Proposed Action.

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 12875, letters describing the Proposed Action and requesting comments and concerns were sent to the tribal chairmen of the Nez Perce, Shoshone-Paiute, and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes on October 3, 2016.

The Forest Service introduced this Project to the leaders of the Shoshone-Paiute during the Wings and Roots Program meeting (government-to-government consultation) on October 13, 2016. The DEIS was delivered during the June 13, 2019, regular meeting. Updates will be ongoing during regular meetings.

During informal consultation, the Forest Service presented the Proposed Action to the Nez Perce resource staff on December 7, 2016. Updates were provided to Nez Perce resource staff on June 14, 2017, December 6, 2018, March 6, 2019, and December 4, 2019.

The Nez Perce and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have not requested formal consultation on the Project. Additional coordination with the tribes will be conducted before a decision on this Project is made to ensure that tribal interests are considered.

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED IN DETAIL**

The FEIS considered three alternatives. A description of the three alternatives analyzed in detail can be found in FEIS Chapter 2. A comparison of these alternatives by activity can be found in the FEIS Chapter 2, Section 2.2.6.

The following tables (ROD-7 through ROD-9) are comparisons of the alternatives, to the *Selected Alternative*, by activities, objectives, and issues considered in detail for this Project.

**Table ROD-7. Comparison of alternatives by activity.**

Proposed Treatments	Alternatives			
	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Selected Alternative
<b>Commercial and Noncommercial Vegetation Treatment (acres)</b>				
<b>Noncommercial Thinning</b>	0	<b>35,800</b>	<b>35,810</b>	<b>36,150</b>
Within RCAs	0	1,090	1,100	1,100
<b>Commercial Treatments</b>	0	<b>17,770</b>	<b>17,770</b>	<b>17,500</b>
Commercial Thin-Free Thin	0	14,300	11,980	14,240
Within RCAs	0	1,100	1,100	1,100
Regeneration	0	3,470	3,470	3,260
Within RCAs	0	0	0	0
Regeneration Patch Cut	0	0	2,320	<b>0</b>
Within RCAs	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Acres of Vegetation Treatments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53,580</b>	<b>53,580</b>	<b>53,650</b>
<b>Total Acres of Vegetation Treatments Within RCAs</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,190</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>2,200</b>
<b>Prescribed Fire (acres)</b>				
Prescribed Fire	0	67,000	67,000	67,000
<b>Shaded Fuelbreak (miles)</b>				
Shaded Fuelbreaks		20	39	45
<b>Temporary Roads (miles)</b>				
Existing Prism (existing unauthorized routes that would be used in harvest then decommissioned)	0	40.5	40.5	40.5
New Temporary Road Construction	0	27.0	27.0	24.1
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resource Improvement Treatment (miles)</b>				
Long-term Closure	0	64.8	22.4	64.8
Long-term Closure within RCAs	0	10.0	1.3	10.0
Maintenance Level One Closure	0	0	54.2	0
Maintenance Level One Closure in RCAs	0	0	12.1	0
NFS Road Decommissioning	0	51.0	27.6	49.1
Unauthorized Route Decommissioning	0	126.5	123.4	123.4
Total Road Decommissioning (includes the unauthorized routes used as temporary roads listed above)	0	177.5	151.0	172.5

Proposed Treatments	Alternatives			
	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Selected Alternative
<b>Road Decommissioning within Riparian Conservation Areas (miles)</b>				
NFS Road Decommissioning in RCAs	0	13.6	7.9	13.4
Unauthorized Route Decommissioning in RCAs	0	45.2	44.9	44.9
Total Miles (included in the miles of road decommissioning listed above)	0	58.8	52.8	58.3
<b>Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP)/Habitat Connectivity</b>				
Number of Stream Crossings Improved	0	8	8	8
<b>Transportation Management (miles)</b>				
Road Realignment (Reroutes)	0	4.2	3.8	3.8
Add to System Roads	0	6.6	7.7	8.0
Road Surfacing (Adding gravel)	0	18.9	18.9	18.9
Total Road Reconstruction (includes road realignment, surfacing, and Add to System roads)	0	29.7	30.4	30.7
Ensure Effective Closure on Year-round and Seasonally Closed National Forest System Roads <sup>a</sup>	0	All	All	All
NFS Roads Open Year-round (ML2, ML3)	80.8	83.9	83.9	84.4
NFS Roads Open Seasonally (May 15 – September 30)	63.0	54.5	73.2	57.2
NFS Roads Closed Year-round	131.5	94.1	99.6	94.1
NFS Road Total (MRS)	275.7	232.5	256.7	235.2
Local, County, Private	64.3	64.3	64.3	64.3
Project area Road Total	474.4	296.8	321.0	299.5
<b>Recreation and Trails Improvements<sup>b</sup></b>				
NFS Trail Converted from Two-wheel Motorized to Non-Motorized (miles)	0	1.4	1.4	1.4
NFS Trail Converted from Open to 50" or less to open NFS road (open to all vehicles) <sup>c</sup> (miles)	0	0.7	0.7	0.7
New Trail Open to All Vehicles (miles)	0	0.0	2.2	2.2
Convert roads to trails (miles)	0	0.2	2.4	2.4

**Table ROD-8. Comparison of alternatives by objective.**

<b>Vegetation Resource Objective 1: Move vegetation toward the desired future conditions defined in the Forest Plan, with an emphasis on promoting large tree forest structure, early seral species composition, and forest resiliency.</b>				
<b>Measurement</b>	<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Selected Alternative</b>
Tree Size Class				
Acres treated to promote the large tree size class	0	7,610	7,630	7,610
Acres treated to maintain the large tree size class	0	10,050	7,080	10,050
Tree Canopy Cover	Varies by Potential Vegetation Groups (PVGs); see Table 3.2 17 for comparison of alternatives for canopy cover.			
Percentage of area (acres) in each canopy cover class within the large tree size class				
Tree Species Composition				
Acres treated to maintain and/or promote desired species composition	0	34,320	34,320	34,320
<b>Fire and Fuels Resource Objective 3: Restore and maintain desirable fuel levels, fire regimes, and ecological processes.</b>				
Acres Moved towards Historical Fire Regimes	0	48,890	48,890	48,890
<b>Fire and Fuels Resource Objective 4: Establish and maintain strategically placed shaded fuelbreaks to improve firefighter and public safety, improve the defensible space adjacent to private lands, and provide protection to infrastructure to the east of the Project area.</b>				
Miles of Shaded Fuelbreak	0	20	39	45
<b>Wildlife Objective 5: Improve habitat for Family 1 wildlife species, as represented by the white-headed woodpecker, a Region 4 Sensitive Species (USDA Forest Service 2011b) and Forest MIS, by restoring forest conditions that contribute to source habitat for these species. Forested stands providing these source habitats should be restored to conditions within, or near, the Historical Range of Variability (HRV).</b>				
Quantity and quality of Family 1 – white-headed woodpecker habitat restored to conditions within HRV. Quantity is measured by acres of PVGs 1, 2, 3, 5, or 6, in the large tree size class and low canopy cover class. Quality is measured by the presence of old forest characteristics (e.g., legacy trees, snags, CWD, canopy gaps, and understory patchiness), as described in the Forest Plan (USDA Forest Service 2003a).	0 (1145 current total)	11,609	6,396	11,609

<b>SWRA Resources Objective 6: Improve watershed and aquatic function and integrity by moving all watersheds within the Project area towards the desired condition for the soil, water, aquatic, and riparian resources.</b>				
<b>Road Density by Subwatershed (miles/square miles); All Ownership/National Forest Land Only</b>				
<b>Subwatershed</b>	<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Selected Alternative</b>
Indian Creek	3.6/3.2	2.6/2.2	2.8/2.3	2.6/2.2
Bear Creek	3.8/3.7	2.9/2.5	3.1/2.8	2.9/2.5
Lick Creek	5.3/5.6	3.0/2.9	3.3/3.3	3.1/3.0
Total	4.5/4.2	2.8/2.5	3.1/2.7	2.9/2.6
<b>RCA Road Density by Subwatershed (miles/square miles); National Forest Land Only</b>				
Indian Creek	3.3	2.2	2.2	2.2
Bear Creek	4.8	3.1	3.4	3.1
Lick Creek	9.7	3.7	4.2	3.7
Total	6.1	2.8	3.2	3.0
<b>Number of Fish Barriers Replaced / Removed</b>				
Indian Creek	0	1	1	1
Bear Creek	0	1	1	1
Lick Creek	0	6	6	6
Total	0	8	8	8
<b>Stream Miles Improved – includes miles of fish habitat reconnected and miles of stream enhanced through road decommissioning and graveling within RCAs.</b>				
Indian Creek	0	9.2	9.2	9.2
Bear Creek	0	19.3	16.7	19.3
Lick Creek	0	48.2	44.9	48.2
Total	0	76.7	70.8	76.7

<b>Miles of Roads within RCAs by Subwatershed (National Forest Land Only)</b>				
<b>Subwatershed</b>	<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Selected Alternative</b>
Indian Creek	17.5	12	12	12.0
Bear Creek	40.1	25.7	28.3	26.2
Lick Creek	64.7	25.9	29.2	24.9
Total	122.3	63.6	69.5	63.1
<b>Percent of total road-generated sediment reduced over the long term modeled by Geomorphic Road Analysis and Inventory Package (GRAIP Lite)</b>				
Indian Creek	0%	33.4%	30.0%	33.6%
Bear Creek	0%	38.9%	36.0%	38.9%
Lick Creek	0%	68.6%	61.0%	68.8%
Number of harvest units meeting Forest Plan Appendix A desired conditions for CWD, both in general and in the large (greater than 15 inches diameter) size class.	No harvest planned	Trend toward Forest Plan desired conditions as described in Appendix A more quickly than Alternative 1 in proposed harvest units.		
<b>Manage recreation use in the Project area with an emphasis on identifying and hardening primary dispersed recreation areas, improving Huckleberry Campground, and improving existing trail</b>				
<b>Measurement</b>	<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Selected Alternative</b>
Miles of NFS trail <sup>a b</sup>	34.7	33.9	36.1	36.1
Miles of NFS trail open to motorcycle use (2-wheel motorized) <sup>a b</sup>	25.0	24.3	26.5	26.5
Miles of NFS trail open to vehicles < 50" width (ATV trails) <sup>a b</sup>	0.7	0.0	2.2	2.2
Miles of NFS trail open to vehicles > 50" width (trails open to all vehicles) <sup>a</sup>	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.2
Miles of open and seasonally open NFS roads	143.8	138.4	157.1	141.6
<b>Economics Objective 8: Contribute to the economic vitality of local communities.</b>				
Employment contribution (number of jobs on annual average).	0	233	200	233
Income contribution (\$ thousands)	\$0	\$8,208	\$7,036	\$8,208

<sup>a</sup>Trail mileages shown in Alternatives 2 and 3 do not reflect small changes in length expected to result from trail reroutes; exact reroutes mileages are unknown since these will be determined during implementation.

<sup>b</sup>Trail 293, Decorah, which is currently open to vehicles 50" or less in width, would be removed from the system in Alternatives 2 and 3 because the underlying NFS road (50362) is opened to year-round public use; this accounts for a 0.7 mile reduction in overall trails mileage but does not constitute a lost recreational travel/access opportunity.

**Table ROD-9. Comparison of alternatives by issue.**

<b>Wildlife Issue: High open road densities affect wildlife (e.g., elk) security and can lead to the removal of important habitat components (e.g., snags).</b>					
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Selected Alternative</b>	
Change in elk security areas (Hillis et al. 1991). (Open and Seasonal roads, and motorized trails buffered 0.5 mile and polygons greater than 250 acres. See elk section in Wildlife Resources for additional analysis.	Current Condition 4 areas 9,772 acres	4 areas 11,098 acres (no change in number of areas, increase of 1,326 acres)	3 areas 8,735 acres (change in number of areas, decrease of 1,037 acres)	4 areas 11,098 acres (no change in number of areas, increase of 1,326 acres)	
Miles of NFS roads and unauthorized roads a) closed by physical closure, including LTC or b) decommissioned by treatments described in Chapter 2.	a) 0 b) 0	a) 94.1 b) 177.5	a) 99.6 b) 151.0	a) 94.1 b) 172.5	
Miles of open roads	80.8	83.9	83.9	84.4	
Miles of seasonal roads	63.0	54.5	73.2	57.2	
<b>Wildlife Issue: Treatments may adversely affect source habitat for wildlife species dependent on mixed conifer forests with multilayer structural characteristics. Such forests are associated with mixed-to-lethal fire regimes and associated processes (larger scales of insect and disease outbreaks and fire effects). Species of concern include listed and sensitive species and management indicator species.</b>					
Quantity (acres) and distribution of habitat for species of concern.	See discussion in Wildlife Resources section of Chapter 3.				
Quality (specifically old forest, snags, patch and pattern) and distribution of habitat for species of concern.	See discussion in Wildlife Resources section of Chapter 3.				
<b>Wildlife Issue: Project activities (logging, log haul, prescribed fire, and temporary road construction) may cause disturbance to wildlife species of concern.</b>					
Disturbance effects on species of concern	See discussion in Wildlife Resources section of Chapter 3.				
<b>SWRA: Treatments that propose thinning of vegetation in RCAs may affect stream temperatures and LWD.</b>					
Acres of vegetation treatment within RCAs	0	2,190	2,200	2,200	
Acres treated within one site potential tree height	0	527	531	531	
<b>SWRA: Proposed activities may change timing and duration of peak runoff, which may affect bank stability in sensitive channels.</b>					
Total Road Density by subwatershed mi/mi <sup>2</sup> (all ownership)	Indian Creek	3.6	2.6	2.8	2.6
	Bear Creek	3.8	2.9	3.1	2.9
	Lick Creek	5.3	3.0	3.3	3.0

Listed below is my rationale for not selecting two of the alternatives and my rationale for modifying the selected alternative:

### **Reasons for Not Selecting Alternative 1**

Alternative 1 does not move the environmental conditions towards Forest Plan DFCs as they relate to the Project's Purpose and Need. Since no new forest vegetation activities would occur under this alternative, it would not provide an opportunity to address tree size class distributions, canopy cover class, tree species composition, and spatial patterns that are either over represented or under represented. There would be no area treated to reduce potential fire behavior, thus increasing the risk to the public, private property, and values within and adjacent to the Project area. No acres of white-headed woodpecker habitat would be restored to conditions within the HRV, and the quality of white-headed woodpecker habitat restored to HRV (as represented by old forest characteristics) would decrease over time (as represented by snag conditions) and would not be maintained. The condition class of all subwatersheds would not be improved and no restoration action in the Project area would be realized. There would be no employment or income contribution to local economies, and there would be no biomass removed. I find that the No Action alternative falls far short of addressing the Purpose and Need for this Project, specifically in providing more resilient stands, promoting forest health, restoring watershed health, and contributing to the economic vitality of local communities.

### **Reasons for Not Selecting Alternative 3**

Alternative 3 would have essentially treated the same number of acres by commercial and noncommercial treatments as proposed in Alternative 2. However, the prescriptions were designed to move vegetation closer to the desired conditions in the short-term. This would maintain fewer acres in the large tree size class and improve 55% less habitat for Family 1 species, as represented by the white-headed woodpecker, than Alternative 2. Alternative 3 also would leave higher road densities in all subwatersheds and improve few miles of streams than Alternative 2.

### **Reasons for Modifying Alternative 2 as the Selected Alternative**

Although Alternative 2 was developed as the Proposed Action for the DEIS, there were recommendations, both internally and received from the DEIS public comment period, to include elements of other alternatives in the *Selected Alternative*. The primary reason for modification is to include some additional motorized recreational opportunity and seasonal public road access that did not impact current elk security as analyzed in Alternative 3. With exception of an additional SFB, reduction of commercial treatment acres and temporary road miles, and adding a short road to the system for private access where a special use permit already exists, all modifications to Alternative 2 were analyzed in Alternative 3. The additional SFB occurs primarily within Bear Creek subwatershed and crosses one RCA on a perennial stream. I have decided to exclude the RCA treatment associated with this SFB to keep the impacts to RCAs in Bear Creek within the analysis of Alternative 3. The reduction of commercial treatment acres and temporary road miles, due to lack of easement across private property, will result in slightly less than the maximum effects analyzed in Alternative 2 of the FEIS. I believe this to be in line with other reductions in planned treatments expected from resource concerns that arise during implementation and should be acceptable for the analysis. Lastly, I decided to add an

unauthorized route to the system that has been authorized for private property access through special use permit for quite some time. The special use permit displays that the road is needed as it is the only access to the private property across NFS lands and the change will reflect current administrative use.

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED STUDY**

Section 2.2.1 in the FEIS discusses other alternatives to the Proposed Action we considered but eliminated from detailed analysis and the reasons for not considering them further. These alternatives were suggested in internal and external scoping. Briefly, these alternatives considered but eliminated from detailed study were:

- 1) An alternative with watershed restoration treatments included in other alternatives but no commercial or non-commercial vegetation treatments.
- 2) A “no new road construction or reconstruction” alternative.
- 3) An alternative that constructed and designated a dual-purpose fire break and interpretive trail around the community of Cuprum.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH THE FOREST PLAN**

My decision to implement the *Selected Alternative* is consistent with Forest Plan Goals and Objectives, and Standards and Guidelines as documented in the resource sections in Chapter 3 of the Project FEIS, in the Rationale Section of this ROD, and the Forest Plan Consistency Checklist in the Project record. No Forest Plan amendments are needed to implement this Project.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

A partial list of Federal laws and EOs pertaining to project-specific planning and environmental analysis on federal lands follows.

### ***Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979***

The purpose of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) is to protect irreplaceable archaeological resources on federal and Native American lands.

This statute (16 U.S. Code [U.S.C.] 470aa-470mm; Public Law 96-95 and amendments to it) was enacted “...to secure, for the present and future benefit of the American people, the protection of archaeological resources and sites which are on public lands and Native American lands, and to foster increased cooperation and exchange of information between governmental authorities, the professional archaeological community, and private individuals (Sec. 2(4)(b)).”

The reasons behind enactment include recognition that archaeological resources are an irreplaceable part of America’s heritage and that they were endangered increasingly because of the escalating commercial value of a small portion of the contents of archeological sites.

The primary impetus behind ARPA was the need to provide more effective law enforcement to protect public archeological sites. Two improvements over the Antiquities Act, which was the

statute designed to provide this protection prior to ARPA's enactment, were more detailed descriptions of the prohibited activities and larger financial and incarceration penalties for convicted violators. Section 6 of the statute describes the range of prohibited actions including damage or defacement in addition to unpermitted excavation or removal. Also prohibited are selling, purchasing, and other trafficking activities whether within the United States or internationally. Section 6(c) prohibits interstate or international sale, purchase, or transport of any archeological resource excavated or removed in violation of a state or local law, ordinance, or regulation.

This management requirement is listed in Section 2.3, Management Requirements. Additional information can be found in Section 1.12.1.

### ***American Indian Religious Freedom Act***

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Public Law No. 95-341, 92 Stat. 469 (August 11, 1978) (commonly abbreviated as AIRFA), is a United States federal law and a joint resolution of Congress that was passed in 1978. The AIRFA was enacted to protect and preserve the traditional religious rights and cultural practices of Native Americans, Eskimos, Aleuts, and native Hawaiians.

### ***Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990***

The purposes of the Clean Air Act are, "...to protect and enhance the quality of the nation's air resources so as to promote the public health and welfare and the productive capacity of its population; to initiate and accelerate a national research and development program to achieve the prevention and control of air pollution; to provide technical and financial assistance to State and local governments in connection with the development and execution of their air pollution prevention and control programs; and to encourage and assist the development and operation of regional air pollution prevention and control programs."

### ***Clean Water Act, as amended in 1977 and 1982***

The primary objective of the Clean Water Act (CWA) is to restore and maintain the integrity of the nation's waters. This objective translates into two fundamental national goals: (1) eliminate the discharge of pollutants into the nation's waters, and (2) achieve water quality levels that are fishable and swimmable. The CWA establishes a nondegradation policy for all proposed federal projects.

The CWA is addressed through PDFs and mitigation measures and monitoring (Section 2.5 and Appendix 4 of the FEIS). For more information, see Section 3.5, "Watershed Resources" of the FEIS, and the Water Resources Specialist Report, Appendix B in the Project record.

### ***Civil Rights, Consumers, Minorities, and Women***

All Forest Service actions can impact, positively or negatively, the civil rights of individuals or groups, including minorities and women. The need to analyze these potential impacts is required by the FSM and Forest Service Handbook (<https://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/>). This Project would not affect civil rights, consumers, minorities, or women.

***Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended***

The purpose of the ESA is to, "...provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved, to provide a program for the conservation of such endangered species and threatened species, and to take such steps as may be appropriate to achieve the purposes of the treaties and conventions set forth in subsection (a) of this section." The ESA also states, "It is further declared to be the policy of Congress that all Federal departments and agencies shall seek to conserve endangered species and threatened species and shall utilize their authorities in furtherance of the purposes of this Act." The ESA is addressed in Sections 3.4 "Wildlife Resources," 3.6 "Fisheries Resources," and 3.8 "Botany and Rare Plants" of the FEIS.

***Executive Order (EO) 11990—Protection of Wetlands***

EO 11990 provides direction to federal agencies to protect the nation's wetlands when undertaking all activities. The order is addressed through PDFs.

***Executive Order (EO) 11988—Floodplain Management***

Under EO 11988, proposed activities must not increase flood hazards and must preserve the resource benefit of floodplains (the ability to dissipate flood flows and moderate flood peaks). This requirement is addressed through PDFs.

***Executive Orders (EOs) Pertaining to Tribal Consultation***

A requirement for regular and meaningful consultation between federal and tribal government officials on federal policies that have tribal implications was established under EO 12175.

EO 12785 was enacted to reduce unfunded mandates upon state, local, and tribal governments; to streamline the application process and increase the availability of waivers to state, local, and tribal governments; and to establish regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with state, local, and tribal governments on federal matters that significantly or uniquely affect their communities.

EO 13007 was enacted in order to (1) accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Native American sacred sites by Native American religious practitioners and (2) avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites. Where appropriate, agencies shall maintain the confidentiality of sacred sites.

***Executive Order (EO) 12898—Environmental Justice***

Under EO 12898, each federal agency is directed to achieve environmental justice as part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. The President also signed a memorandum emphasizing the need to consider these types of effects during NEPA analysis. On March 24, 1995, the USDA completed an implementation strategy for EO 12898. Where Forest Service proposals have the potential to adversely affect minority or low-income populations disproportionately, effects must be considered and disclosed (and mitigated to the degree possible) through NEPA analysis and documentation.

***Executive Order (EO) 13112—Invasive Species***

EO 13112 requires federal agencies whose actions may affect the status of invasive species to identify such actions, prevent the introduction of invasive species, detect and respond rapidly to and control populations of such species, provide for restoration of native species and habitat conditions, and promote public education on invasive species. Additionally, federal agencies are directed to not carry out actions that they believe are likely to cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species.

Activities proposed under the Project are not anticipated to substantially cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species. Information on noxious weeds can be found under Section 3.13 of the FEIS.

***Executive Order (EO) 13186—Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds***

Under EO 13186, federal agencies are required to evaluate the effects of federal actions and agency plans on migratory birds with an emphasis on species of concern. No interagency determinations are to be made for migratory birds as with federally listed species. This information is reviewed with the United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS); no mechanism is in place for the FWS to consult on Project effects. This issue is addressed in the Wildlife Specialist Report in the Project record.

***Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974***

The Federal Noxious Weed Act provides for the control and management of nonindigenous weeds that injure or have the potential to injure the interests of agriculture and commerce, wildlife resources, or the public health. Noxious weed treatment would be conducted according to federal and state law if implemented in conjunction with this Project.

***Idaho Forest Practices Act***

The purpose of the Idaho Forest Practices Act (IFPA) is to ensure the continuous growth and harvest of forest trees and to maintain forest soil, air, water, vegetation, wildlife, and aquatic habitat. The IFPA requires consistency with forest practice rules for federal, state, and private lands in order to protect, maintain, and enhance the state's natural resources. Best Management Practices (BMPs) and contract provisions would be used to meet specific IFPA regulations. Site-specific PDFs and mitigation measures are listed in Section 2.4 of the FEIS.

***Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act***

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act provides a process for museums and federal agencies to return certain Native American cultural items, such as human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony, to lineal descendants and culturally affiliated Native American tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations.

***Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918***

The proposed agency activities should not degrade habitat for migratory land birds that are known to exist in the Project area. Habitat for migratory species will be surveyed prior to Project

implementation to ensure that appropriate measures have been taken to protect nest sites and other source habitat. For example, flammulated owls are neotropical migrants that winter in Central America but nest in ponderosa pine forests of the northern Rocky Mountains. Flammulated owls have been documented in the Project area as recently as 2014. The stands where these birds were located would be surveyed again, prior to implementation of any timber harvest activities, to determine stand occupancy by flammulated owls. The survey transects would be sampled annually for, at least, the duration of the Project. A complete list of birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act is located in the wildlife specialist report in the Project record.

### ***Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation—Executive Order (EO) 13443***

On August 16, 2007, President George W. Bush signed an EO directing appropriate federal agencies to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat (FR Vol. 72, No. 160, August 20, 2007).

The Project area provides habitat for several game species including deer (Cervidae), elk (*Cervus canadensis*), American black bear (*Ursus americanus*), mountain lion (*Puma concolor*), gray wolf (*Canis lupus*), and forest grouse (Phasianidae). The effects on wolves and elk were in the Wildlife Specialist Report, which is included in the Project record). Mitigation has been included to minimize and avoid impacts to elk (primarily through effective road closures and obliteration of unauthorized roads) so that habitat is provided to support Idaho Department of Fish and Game's (IDFG) population objectives. These measures should also benefit deer. In addition, Project-wide prescribed fires should improve forage for deer and elk across the landscape. Mountain lion presence is largely tied to the presence of deer, so activities that maintain or improve deer habitat should maintain mountain lion populations.

American black bears are habitat generalists. While they prefer mixed deciduous-coniferous forests with thick understories, they will utilize a variety of habitats. Special habitat features include fallen logs and debris, and standing hollow trees that provide denning sites for bears. Snag and CWD desired conditions apply to all management activity areas and will provide for these components on the landscape in amounts, distribution, and sizes that were historically expected to exist within each of the PVGs.

Dusky grouse (*Dendragapus obscurus*), spruce grouse (*Falcapennis canadensis*), and ruffed grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) are all present in the Project area. Habitat use and needs vary between the species. Dusky grouse are found in open coniferous forests, often with a fir component. Douglas-fir provides day roosts, and the buds and needles are an important winter food. Subalpine fir, with its dense foliage, is often selected as a night roost. Ruffed grouse utilize dense forests with some deciduous trees or shrubs. Aspen is an important component of habitat. Young forests provide optimum habitat for the species. Spruce grouse occupy coniferous forests that include short-needled trees (lodgepole pine, spruce-fir). Berry-bearing shrubs (*Vaccinium* spp.) are a common component of habitats. Key features include forest structure that provides cover (e.g., lodgepole pine prior to self-pruning). All three grouse species are associated with forested habitats. The Proposed Action will reduce tree densities and canopy cover within dense stands, thus improving conditions for the dusky grouse. Prescribed fire treatments should help regenerate aspen forests, an important component of ruffed grouse habitat. There will likely be no impacts or improvement to spruce grouse habitat from this Project.

***National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended***

The purposes of the NEPA are, “To declare a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment, to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality” (42 U.S.C. Sec. 4321). The law further states “...it is the continuing policy of the federal government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations, to use all practicable means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans” (42 U.S.C. Sec. 4331(a)). The format and content requirements of environmental analysis and documentation were established under NEPA.

***National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976***

The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) guides development and revision of National Forest Land Management Plans and has several sections ranging from required reporting the Agriculture Secretary must submit annually to Congress to preparation requirements for timber sale contracts. There are several important sections within the NFMA, including Section 1 (purpose and principles), Section 19 (fish and wildlife resource), Section 23 (water and soil resource), and Section 27 (management requirements).

***National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended***

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 changed the way in which the federal government regarded its role in historic preservation. The NHPA authorized the Secretary of Interior to expand and maintain a NRHA composed of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. This act requires federal agencies to consult with the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and Native American tribes when nonrenewable cultural resources, such as archaeological sites and historic structures, may be affected by a federal action. Section 106 of NHPA requires federal agencies to review the effects proposed projects may have on cultural resources in the Project area.

The Idaho SHPO has been consulted concerning proposed activities in the Project area. Section 1.9.1 “Cultural and Archaeological Resources” discusses Idaho SHPO consultation, and Section 1.11.2 discusses Native American tribal consultation.

***Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Reauthorized)***

The 2018 Farm Bill, which became law on December 20, 2018, includes a reauthorization of the CFLR Program through fiscal year 2023. Depending on appropriations, the 13 CFLR Program projects selected in 2012 (PNF’s Weiser-Little Salmon Headwaters CFLR Project being one of them) will be prioritized for funding their final two years of planned implementation. Applications for new CFLR Program project areas and extensions for 2010 CFLR Program projects were released early summer 2019. Project selections are anticipated in early 2020.

Congress, under Title IV of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, established the CFLR Program. The purpose of the CFLR Program is to encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. The CFLR Program provides a means to achieve an all-lands approach to forest restoration and to also:

- Encourage ecological, economic, and social sustainability;
- Leverage local resources with national and private resources;
- Facilitate the reduction of wildfire management costs, including through re-establishing natural fire regimes and reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire;
- Demonstrate the degree to which various ecological restoration techniques achieve ecological and watershed health objectives; and
- Encourage use of forest restoration by-products to offset treatment costs, to benefit local rural economies, and to improve forest health.

Title IV also establishes the CFLR Fund, providing authority for funding of CFLR Projects selected by the Secretary of the USDA. In 2010 and 2011 the Forest submitted a CFLR Project, and on February 2, 2012, the Secretary of the USDA announced the selection of the Forest's Weiser-Little Salmon Headwaters CFLR Project, currently encompassing 900,000 acres of NFS lands in the Council, New Meadows, and McCall Ranger Districts in Adams County, Idaho. The Project is part of the landscape within the Weiser-Little Salmon Headwaters CFLR Project.

Uses and Limitations of the CFLR Fund include:

- The CFLR Fund may only be used on NFS lands.
- The CFLR Fund may not be used to cover planning costs.
- The CFLR Fund may be used to pay for up to 50% of the cost of carrying out and monitoring ecological restoration treatments on NFS lands.
- No more than \$4,000,000 may be spent from the CFLR Fund in any one fiscal year on any one project.
- The CFLR Fund for any one proposal may be expended for no more than 10 fiscal years.

## **ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE**

The environmentally preferable alternative "...is the alternative that will best promote the national environmental policy as expressed in NEPA's section 101 (42 U.S.C. 4321). Ordinarily, the environmentally preferable alternative is that which causes the least harm to the biological and physical environment; it also is the alternative which best protects and preserves historic, cultural, and natural resources. In some situations, there may be more than one environmentally preferable alternative (36 CFR 220.3)" (FSH 1909.15). Social and economic factors are not considered when identifying the environmentally preferable alternative. Identification of the environmentally preferable alternative is required by 40 CFR 1505.2(b) in a record of decision.

Alternative 2 is the environmentally preferable alternative for SWRA resources as it improves watershed condition of the subwatersheds analyzed within the Project area the most. Likewise, Alternative 2 is considered the environmentally preferable alternative for vegetation resources because it moves the vegetation toward the DFCs as defined in the Forest Plan, Appendix A, with over 53,000 acres of commercial and noncommercial vegetation treatments and 67,000

acres of prescribed burning proposed. Based on the description of the alternatives considered in detail in the FEIS and this ROD, Alternative 2 best meets the goals of NEPA Section 101 for SWRA resources and for vegetation resources. All alternatives protect and preserve historic and cultural resources the same. Therefore, the environmentally preferable alternative for this proposed federal action is described by Alternative 2.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

Implementation is tentatively scheduled to begin immediately following the conclusion of the objection resolution period and signing of this ROD pursuant 36 CFR 218.12.

## **CONTACT PERSON**

Linda Jackson, Forest Supervisor for the PNF is the decision maker for this Project. Detailed records of the environmental analysis are available for public review at the District in Council, Idaho. For further information on this decision contact:

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Or

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Or

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## **LITERATURE CITED**

See FEIS Chapter 4 for all references cited in the ROD.

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LINDA JACKSON, Forest Supervisor  
Payette National Forest

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Date

## ATTACHMENT 1- PROJECT DESIGN FEATURES

### Project Design Features / Mitigation Measures

PDFs are designed to avoid, reduce, or eliminate undesirable effects. Mitigation measures are designed to rectify or compensate for undesirable effects from proposed activities. Unless noted otherwise in the decision document, the PDFs/mitigation measures are mandatory if the Responsible Official selects an action alternative for implementation.

The PDFs/mitigation measures listed in Table ROD-10 through Table ROD-20 are practices the IDT developed during this Project analysis to address site-specific environmental concerns and to meet Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines. Each feature or measure includes a description, the Objective, applicable Forest Plan Standard / Guideline (USDA Forest Service 2003a), the enforcement mechanism and person(s) responsible for enforcement, and an effectiveness rating with the basis for that rating.

NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1508.20 Mitigation) state the following:

“Mitigation” includes

- Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action.
- Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation.
- Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment.
- Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.
- Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

PDFs were created to use design criteria to prevent the need of a mitigation measure.

PDF/mitigation effectiveness is rated as follows for this Project:

- High—Highly effective (estimated at greater than 90%) at meeting the Objective, and one or more of the following types of documentation or rationale is available:
  - Research or literature
  - Administrative studies
  - Experience: professional judgment of an expert
- Fact: evident by logic or reason
- Moderate—Moderately effective (estimated at 60% to 90%), and its effectiveness is supported either by evidence or logic. Implementation of this PDF or mitigation needs to be monitored, and it may be modified if needed to achieve its Objective.
- Low—Somewhat effective (estimated at less than 60%), but its effectiveness is not supported by substantial evidence, or professional judgment indicates limited success in implementation or meeting Objectives. Implementation of this PDF or mitigation needs to be monitored, and it may be modified if necessary to achieve its Objective.



Project Design Features

Attachment 1

**Table ROD-10. Project design features and mitigation measures for wildlife.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Wildlife</b>					
1	<p>Prior to any ground-disturbing activity, including but not limited to the construction of log landings, vehicle turnouts or parking areas, skid trails, or road construction and maintenance, road decommissioning and obliteration, and prescribed fire, the Wildlife Biologist or designated Wildlife Staff should conduct on-site surveys at least three times during a 7-day period in potential NIDGS (<i>Urocitellus brunneus</i>) habitat to determine the presence of NIDGS. Surveys would be conducted to identify the presence of NIDGS in or within a ¼ mile of harvest units and prescribed fire areas. The Wildlife Biologist would determine potential habitat areas to be surveyed based on GIS maps, aerial photos, and professional expertise.</p> <p>If occupied NIDGS sites are discovered, additional measures described below would be implemented to minimize potential effects:</p> <p>Mechanical thinning operations, skidding, decking, slash piling, and prescribed fire are prohibited in occupied NIDGS sites without approval by the Wildlife Biologist. If necessary, project activities may be shifted to a time period outside the NIDGS above-ground activity period (April 1 to August 15). If project activities are shifted to the fall season, wildlife staff would identify NIDGS dens with pin flags/paint and coordinate all activities in these known sites. Fall activities would be allowed only if soil moisture levels are dry enough to prevent soil damage from machinery, as determined by the Sale Administrator, Soil Scientist, Wildlife Biologist, and/or Timber Management Assistant. If wet soil conditions prevent project activities in fall, the activities may be shifted to winter. This would require at least 18 inches of firm snow and/or 4 inches of frozen soil prior to activity approval by the Sale Administrator, Wildlife Biologist, and Timber Management Assistant. If project activities at any NIDGS site cannot be appropriately mitigated, that project unit and the associated project activities may be dropped from the timber sale.</p> <p>In harvest units where NIDGS are found, ground-disturbing activities should occur in the time period from September 1 through March 15.</p>	<p>Provide protection to federally listed NIDGS, feeding sites, seasonal burrows, late summer estivation dens, and winter hibernacula.</p>	<p>HIGH: research, literature, Forest Plan, agency direction, logic</p>	<p>TEST01 TEST02 TEST03 TEST06 TEST12 TEST13 TEGU01 TEGU02 TEGU06 WIGU01</p>	<p>Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Soil Scientist, Timber Management Assistant, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist</p>

Project Design Features

Attachment 1

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Wildlife</b>					
2	If occupied NIDGS sites are found adjacent to haul routes on NFS lands, a speed limit of 15 mph would be recommended where determined necessary by the Wildlife Biologist. Monitoring would also be required. If speed limits or other protections are needed on county or state roads, the Forest Service would work with the appropriate agencies to resolve the issue.	Provide protection to federally listed NIDGS from vehicle-caused mortality.	MODERATE: research, literature, Forest Plan, agency direction, logic	TEST01 TEST02 TEST03 TEST06 TEST12 TEGU01 TEGU02 TEGU06 WIGU01 WIGU04	Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Timber Management Assistant, Sale Administrator,
3	Harvest units in or within a ¼ mile of known NIDGS sites, slash piles created from harvest activities must be removed from landings not later than March 15 of the year immediately following the harvest year in each of these units.	Provide protection to federally listed NIDGS from direct mortality from slash piles, machinery, vehicles, or prescribed fire.	MODERATE: research, literature, Forest Plan, agency direction, logic	TEST01 TEST02 TEST03 TEST06 TEST12 TEGU01 TEGU02 TEGU06 WIGU01 WIGU04	Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Timber Management Assistant, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist

Project Design Features

Attachment 1

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Wildlife</b>					
4	<p>Known northern goshawk nests would be protected within a 30-acre forested nest stand as determined by the Wildlife Biologist in coordination with the Sale Administrator and the Timber Management Assistant. All activities within these nest stands would be restricted to those approved by the Wildlife Biologist and coordinated with the Sale Administrator and the Timber Management Assistant.</p> <p>During operations, if a new northern goshawk nest is located, onsite activities would be halted until a survey by wildlife staff can determine if the nest is active. A 30-acre forested nest stand would be identified, as above. If the nest is active, harvest activities in that 30 acres would be halted until the end of the nesting season (March 1 to Sept. 30). Harvest activities may resume earlier than Sept. 30 if the Wildlife Biologist determines that the birds are no longer present. All identified northern goshawk nest stands would have a post-fledgling area of at least 600 acres and a foraging area of at least 6,000 acres identified by the Wildlife Biologist in consultation with the Timber Management Assistant.</p> <p>Within each post-fledgling area, five other nest stands would be identified by the Wildlife Biologist. These nest stands would have the same restrictions on human activities as noted above. The post-fledgling areas and foraging areas may have other activity restrictions applied from March 1 to Sept. 30, depending on site-specific information, and as determined by the Wildlife Biologist in coordination with the Sale Administrator and Timber Management Assistant. Refer to the Project record for nest site locations and associated units.</p>	<p>Provide protection to northern goshawk, nests, PFAs, and foraging areas.</p>	<p>HIGH: research, literature, Forest Plan, agency direction, logic</p>	<p>WIST02 WIST03 WIST04 WIST05 WIGU01 WIGU05 WIGU06 WIGU07 Forest Service General Technical Reports RM-217 and PNW-GTR-733 as required by the Forest Plan</p>	<p>Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Timber Management Assistant, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist</p>

Project Design Features

Attachment 1

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Wildlife</b>					
5	Any temporary roads or closed NFS roads physically opened for access to project activities that would remain open during elk rifle season would be blocked with a temporary gate or other physical closure during use and until once again permanently closed or obliterated following management activities.	Minimize negative effects on wildlife; ensure contractors and employees do not have unfair advantage during hunting seasons; minimize damage to native surface roads that could result in increased erosion and sediment delivery.	HIGH: research, literature, Forest Plan, agency direction, logic	TEST01 WIST02 WIST03 WIGU01 WIGU02 WIGU05 WIGU06 WIGU08 WIGU13 SWST04	Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Sale Administrator, Engineering Contract Administrator
6	In areas closed to public motorized access, prohibit contractors and their employees from access with motorized vehicles for purposes other than implementing contract or other authorized FS activities.	Minimize negative effects on wildlife; ensure contractors and employees do not have unfair advantage during hunting seasons.	HIGH: research, literature, Forest Plan, agency direction, logic	TEST01 WIST02 WIST03 WIGU01 WIGU02 WIGU05 WIGU06 WIGU08 WIGU13	Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist

Project Design Features

Attachment 1

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Wildlife</b>					
7	<p>Prior to any ground-disturbing activity, including, but not limited to, the construction of log landings, vehicle turnouts or parking areas, skid trails, road construction or maintenance, and prescribed fire, the Wildlife Biologist, or designated Wildlife Staff, must conduct on-site surveys to identify threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species; MIS; or Sensitive species presence. In particular, spring surveys would be used to identify wildlife reproduction sites, such as elk calving, deer fawning, mammal denning, and bird nesting. Project activities may be altered to protect the wildlife species, as practicable, using measures approved by the Wildlife Biologist, following coordination with the Timber Management Assistant, Fuels Specialist, and Sale Administrator. Mitigate management actions within known nesting or denning sites of MIS or Sensitive Species if those actions would disrupt the reproductive success of those sites during the nesting or denning period.</p>	<p>Minimize negative effects on wildlife, especially during reproductive periods.</p>	<p>MODERATE: Forest Plan, agency direction, logic</p>	<p>TEST06 TEST12 TEST13 WIST03</p>	<p>Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist</p>
8	<p>Provide a radius of two elk sight distances (total of 400 feet) of vegetation (where available and practicable) to protect mineral licks and elk wallows. No harvest or prescribed fire would be allowed in these sites, without approval by the Wildlife Biologist. Exact boundaries of each protected site would be identified by the Wildlife Biologist, following coordination with the Timber Management Assistant, Fuels Specialist, and Sale Administrator.</p>	<p>Minimize negative effects on wildlife, address big game vulnerability to hunting mortality, and to provide adequate habitat security.</p>	<p>HIGH: research, literature, Forest Plan, agency direction, logic</p>	<p>WIGU13</p>	<p>Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist</p>
9	<p>During timber harvest, retain existing snags with the following stipulations: Timber contract provision would specify to leave standing dead trees. Snags would not be cut without permission of the Sale Administrator unless there is a safety or emergency situation. Retain snags away from roads to reduce the potential for removal.</p>	<p>Ensure habitat for snag-dependent species.</p>	<p>MODERATE: research, literature, administrative studies, logic</p>	<p>WIGU01</p>	<p>Timber Sale Layout, Contract, Administrator, Wildlife Biologist</p>

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Wildlife</b>					
10	<p>All activities within great gray owl nesting and rearing sites would be restricted to those approved by the Wildlife Biologist and coordinated with the Sale Administrator/Timber Management Assistant (TMA). A site-specific silvicultural prescription will be developed by the Wildlife biologist in coordination with the District Silviculturist, for forested stands where known great gray owl nesting and rearing sites existed. These forested stands are generally located in PVGs 6, 9, and 10 that are immediately adjacent to meadows (including wet meadows, dry meadows or other nonforested openings). Habitat requirements for the great gray owl considered within the prescription include but are not limited to timing restrictions, downed woody debris, number of snags per acre, snag size class, conifer encroachment into opening, condition of forested stand, forest stand structure, tree species composition, and forest size class.</p> <p>Prior to any ground-disturbing activity, including, but not limited to, the construction of log landings, vehicle turnouts or parking areas, skid trails, road construction or maintenance, and prescribed fire, the Wildlife Biologist, or designated Wildlife Staff, must conduct on-site surveys to identify whether the great gray owl nest stand is active.</p> <p>During operations, if a new great gray owl nest is located, onsite activities would be halted until a survey by Wildlife Staff can determine if the nest is active.</p>	<p>Minimize negative effects on wildlife, especially during reproductive periods.</p>	<p>HIGH: research, literature, Forest Plan, agency direction, logic</p>	<p>TEST12 WIGO01 WIGO02 WIGO03 WIGO04 WIOB01 WIOB03 WIOB07 WIOB09 WIST01 WIST02 WIST03 WIST04 WIGU01 WIGU05</p>	<p>Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist</p>

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**Table ROD-11. Project design features and mitigation measures for botanical resources.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Botanical Resources</b>					
11	Prior to any ground-disturbing activity, including but not limited to, the construction of log landings, biomass storage, vehicle turnouts or parking areas, skid trails, road construction or maintenance, and prescribed fire, the Forest Botanist or designated staff must conduct on-site surveys where rare plant habitat occurs to identify sensitive plant populations. Project activities may be altered to minimize or eliminate impacts to sensitive plant individuals and the habitat they occupy. Protective measures would be approved by the Forest Botanist and coordinated with the Timber Management Assistant, Fuels Specialist, and Sale Administrator.	Maintain or restore occupied rare plant habitat of all species.	MODERATE: Forest Plan, agency direction, logic	TEST06 TEST12 TEST13 WIST03, BTST01 BTGU01	Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist, Forest Botanist
12	If invasive weed species occur within or adjacent to occupied threatened, endangered, sensitive, proposed, and candidate (TESPC) plant habitat, measures to avoid weed establishment and spread will be taken and prioritized. All invasive species treatments in TESPC plant habitat would be developed in coordination with the Forest Botanist.	Avoid risk to all rare plant species sites.	HIGH: Forest Plan, logic	BTGU01 BTGU02 BTST04 BTGU05 TEST09	Forest Botanist, Range Specialist
13	In areas where planned road decommissioning or road construction run through or adjacent to known Sensitive or Watch plant populations, and the population cannot be otherwise avoided, individual plants will be flagged by the Forest Botanist or authorized personnel to facilitate temporary removal, off-site storage and replanting back into the top horizon of the decommissioned road prism. Top soil from occupied habitat would also be reserved for placement back into the top horizon of the decommissioned road prism and any seed mix applied would be coordinated with the Forest Botanist.	Avoid indirect risks to rare plant sites.	MODERATE: logic	BTGU01 BTST05 BTGU05	Forest Botanist, Hydrologist, Engineer

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
14	The Forest Botanist and Fuels Specialist will coordinate on all spring prescribed burns where burn units occur within 1/4 mile of occupied Tolmie's onion habitat to determine an ignition window that will reduce or eliminate impacts from smoke to Tolmie's onion pollinator behavior. Protective measures would be approved by the Forest Botanist.	Avoid risks to Tolmie's onion	MODERATE: Forest Plan, Logic	BTST01 BTGU01 BTGU02 BTGU05	Fuels Specialist, Botanist
15	No water will be diverted or removed from springs and seeps that support Cusick's camas.	Avoid risks to Cusick's camas	HIGH: Forest Plan, Logic	BTST01 BTGU01 BTGU05	Botanist, Hydrologist, Engineer, Fuels Specialist
16	Consider prescribed fire where late seral forests may be encroaching on whitebark pine occupied or suitable habitat and intensity could be moderate at most.	Avoid risks to whitebark pine	MODERATE: Forest Plan, Logic, Conservation and Restoration Strategies	TEST03 TEST08 TEGU02 TEGU06 TEGU07	Timber Sale Contract, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist, Forest Botanist
17	Always consider daylighting (thinning competing species within a 1-2 tree height distance of whitebark pine trees), particularly around mature, cone-producing trees that show evidence of white pine blister rust resistant genetics, as a pre-treatment in prescribed fire units.	Avoid risks to whitebark pine	MODERATE: Forest Plan, Logic, Conservation and Restoration Strategies	TEST03 TEST08 TEGU02 TEGU03 TEGU06 TEGU07	Timber Sale Contract, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist, Forest Botanist

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
18	Avoid cutting any living whitebark pine trees, particularly mature, cone-producing trees that show evidence of white pine blister rust resistance.	Avoid risks to whitebark pine	MODERATE: Forest Plan, Logic, Conservation and Restoration Strategies	TEST03	Timber Sale Contract, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist, Forest Botanist
19	Assess whitebark pine populations for white pine blister rust infection and resistance prior to developing burn prescription and use this information to minimize damage to healthy, resistant individuals.	Avoid risks to whitebark pine	MODERATE: Forest Plan, Logic, Conservation and Restoration Strategies	TEST03 TEST08 TEGU02 TEGU03 TEGU06	Timber Sale Contract, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist, Forest Botanist

**Table ROD-12. Project design features and mitigation measures for Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources (SWRA).**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
20	<p>The Project IDT has selected Option 2, as directed in Forest Plan Appendix B (USDA Forest Service 2003a), in the step-down process for RCAs. Option 2 uses two site-potential tree heights (here, 240 feet) for perennial streams and intermittent streams providing fish habitat. One site-potential tree height (120 feet) would be applied to intermittent streams not providing seasonal fish habitat, springs, ponds, lakes, and wetlands. A 30-foot RCA distance would be applied to seeps (further defined in Appendix 5 of the FEIS). Any previously unmapped RCA discovered during implementation would be delineated.</p> <p>Limited equipment use and harvest would be allowed in the outer half of RCAs in stands identified and approved for RCA thinning as described in the RCA Thinning Guidelines (Appendix 5 of the FEIS). PDFs would still apply to minimize ground disturbance.</p> <p>No mechanized equipment, skid trails, temporary roads, or landings would be allowed within RCAs unless evaluated and approved by the Fisheries Biologist or Hydrologist. The Hydrologist and/or Fisheries Biologist would provide required mitigations to maintain watershed condition indicators, including but not limited to chipping the landing material, requiring tops or tops and limbs be left in woods to minimize slash pile size, requiring haul of cull material or tops/limbs back into unit on return skidder trips, requiring alternative pile arrangement to minimize amount of severely burned soils resulting from landing pile burning, special landing rehabilitation, rehabilitating skid trails and landings within the same year of use, and leaving trees cut during landing construction on the site as CWD.</p> <p>The RCA treatment prescriptions would be developed by the Silviculturist, Fisheries Biologist, and Hydrologist to ensure riparian functions and watershed condition indicators are maintained. Any RCAs discovered during layout may be considered for treatment if they meet the intent of RCA treatments, maximum RCA treatment acres analyzed for would not be surpassed, and all project design features and restrictions would be adhered to.</p>	Maintain riparian function.	HIGH: experience, logic, Belt et al. 1992, McDade et al. 1990, Gregory et al. 1991	SWST01 SWST04 SWST10	Sale Administrator, Timber Sale Contract Provision, Fisheries Biologist or Hydrologist
21	<p>Prohibit yarding of logs across perennial and intermittent streams unless fully suspended above the stream channel. Minimize skyline corridors and require full suspension within RCAs (including landslides and landslide-prone areas). Sale Administrator would coordinate with Fisheries Biologist and/or Hydrologist prior to identifying skyline corridors where felling of trees would be necessary within RCAs. These trees may be required to be left in place.</p>	Maintain channel integrity.	HIGH: logic, experience	SWST04; SWST10	Design and Layout, Contract, Administrator

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel								
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>													
22	No storage of fuel or refueling within RCAs unless approved by a Fisheries Biologist and/or Hydrologist. Unattended equipment should not be parked in RCAs or where spills would have direct flow paths to RCAs or waterways. Timber sale contract provisions (as well as other contracts) shall require a spill response plan be included in the contract to meet state BMPs.	Minimize potential for fuel spill in stream.	HIGH: logic	SWST01 SWST04 SWST11	Contract Administrator, Contracts, Fisheries Biologist or Hydrologist								
23	For drainages identified as "High" for Channel Condition Risk, where planned vegetation treatments would increase Equivalent Clearcut Area (ECA) into or within the "High" category for ECA, limit ECA increase within the drainage to 1% during layout and implementation by reducing acres or reducing canopy cover removed. These drainages are listed below (map available in Hydrology Specialist report and the project record). <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Subwatershed</th> <th>Drainages</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lick Creek</td> <td>Cow Creek</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bear Creek</td> <td>Bear Composite A, Bear Tributary B, Bessie Gulch, Mickey Creek</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indian Creek</td> <td>Garnet Creek, Indian Composite B, Indian Composite C, Ladder Creek</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Subwatershed	Drainages	Lick Creek	Cow Creek	Bear Creek	Bear Composite A, Bear Tributary B, Bessie Gulch, Mickey Creek	Indian Creek	Garnet Creek, Indian Composite B, Indian Composite C, Ladder Creek	Limit ECA increase; minimize potential for increasing stream peak and/or base flows where increase may degrade channel conditions.	High: Experience	SWST01 SWST04	Sale Preparation, Silviculturist, Contract, Contract Administrator,
Subwatershed	Drainages												
Lick Creek	Cow Creek												
Bear Creek	Bear Composite A, Bear Tributary B, Bessie Gulch, Mickey Creek												
Indian Creek	Garnet Creek, Indian Composite B, Indian Composite C, Ladder Creek												

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
24	<p>No active ignition of prescribed fire in inner RCAs unless approved by Fisheries Biologist and/or Hydrologist. Instances where active ignition may occur could include areas that would minimize severity and intensity and where active ignition could take the place of fireline construction. NCT treatments (limbing and noncommercial understory thinning by hand) in outer RCAs would only occur in areas where prescribed fire is expected to be implemented and would not occur within riparian vegetation. No ladder fuel treatment would occur within the inner RCA unless approved by the Fisheries Biologist and/or Hydrologist. Slash produced by these treatments would be lopped and scattered or hand piled as directed by the Fisheries Biologist, Soil Scientist and/or Hydrologist. Exceptions exist within CPZ.</p> <p>No construction of mechanical fireline shall occur in RCAs, and handline should be minimized.</p> <p>Promptly reclaim all fireline following prescribed fire activities. Reclamation activities shall include, but are not limited to, placing waterbars, pulling material removed (including mineral soil) back onto fireline, and pulling slash as available onto the surface. Also see PDF #39.</p> <p>All burn plans and associated treatments shall be annually reviewed by district resource specialists. Additional site-specific concerns regarding prescribed fire treatments would be addressed at that time.</p>	Minimize loss of shade to perennial stream channels.	HIGH: experience	SWST01 SWST04 SWST07 FMGU06	Fuels Specialist, Burn Boss, Fisheries Biologist, or Hydrologist, Contracting Officer's Representative, Soil Scientist
25	<p>When constructing or reconstructing roads within RCAs or installing culverts on intermittent or ephemeral channels use wood straw, jute matting, or other erosion-control measures as deemed necessary by the Fisheries Biologist or Hydrologist. <i>Add gravel or surface 100-200 feet of new or reconstructed NFS roads on either side of intermittent and perennial stream crossings where determined by Hydrologist or Fisheries Biologist in conjunction with Engineer.</i></p>	Minimize sediment delivery to channel.	HIGH: experience, logic, Burroughs and King 1989, Foltz 2007	SWST01 SWST04	Timber Sale Contract, Sale Administrator, Harvest Inspector Fisheries Biologist, Hydrologist, Engineering Representative
26	<p>Roads identified for full recontour, including unauthorized routes used as temporary roads as well as those being decommissioned for soil and water restoration, would be decompacted to the depth of compaction recontoured, blended with the surrounding terrain, seeded with native seed (where need is identified), and provided with a minimum of 50% to maximum of 80% effective ground cover (vegetation transplants at a rate of 15 per 100 linear feet, natural mulch, CWD, and agricultural or wood straw, in that order of preference) to an</p>	Minimize sediment delivery to channel and rehabilitate riparian area; reduce levels of	HIGH: experience, logic, Burroughs and King 1989, Foltz 2007;	SWST01 SWST04 SWST03(b) SWST08	For Temporary Roads–Sale Administrator and/or Harvest Inspector For All Roads–

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
	<p>extent deemed necessary by FS. In addition to the above treatment, stream crossings would receive additional ground cover and vegetation transplants to an extent deemed necessary by FS, to reduce erosion, facilitate recovery of soil biological function and stabilize streambanks.</p> <p>Retained travelway would be effectively closed at entrance to prevent unauthorized use.</p> <p>Winterize temporary roads that would be retained until reforestation and biomass activities are completed. Install drainage features to control runoff and reduce erosion; <i>these features should be inspected annually after each winter to ensure they are still effective for the life of the road (less than 3 years).</i></p> <p>Newly constructed temporary roads would not require vegetation transplants.</p> <p>Temporary roads would be fully recontoured within 3 years of harvest unless otherwise agreed to in writing.</p>	TSRC.	experience, local monitoring		Timber Sale Contract Provisions, Hydrologist, Soil Scientist
27	<p>If snow conditions allow, use a snow bridge as an alternative to road construction and culvert placement. Where a temporary culvert is needed in a temporary road, it would be removed within the same field season unless approved by the Fisheries Biologist and/or Hydrologist.</p>	Minimize sediment delivery to channel and rehabilitate riparian area; reduce levels of TSRC.	HIGH: experience, logic, Burroughs and King 1989, Foltz 2007, experience, local monitoring	SWST01 SWST04 SWST03(b) SWST08	Sale Administrator, Harvest Inspector Timber Sale Contract Provisions

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
28	<p>ML1 roads temporarily opened for vegetation management that are proposed to return to ML1 closure would have: entrance blocked by boulders or earthen berm, overflow channels installed at crossings, drainage features installed and scarifying and reseeded (where designated by Forest Service to promote revegetation when vegetation management actions are completed.</p> <p>ML1 roads temporarily opened for vegetation management and designated for long-term storage would have: entrance recontoured, culverts removed and cut and fill recontoured at stream crossings or culvert retained and engineered failure point constructed, vegetation transplants at crossings, drainage features installed and scarifying and reseeded (as designated by Forest Service) to promote revegetation when vegetation management actions are completed.</p> <p>The PDFs for culvert replacements would be applied to culvert installations and post-treatment culvert removal on re-constructed closed ML1 roads (described above and in the Project Biological Assessment, located in the Project record).</p>	Reduce long term sediment production.	HIGH: logic, experience, local monitoring, Foltz and Maillard 2003	SWST01 SWST04 SWST08	Fisheries Biologist, Soil Scientist, Hydrologist, Engineering Representative
29	All new permanent road construction and reconstruction where cuts and fills are disturbed would require placing slash windrows and/or erosion control measures (e.g., hydroseeding and mulching) where erosion is identified as a concern, such as within contributing areas at all perennial and intermittent crossings and exposed steep cutslopes. Spot rocking and armored dips would also be incorporated into road designs by project engineers.	Reduce long term sediment production.	HIGH: experience, logic, Belt et al. 1992	SWST01 SWST04 SWST08	Engineer, Hydrologist, Soil Scientist, Fisheries Biologist
30	<p>Install culvert or other crossing structures after spring peak flows; the Forest Service would determine when dewatering the channel is necessary. Where fish habitat or potential fish habitat exists, permanent culvert installations will incorporate elements of the natural channel, such as substrate size and gradient.</p> <p>All required permits shall be acquired prior to project implementation.</p>	Minimize effects on fish and fish habitat.	HIGH: logic, experience	NA	Fisheries Biologist Hydrologist, Engineering Representative
31	<p>Where water drafting is necessary for project activities, screen opening size would be the standard 3/32-inch or smaller (as required by the Forest Plan; USDA Forest Service 2003a). Locate and approve water drafting sites prior to use.</p> <p>The culvert design team would specify stockpiling and staging areas; access to the site would be via an established roadway. Some trees may have to be felled within the RCA to complete construction; however, the number of trees cut shall be minimized to the extent possible and felled trees will be left intact as CWD/LWD.</p>	Minimize effects on fish and fish habitat.	HIGH: logic, experience	NA	Fisheries Biologist Contract Administrator, Hydrologist, Engineering Representative

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
32	Where necessary, block nets shall be installed, and fish observed within the project area would be cleared from the area using dipping, seining, and/or electrofishing methods. Fish would be transported to an unaffected portion of the creek above the in-stream work and released.	Minimize effects on fish and fish habitat.	HIGH: logic, experience	NA	Fisheries Biologist, Engineering Representative, Contract Administrator
33	During culvert installations, a spill-containment kit would be available on-site that would accommodate potential spills from the equipment used during implementation. No fuels would be stored in RCAs unless there is no other alternative. Refueling or servicing of vehicles or equipment would not take place in RCAs. All equipment would be in good repair and free of leakage of lubricant, fuels, coolants, and hydraulic fluid. In-stream work with heavy machinery would be minimized to the extent possible. Detectable sheens and any spills over 25 gallons shall be reported to Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.	Minimize effects on water quality.	HIGH: logic, experience	SWST01 SWST04 SWST11	Contract Administrator, Hydrologist, Fisheries Biologist, Engineering Representative
34	During culvert installation and construction of new trail crossings, sediment mats or similar containment system would be placed within the channel to collect released fine sediments and minimize effects on downstream segments. These would be removed from the channel at the conclusion of Project activities. Sediment-control measures may also include erosion-control matting, mulch, straw wattles, straw bales, and/or slash. The culvert/bridge installation and associated activities would be conducted in a manner that would minimize the potential for input of additional fine sediment or affecting riparian habitat; the Forest Service shall design a site-specific erosion-control plan that suits the contracted activity. For AOP culverts, stream simulation material would be washed (i.e., sprayed with water using pump and hose setup), to set fine material prior to reintroduction of flow. Flow would slowly be reintroduced into the streambed to minimize loss of downstream surface water and to minimize turbidity.	Minimize effects on water quality.	HIGH: logic, experience	FRST05	Contract Administrator, Hydrologist, Fisheries Biologist, Soil Scientist, Engineering Representative

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
35	Culvert replacement/removal site rehabilitation may include seeding and mulching disturbed areas and planting with native vegetation. Straw wattles may also be used to stabilize the road fill. All project-related materials and waste shall be removed from the site when construction is complete.	Reduce erosion.	HIGH: logic, experience	NA	Contract Administrator, Hydrologist, Fisheries Biologist, Engineering Representative
36	During installation of vault toilets, if located in RCAs, follow programmatic consultation.	Reduce erosion.	HIGH: logic, experience	NA	Contract Administrator, Hydrologist, Fisheries Biologist, Engineering Representative
37	New trail crossings (including fords and bridges) associated with the trail reroutes would be designed to allow passage of all aquatic organisms and shall comply with SWST08. Armor potential erosion sites (e.g., trail approaches) with appropriate rock or other erosion-control measure. Select the site for the crossing to minimize effects on aquatic resources. Follow bridge/culvert project design features outlined above if the crossing would involve a bridge.	Allow passage of and minimize effects on aquatic organisms.	HIGH: logic, experience	SWST08	Fisheries Biologist, Hydrologist, Recreation Specialist, Contract Administrator
38	Utilize all applicable National and State BMPs for harvest and road activities.	Reduce/limit levels of soil disturbance, erosion and potential sedimentation; meet requirements of State of Idaho Non-point Source Pollution Management Plan; maintain water quality	HIGH: National Core BMP Technical Guide, Vol. I (FS-990a); local monitoring	SWST01 SWST02 SWST03 SWST04 SWG08	Timber Sale Design and Layout, Sale Administrator

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
		and associated beneficial uses.			
39	<p><b>Soil Resource Protection: Harvesting, Skidding and Yarding</b></p> <p>The following measures are included to minimize detrimental impacts to soil productivity and soil-hydrologic condition and meet Forest Plan standards for soil productivity.</p> <p><b>Soil moisture operability requirements</b></p> <p>Ground-based mechanized harvesting and skidding equipment (skidders, feller-bunchers, jammer-yarders; and other heavy machinery, e.g., masticators, excavators) will be allowed when soil moisture is sufficiently low, or when adequate winter logging conditions exist with a sufficient depth of packed snow and/or frozen ground. The Forest Service will ultimately determine when and where appropriate operating conditions exist. The intent is to minimize detrimental soil rutting, displacement, and compaction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To determine appropriate soil moistures for operations, use the “Field Guide to Soil Moisture Conditions Relative to Operability of Logging Equipment” (FEIS, Appendix 6).</li> <li>• Typically, soils are too moist for ground-based mechanized harvesting and skidding operations if a 1 to 2 inch diameter ball of mineral soil collected from a 4 to 6 in. depth can be molded with hand pressure by 6 directional squeezes into a ball that will not break upon repeated tosses to 1 to 2 feet in the air.</li> <li>• Exceptions may be made to allow limited operations on moist soils only excavated skid trails and landings.</li> <li>• Adequate winter logging conditions must include a sufficient depth of frozen ground and/or packed, dense snow to support machine traffic and prevent detrimental soil rutting, displacement, and compaction from harvesting and skidding. Typically, these conditions are as follows:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Minimum 4-inch depth of frozen soil and no snow, or</li> <li>○ Minimum 2-inch depth of frozen soil and 6-inch machine packed snow, or</li> <li>○ 0-inch depth of frozen soil and minimum 10 inch machine packed snow</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Feller-buncher (or other mechanical ground-based harvesting systems)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvesting equipment is allowed to traffic portions of units up to 35% slope</li> </ul>	Minimize soil disturbance from heavy machinery.	<p>HIGH:</p> <p>logic, experience, local monitoring, Cambi 2015; Reeves 2011; Powers et al. 2005; Han et al. 2009; Page-Dumroese et al. 2009; Univ. of Idaho 2015 (Idaho Forestry BMPs Field Guide); USDA 2018 (soil moisture equipment operability guide); Froehlich and McNabb 1983; U. of Idaho 2014 (Idaho Forestry BMPs Field Guide)</p>	SWST02, SWST03	Timber Sale Design and Layout, Soil Scientist, Timber Sale Administrator, Timber Sale Contract,

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As approved by a Soil Scientist, harvesting equipment may operate on areas with up to 40% slope for short distances (&lt;150 feet). This exception applies to units that are dominated by &lt;35% slope, yet have minor inclusions (&lt;20% of unit area) from 35-40% slope.</li> </ul> <p><b>Jammer, Off-Road Jammer, Skyline, Helicopter</b>                      On slopes greater than 35% where ground-based harvesting and skidding equipment is restricted, utilize cable (jammer, off-road jammer), skyline/excaline, or helicopter harvest systems and limit equipment operations to designated and approved skid trails, roads and landings.</p> <p><b>Skid Trails and Skidding</b>                      Design and designate skid trail systems to minimize new soil disturbance. Give preference to reusing and rehabilitating existing skid trails and landings. Terrain and landing locations should be considered when planning new skid trail types and locations. If overwintering skid trails and landings, install waterbars where needed to prevent concentrated water flow and erosion. Minimize area and depth of soil disturbance when installing waterbars.</p> <p>Constructed skid trails result in highly disturbed soils similar to temporary roads and should be minimized. Give preference to other log-retrieval options including nonconstructed skid trails and skyline systems.</p> <p><b>Alternative Landing Pile Arrangement:</b> This demonstration PDF would be explored during implementation in “pilot” units agreed upon by the District timber staff and soil and water staff. Where feasible, minimize soil burn severity from burning of landing piles by decking larger logs at the bottom of the pile to create an insulating air cushion over the soil surface.</p> <p><b>All skidding use cases:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All skid trails must be preapproved by the Forest Service timber sale administrator before timber-felling operations begin</li> <li>Skidding equipment must remain on preapproved skid trails</li> </ul> <p>In addition to the above,</p> <p><b>Skidding on nonconstructed skid trails</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nonconstructed trails will be allowed on slopes up to 35% and spaced an average minimum distance of 100 feet</li> <li>As approved by a Soil Scientist, skidding equipment may operate on areas with up to 40% slope for short distances (&lt;150 feet). This exception applies to units that are dominated by &lt;35% slope, yet have minor inclusions (&lt;20% of unit area) from 35-40% slope. The intent is to accommodate stepped hillslope terrain and provide an alternative to</li> </ul>				

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
	<p>excavated constructed skid trails.</p> <p><b>Skidding on constructed skid trails</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction (i.e., benching) of excavated skid trails is allowed on hillslopes up to 45% slope for use in cable-yarding systems.</li> <li>Minimize excavation depths and widths of skid trails</li> <li>Constructed trails will not exceed 30% grade, except for short distances. Steeper constructed skid trail grades may be approved by Soil Scientist on stable soils, particularly to accommodate reuse and rehabilitation of existing disturbed areas. Constructed trails will be spaced an average minimum distance of 200 feet</li> </ul> <p><b>Off-trail skidding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In units where hand-felling is required specifically for oversized trees, logs will be cabled/long-lined to the designated skid trail. A Soil Scientist may approve limited use of skidding equipment off of designated trails to skid these oversized trees on hillslopes less than 35%.</li> </ul>				
40	<p><b>Special Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If it is determined that specific proposed treatment units have DD levels at or in excess of 15%, site-specific actions may be needed to result in the required net reduction in DD following project activities. Options may include restricting operations to existing disturbed areas, operating only with adequate winter conditions, hand-felling and/or cable-yarding only, restrictions on post-harvest mastication or machine-piling, or avoiding specific portions of units.</li> </ul>	Minimize potential for DD from heavy machinery.	HIGH: logic, experience, local monitoring, Froehlich and McNabb 1983, Cambi 2015, Reeves et al. 2011; Powers et al. 2005; Univ. of Idaho 2015 (Idaho Forestry BMPs Field Guide)	SWST02, SWST03	Timber Sale Design and Layout, Sale Administrator, Fuels Specialist, Soil Scientist
41	<p><b>Soil Disturbance Rehabilitation</b></p> <p><i>Remediation will occur within 1 year following harvest activities for skid trails and landings, and within three years for temporary roads.</i></p> <p>Areas of relic soil compaction outside of designated skid trail network and identified during implementation are candidates for remediation, as determined by the Forest Service.</p> <p><b>Decompaction</b></p>	Drive post-disturbance soil recovery; minimize newly created or existing areas of TSRC and detrimental disturbance.	HIGH: Research, logic, experience, local monitoring, Powers et al. 2005, Lloyd et al. 2013.	SWST02 SWST03	Timber Sale Administrator, Timber Sale contract, Soil Scientist

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
	<p>Decompaction can be destructive to the soil profile and should be implemented cautiously for the primary purpose of restoring soil porosity and reducing soil density. Compaction—directly observed as strong platy or massive structure, abnormal resistance to penetration, or inferred from the number of passes by machinery—will be the primary determinant of the depth and extent of decompaction in all instances. Typically, decompaction would occur where &gt;4 inch depth of compaction with strong platy or massive structure is present.</p> <p>Unless otherwise agreed in writing (i.e., some landings may be retained as dispersed camping sites):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decompaction techniques will emphasize slight lifting and fracturing, not plowing or mixing, to a maximum depth of 16 inches and spanning the entire width of the compacted surface.</li> </ul> <p>Constructed skid trails, landings, and temporary road surfaces will be decompacted to full depth of compaction and recontoured to the natural slope profile. Exceptions to decompacting and recontouring may be permitted, per the Soil Scientist, due to operational infeasibility. <i>Skid trails and landings will be rehabilitated within 1 year of completion of harvest in that unit.</i></p> <p>Nonconstructed skid trails will be fully decompacted on the entire width if compacted (typically &gt;4 inch depth of compaction with strong platy or massive structure). Typically, this is a minimum distance of 100 to 200 feet from landings and primary skid trails. Exceptions are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If impacts are mainly limited to track ruts and the centerline of the skid trail is not compacted and still vegetated, subsoil only within defined track ruts if they are compacted to &gt; 4 inch depth.</li> <li>If decompaction would fracture the roots of tree greater than 8 inches diameter breast height, decompaction will be restricted in that specific area. This area is typically defined by the tree drip line, or a set radius around such trees would be determined by the Forest Service.</li> </ul> <p><b>Soil Displacement Rehabilitation</b></p> <p>Displaced mineral topsoil will be pulled back according to the general criteria below, unless otherwise approved by a soil scientist. This work may be completed by hand or with an excavator on slopes up to 35%, and where exceptions are approved to allow harvesting equipment up to 40% slope. Otherwise this work needs to be completed by hand on slopes &gt;35%. <i>Rehabilitation will occur within one calendar year of harvest.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When mechanical soil displacement displaces a continuous &gt;4-inch depth of mineral topsoil on &gt; 10 sq. ft. area OR</li> </ul>				

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In defined ruts with continuous displaced mineral topsoil berms &gt; 4 inches in height and longer than 10 feet</li> <li>Reclaim disturbed skyline/cable corridors by pulling displaced mineral topsoil berms (&gt; 4 inches in height and longer than 10 feet) back to original configuration and scattering slash (as available) on all areas of soil disturbance to provide for minimum of 50% to a maximum of 80% effective cover. Ensure that surface runoff is not directly channeled into skyline corridors from landing areas.</li> </ul>				
42	<p><b>Soil Cover</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following harvest activities, slash, fine, and coarse woody debris would be placed as a protective cover and nutrient source on <i>soils disturbed by harvest activities (skid trails, landings, and temporary roads)</i>. This activity should provide 50% to 80% effective ground cover, OR the minimum amount necessary to inhibit overland flow.</li> <li>During harvest operations, soil cover and nutrient source material (limbs, tops, cull, etc.) should be left in the unit or returned to the unit from the landing/processing area during skidding operations where practicable. Returning slash, fine, and coarse woody debris to the unit during harvest operations is particularly important in whole-tree harvest methods.</li> <li>CWD guidelines would be followed to support long-term soil productivity and ecological functions.</li> <li>On landings used to process wood chips, depth of residual chip material should not exceed 4 inches prior to obliteration. Avoid mixing chips into soil.</li> </ul>		HIGH: logic, experience, Brown et al. 2003; Graham et al. 1991, 1994	SWST02 SWST03 SWG05	
43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve road drainage (installing water bars/dips, cleaning relief culverts, etc.) as needed on all roads used for harvest activities pre-haul, during, and post-haul. Minimize disturbance to existing vegetated ditch lines if already properly draining to avoid undue soil disturbance that could increase ditch erosion and sedimentation into streams.</li> </ul>	Reduce road-related sediment inputs; improve road surface conditions.	HIGH: logic, experience, Burroughs and King 1989	SWST01 SWST04 SWG08	Project Engineer, Timber Sale Road Package, Contract Provision
44	<p><b>Coarse Woody Debris</b></p> <p>Whole tree yarding to the landing is permitted but limbs, tops, cull material, etc. must be taken back into the woods on return trips to meet CWD and soil cover requirements. Limbs and tops returned to the woods shall be scattered adjacent to skid trails and distributed as evenly as possible. Material returned will not be wind rowed or jack pot piled.</p>	Maintain CWD for long-term site productivity and for wildlife species.	HIGH: Graham et al. 1991, 1994; Brown et al. 2003	SWST04, VEST01, VEGU03	Timber Sale Contract, Administrator, Soil Scientist

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
	<p>Retain total amounts of CWD (&gt;3 inches diameter) as evenly distributed as possible in the tonnages and diameters described below and in 6-foot or greater lengths. Preference should be given to retain the percentages of the large-sized CWD (greater than 15-inch diameter) identified in the Forest Plan. If tonnages and/or sizes are unavailable, then ensure that trends toward desired conditions are achieved. Total desired tonnage is measured following the completion of all activities, including prescribed burning, thus the objective should be to meet the middle of the range or greater with larger-diameter material following harvest activities. (Forest Plan, Appendix A, page A-9, Table A-9; USDA Forest Service 2003a).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For PVG 1: retain CWD in amounts of 3-10 tons per acre with at least 75% of the tonnage provided from CWD that is greater than 15 inches in diameter.</li> <li>• For PVGs 2 and 5: retain CWD in amounts of 4–14 tons per acre with at least 75% of the tonnage provided from CWD that is greater than 15 inches in diameter.</li> <li>• For PVGs 3, 4, and 6: retain CWD in amounts of 4–14 tons per acre with at least 65% of the tonnage provided from CWD that is greater than 15 inches in diameter.</li> <li>• For PVG 7: retain CWD in amounts of 5–19 tons per acre with at least 50% of the tonnage provided from CWD that is greater than 15 inches in diameter.</li> <li>• For PVGs 8, 9, and 10: retain CWD in amounts of 5–19 tons per acre with at least 25% of the tonnage provided from CWD that is greater than 15 inches in diameter.</li> <li>• For PVG 11: retain CWD in amounts of 4–14 tons per acre with at least 25% of the tonnage provided from CWD that is greater than 15 inches in diameter.</li> </ul> <p>If needed for meeting CWD tonnages, available cull material longer than 6 feet or other noncommercial material (e.g., decked firewood, operational trees, snags felled for safety reasons) shall be utilized to meet the CWD requirement. Preference should be given to larger-diameter material to meet these requirements (prioritize &gt;15-inch diameter if available). Where CWD is deficient, a contract provision requiring CWD to be returned from the log landing to the harvest unit would be utilized in tractor units to meet CWD guidelines.</p>				

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
45	<p><b>Prescribed Fire</b></p> <p>Prescribed burn activities should employ the following techniques to minimize the degree and extent of soil damage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Broadcast burn</b> techniques should favor low soil burn severity by promoting incomplete forest floor consumption, and avoiding prolonged (&gt;6 hour) smoldering of matted fuel beds greater than 3 inches thick. Some incidental moderate soil burn severity is expected and acceptable provided it is not spatially extensive.</li> <li>• <b>Pile burning</b> generally results in moderate to high soil burn severity based on pile size diameter. To minimize their effects within treatment units, piles should be &lt;10 feet in diameter, &lt; 6 feet tall and well dispersed. When feasible, larger piles on landings should be decked on logs to create an insulating air cushion and conduct hand and landing pile-burning operations when environmental and fuel conditions will minimize the area and depth of high soil burn severity and promote retention of surface cover. Areas with high soil burn severity should be rehabilitated (log landings, concentrated hand piles). Rehabilitation may include mixing ash and surface scorched soils with deeper unburned soils followed by placement of available slash, fine, and coarse woody debris as a protective cover and source of organic matter to initiate soil recovery. Weed treatment and planting/seeding of pile-burning areas would also improve recovery.</li> <li>• <b>CWD</b> guidelines in CWD PDF 38 apply to prescribed fire activities. For thinning and lop-and-scatter activities, leave pieces in &gt;6 foot lengths to contribute to CWD.</li> <li>• <b>Fireline reclamation</b> will occur following burn activities. Reclamation activities would include, but are not limited to, pulling all material removed for fireline construction back onto fireline (including mineral soil as available), pulling available slash onto the surface to achieve a minimum 50% ground cover of the disturbed soil. Construct waterbars only when full reclamation is not possible. <i>Reclamation should take place within the same season as the burn, if possible.</i></li> </ul>	<p>Maintain CWD for long-term site productivity and for wildlife species.</p>	<p>HIGH: Certini 2005, Busse 2014, Graham et al. 1991, 1994</p>	<p>SWST03 SWST04</p>	<p>Prescriptions for Prescribed Burn, Fuels Specialist, Soil Scientist</p>

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
46	<p><b><u>Landslide Prone (LSP)/Unstable Soils</u></b></p> <p>Identify any high- and moderate-risk LSP areas or other susceptible unstable landforms (utilize PAF SINMAP Landslide Prone model outputs, field-indicators of instability, consult soil scientist). Management activities located on high- and moderate-risk areas will maintain stability in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit harvested gap openings to 20 meters diameter between clumps of established conifers.</li> <li>• Avoid pile burning and root mortality from broadcast burning (PDF 39).</li> <li>• Favor longer-lived species such as ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir, where ecologically appropriate.</li> <li>• Avoid road and skid trail construction on moderate- and high-risk LSP areas, and avoid concentrating water onto LSP areas from road drainage.</li> <li>• On the most unstable high-risk areas, harvest, burning or road/trail construction may be prohibited.</li> </ul>	<p>Reduce potential for landslides by retaining trees and other vegetation and avoiding earthwork. Maintain slope hydrology, evapotranspiration, and rooting strength.</p>	<p>HIGH: Moos et al. 2016, Roering et al. 2003, Sidle 1992, Chatwin et al. 1994, Burroughs and Thomas 1977, Megahan 1978</p>	<p>TRST05 SWST12 SWG04</p>	<p>Road Layout and Road Design Package, Timber Sale Layout and Marking, Prescriptions for Prescribed Burn, Soil Scientist, Fuels Specialist</p>
47	<p><b><u>Mechanical Fuel Treatments: Mastication, Machine-Piling</u></b></p> <p>Mastication and Machine Piling activities need to be planned to minimize the potential for DD (rutting, compaction, topsoil displacement). Utilize the lowest-impact methods that can achieve objectives.</p> <p><b>For Both Masticating and Machine Piling Operations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tracked-equipment will be used and is restricted to slopes &lt;35%. As approved by a Soil Scientist, exceptions may be made to allow operations on areas up to 40% slope, depending on site characteristics such as soil type and existing soil disturbance. Exceptions may also be made to allow operations on up to 40 % slopes on existing disturbed trails, roads or on adequately frozen soil or snowpack (See PDF 33).</li> <li>• Soil Moisture Operability Requirements (PDF 33) apply. Activities can occur when soil moisture is sufficiently low, or when adequate winter logging conditions exist with a sufficient depth of packed snow and/or frozen ground.</li> <li>• Plan activities to minimize the amount of area receiving machine traffic needed to meet objectives. Travel on existing disturbed areas when available, minimize the number of passes, and designate travel routes and sensitive areas to avoid.</li> <li>• Operate machinery on slash and/or masticated material to protect soils.</li> <li>• CWD requirements in PDF 38 regarding size of pieces and tons/acre are applicable, including the emphasis on &gt;15 in. diameter material and &gt;6 ft.</li> </ul>	<p>Minimize potential for DD Maintain soil productivity.</p>	<p>HIGH: Research, Experience, Jain et al. 2018; Busse 2014</p>	<p>SWST02 SWST03 SWST04</p>	<p>Fuels Specialist, Silviculturist, Soils Specialist</p>

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Soil, Water, Riparian and Aquatic Resources</b>					
	<p>lengths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detrimentially disturbed areas would require rehabilitation (see PDF 34 Soil Disturbance Rehabilitation)</li> </ul> <p><b>For Mastication activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give preference to a boom-mounted cutting head to avoid driving to each tree and provide for more maneuverability and lower impacts in complex terrain.</li> <li>• Give preference to producing long intact lengths of material or large chunks. If chips are produced, do not exceed a 4-inch depth of chips.</li> </ul> <p><b>For Machine-Piling activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machine-piling activities would only be used in areas of heavy fuel loading along roads and in WUI areas and would require approval by the Soil Specialist. Plan activities to minimize the amount of area receiving machine traffic and soil disturbance from piling operations.</li> <li>• Utilize a brush rake, grapple rake, or similar implement to pile in a manner that minimizes disturbance to duff and topsoil and prevents piling soil into slash piles.</li> <li>• Focus machine-piling where required to address heavy fuel-loading and avoid excess unnecessary machine disturbance in areas that are within acceptable loading guidelines or can be piled by hand.</li> <li>• Piles should be small (&lt;10 feet in diameter, &lt; 6 feet tall), more numerous, dispersed rather than large and fewer to reduce overall detrimental soil disturbance. Give preference to piling and burning on existing disturbed areas such as landings, skid trails and along roads.</li> </ul>				

Project Design Features

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**Table ROD-13. Project design features and mitigation measures for rangeland.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Rangeland</b>					
48	Protect range improvements such as fencing and water troughs from prescribed fire.	Protect improvements.	HIGH: logic	N/A	Fuels Specialist, Burn plan.
49	Per “The Payette National Forest Noxious Weed and Poisonous Plant Control Program EA and DN,” treat populations of noxious weeds found in the planning area. Control measures may include spraying, biological controls, or other methods as needed (USDA Forest Service 1987).	Control noxious weeds.	HIGH: fact, experience	NPST10 NPGU01 NPGU05	Range Specialist
50	In order to limit the potential spread of noxious weeds into the project or treatment areas, Forest Service contractors associated with project activities would clean all off-road equipment prior to entry onto the treatment area. When working in treatment areas identified as containing weed infestations, contractors would be required to clean equipment before leaving and moving to a new treatment area. This cleaning would remove plants, dirt, and material that may carry noxious weed seeds and would be performed at a site designated by the Forest Service.	Limit the risk of new infestations of noxious weeds into the area.	HIGH: fact, experience	NPST03 NPST04 NPGU03	Contract Administrator, Fuels Specialist
51	Any materials, such as mulches and straw used for rehabilitation, reclamation, etc., would be certified free of noxious weed seeds.	Limit the risk of new infestations of noxious weeds into the area.	HIGH: fact, experience	NPST01 NPST02 NPST03 NPST06	Contract Administrator, Range Specialist
52	Source sites for gravel and borrow materials would be inspected or certified weed free before materials are used or transported. If noxious weeds are present, they would be treated one season prior to use to limit seed production before use or transport.	Limit the spread of noxious weeds in the Project area.	HIGH: fact, experience	NPST07 NPST08 NPGU02	Range Specialist, Botanist, Engineer, Administrator

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**Table ROD-14. Project design features and mitigation measures for threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate, and sensitive species.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate Species and Region 4 Sensitive Species</b>					
53	Ground-disturbing activities would be stopped in any areas where previously unknown listed or sensitive fish, wildlife, or botanical species are discovered until a Fisheries Biologist, Wildlife Biologist, or Botanist, respectively, reviews the affected area and prescribes appropriate mitigation to ensure protection of the species.	Provide protection to threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.	MODERATE: logic	TEST01 TEST02 TEST03 TEST06 TEST12 TEST13 TEGU01 TEGU02 TEGU06 WIST02 WIST03 WIST06 WIGU01 WIGU05 WIGU06 WIGU07	Fish Biologist, Wildlife Biologist, Botanist, Sale Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist.

Project Design Features

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**Table ROD-15. Project design features and mitigation measures for forested vegetation.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Forest Vegetation and Timber</b>					
54	Following harvest and prescribed fire operations, the larger aspen stands would be evaluated for the need to protect aspen regeneration from damage by cattle, deer, and elk. Possible protection measures would include temporary electric fencing or rough windrow fencing using felled trees.	Protect aspen regeneration from large animal damage.	HIGH: experience, logic	VEGO04 VEGO05 VEGO06	Silviculturist and Wildlife Biologist would evaluate and implement with available resources or contracts.
55	Use the bark beetle (Scolytidae) contract provision for stands where substantial amounts of ponderosa pine would be harvested, if the proposed unit is near a plantation with a component of ponderosa pine.	Minimize bark beetle population buildup.	HIGH: experience, logic	TRGO01	Timber Sale Contract, Sale Administrator
56	Include a timber sale contract provision that requires firewood to be made accessible to the public by requiring firewood to be decked separate from slash piles and in locations where removal would be practical.	Provide firewood gathering opportunities for the public	HIGH: logic	TRGO04	Timber Sale Contract, Sale Administrator
57	Sufficient live trees of appropriate size should be retained for future CWD and snag recruitment where CWD or snag levels are below desired ranges (to meet Appendix A of the Forest Plan; USDA Forest Service 2003a).	Move toward desired CWD and snag levels.	MODERATE to HIGH: experience	VEGU03	Silviculturist Fuels Specialist Silvicultural Prescription Burn Plan
58	Prior to decommissioning routes or completing long-term closure activities, approval by the District Timber Management Assistant or Silviculturist shall be obtained to ensure that utilization of these routes for access, haul, and/or skid trail is not necessary to complete any planned or proposed vegetation treatments, including prescribed fire.	Utilize existing routes to complete vegetation treatments.	MODERATE to HIGH: experience	N/A	Hydrologist/Soil Scientist/ District Timber Management Assistant

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Forest Vegetation and Timber</b>					
59	All acres treated with mechanical or prescribed fire treatments require a silvicultural prescription.	Ensure movement toward desired conditions to meet stand objectives.	MODERATE: experience	N/A – Forest Service Manual/Handbook Direction	Silviculturist, Fuels Specialist, Silvicultural Prescription, Burn Plan

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**Table ROD-16. Project design features and mitigation measures for legacy trees/old forest.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Legacy Tree/Old Forest</b>					
60	Ponderosa pine, western larch, and Douglas-fir that fit the definition of legacy trees should be retained during harvest. See Appendix 7 of the FEIS for legacy tree guidelines for the Project.	Retain/maintain early seral legacy trees for ecological function, diversity and wildlife habitat.	HIGH: logic, experience	N/A – Appendix 7 of the FEIS	Timber Sale Contract, Wildlife Biologist, TMA, Contract Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist
61	Retain/maintain forest stands that meet the definition of old forest as defined in the Forest Plan, Appendix A (USDA Forest Service 2003a). Management actions are permitted in such stands as long as they would continue to meet the desired conditions	Retain/maintain old forest characteristics, such as legacy trees, snags, and CWD appropriate for the forest type.	HIGH: logic, experience	N/A – Appendix A of the Forest Plan	Silvicultural Prescription, Silviculturist, Wildlife Biologist

**Table ROD-17. Project design features and mitigation measures for air quality.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Air Quality</b>					
62	Identify sensitive areas for smoke impacts and coordinate all prescribed fire operations with Montana/Idaho State Airshed Group.	Avoid smoke immersion into nonattainment or sensitive areas.	HIGH: logic, experience	ASGU02	Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist

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**Table ROD-18. Project design features and mitigation measures for cultural resources.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Cultural Resources</b>					
63	<p>Project activities shall follow stipulations agreed to in Memoranda of Agreement with the SHPO per 36 CFR 800.4 (b)(2). The stipulations shall include but are not limited to the following requirements prior to implementation of individual projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid all cultural resource sites during project implementation unless alternative treatments are developed and agreed to by all consulting parties.</li> <li>• All known sites would be monitored and flagged prior to implementation to ensure avoidance.</li> <li>• If existing surveys are determined to be inadequate, inventories would be conducted according to the Secretary of the Interior’s standards, and a secondary consultation with Idaho SHPO and appropriate SHPO approval would be required for:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Log and biomass landing construction</li> <li>○ Proposed Timber Harvest Units</li> <li>○ Prescribed fireline construction</li> <li>○ Newly constructed temporary roads</li> <li>○ Road decommissioning</li> <li>○ Proposed recreation actions</li> <li>○ Fish passage barrier improvements and associated road rehabilitation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Prevent damage to cultural resource sites.	HIGH: experience	N/A	Timber Sale Contract, Burn Plans, Forest Archaeologist Burn Boss, Contract Administrators

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**Table ROD-19. Project design features and mitigation measures for recreation and visual quality.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Recreation and Visual Quality</b>					
64	Ridgeline silhouettes in VQO* classifications of mgR, mgPR, and bgR should not have unnatural-appearing breaks along them.	Meet visual quality objectives.	MODERATE: logic	SCGU06	Layout Forester
65	Duration of visual impacts from ground disturbing and vegetation removal activities to allow for herbaceous vegetative recovery of ground cover may extend to three years in areas with VQO* classifications of fgR, fgPR, mgR, and mgPR. Consider timely initiation of reseeded in areas where natural recovery is questionable.	Meet visual quality objectives.	MODERATE: logic	SCGU02	Contract Administrator, Fuels Specialist
66	In areas classified as fgR on the Forest VQO* map (primarily along portions of the Council-Cuprum, Landore, and Black Lake Roads), visibility of stumps should be mitigated after any timber cutting. There should be a general lack of visible ground disturbance.	Meet visual quality objectives	MODERATE: Logic	SCGU03	Contract Administrator, Burn Plan, Fuels Specialist, Recreation Specialist
67	Slash and harvest residues remaining after project completion should appear to be naturally occurring in lands with a VQO* of fgR and mostly naturally occurring in fgPR. Techniques to mitigate visibility of slash include lopping to low heights. Burning, physically removing material excess to other resource needs, and dispersing concentrations.	Meet visual quality objectives	MODERATE: Logic	SCGU04	Contract Administrator
68	Most timber changes in areas classified under Forest VQOs* as mgR should be textural with some small, simulated natural openings where openings already occur, or a limited number of small natural-appearing openings.	Meet visual quality objectives	MODERATE: Logic	SCGU05	Layout Forester
69	Install adequate drainage structures in new trail construction and ensure sediment transport is minimized where trails are located within RCAs, as per Forest Service Trail Construction Specifications. Stream crossings shall comply with Forest Plan Standard SWST 08 (USDA Forest Service 2003a).	Provide water quality protection during trail construction.	HIGH: logic, experience	REST02	Recreation Staff, Engineer
70	Where necessary, restrict log hauling during periods of high recreation use, such as the opening day of big game hunting seasons in IDFG Unit 22/Weiser River Zone. This would primarily concern archery elk/deer season, any weapon deer season, any weapon elk season and the	Provide restrictions for public safety.	MODERATE: logic	N/A	Contract Administrator, Contract

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#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Recreation and Visual Quality</b>					
	weekends immediately following these dates (dates determined by IDFG regulations), and Memorial, Independence, and Labor days.				
71	The Forest shall add protection measures for existing NFS trails in all timber sale contracts; annual operating plans for grazing, mining, and special use authorizations; and prescribed fire implementation documents; and reestablish any trail segments lost to these proposed activities.	Provide trail protection.	HIGH: Logic	REGU26	Inspection by Recreation Specialist
72	Inform the public in a timely manner about management actions such as prescribed fire, affecting their recreation opportunities. Information should be presented at appropriate locations (roads, developed sites, trailheads) as well as through press releases and social media postings.	Provide timely public recreation information	HIGH: Logic, experience	N/A – REOB08 Public relations	Appropriate district staff member, Recreation Specialist, Public affairs staff
73	On the segment of NFS Trail 228, Upper Bear Creek, conduct stringent monitoring and, if necessary, control measures to avoid establishment of non-native vegetation during construction of trail reroute and restoration/rehabilitation of decommissioned segment, as well as any other incidental trail improvements (e.g., drainage structures). This monitoring should occur both during and after implementation.	Prevent impacts to the RNA's ecological integrity and ability to serve as a representative example of its ecotype	MODERATE, experience	N/A – Bear Creek RNA Establishment Record (USDA Forest Service 1997); FSM 4063.3(7)	Recreation, Ecologist, Weeds, and/or Botany staff
*Refer to Forest Plan VQO map and <i>National Forest Landscape Management, Volume 2</i> (USDA Forest Service 1974) for definitions of VQO classifications					

Project Design Features

Attachment 1

**Table ROD-20. Project design features and mitigation measures for Transportation Facilities.**

#	Project Design Feature	Objective	Effectiveness and Basis	Applicable Forest Plan Standard/Guide	Responsible Personnel
<b>Transportation Facilities</b>					
74	Logging activities shall not contaminate aggregate. If contamination occurs, it will be repaired/replaced. Any damage to the road template (shoulders, ditchline or surface) or debris left on the template will be repaired or removed prior to completion of the project.	Preserve road surface investment	HIGH: logic, experience		Contract Administrator,

## **ATTACHMENT 2 – RECORD OF DECISION – ROAD TREATMENT TABLE**

The following table displays road management actions included in the ROD for the Project. The table attributes displayed for each road segment are:

- **ROAD ID:** Road number or ID
- **MILES** – The mileage of the road segment
- **STATUS** – The status of each road in the existing condition
  - **OPEN** – Roads open to the public year-round
  - **SEASONAL** – Roads open to the public seasonally
  - **CLOSED** – Roads that are closed year-round
  - **UNAUTHORIZED** – Route not part of the Payette National Forest Road Atlas and not open to motorized travel
  - **NA** – The road currently does not exist but is planned as part of a reroute or new construction
- **TAR RECOMMENDATION** – The treatment that was recommended by the Payette National Forest Travel Analysis Report. Most unauthorized roads have no TAR Recommendation because they are not National Forest System Roads and as such were not analyzed during Forest level travel analysis, however some were recommended to be added to the system, decommissioned, or further evaluated by an interdisciplinary team with this Project.
  - **MAINTAIN** – Maintain at the current status of the road.
  - **IMPROVE** – Improve the maintenance level or condition of the road.
  - **MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE** – Maintain at the current status of the road or Improve the maintenance level or condition of the road.
  - **DECOMMISSION** – Decommission the road; level of decommissioning in road decision field.
  - **IDT EVALUATE** – Further evaluation by an interdisciplinary team during fine scale analysis. Site specific information was used to inform treatment recommendations for this Project through alternative development.
- **ROAD DECISION** – Road Treatments included in the Selected Alternative of the Record of Decision.

### Road Treatment Definitions

- **ML3OPEN** – Maintenance Level 3 road that is open year-round.
- **ML2OPEN** – Maintenance Level 2 road that is open year-round.
- **ML2SEASONAL** – Maintenance Level 2 road that is open seasonally.
- **ML2CLOSED** – Maintenance Level 2 road that is administratively closed year-round.
- **ML1CLOSED** – Maintenance Level 1 road that is closed year-round.

## Road Treatment Table

## Attachment 2

- LTC – Maintenance Level 1 road that is put in to long-term storage and closed year-round.
- CONVERT – Conversion from a road to a trail.
- \_A – Any of the above treatment types with an \_A would be Added to the National Forest Road System. The new road number is included in Decision Rationale field.
- \_R – Any of the above treatment types with an \_R would be a part of a Reroute where new road is constructed and another portion of road is decommissioned to relocate the road. Some portions of unauthorized routes are associated with newly constructed reroutes and would also be added to the National Forest Road System as part of the reroute. The new road alignment will be given the same road number without the \_R.
- \_NC – Any of the above treatment types with an \_NC indicates New Construction, however it is only used for 51575P.
- DECOM-ABANDON –Decommission through abandonment where no sediment issues exist and it would be more detrimental to treat.
- DECOM-FR – Decommission road through Full Recontour of the road fill to match the natural hill slope.
- DECOM-FRPC – Decommission road through Full Recontour with Range Permittee Coordination.
- DECOM-FRTPC – Decommission road through Full Recontour with Range Permittee Coordination to leave a trail for livestock access.
- DECOM-OS20 – Decommission road by decompacting the surface and out sloping 20 Percent to improve drainage.
- DECOM-OS20PC – Decommission road by decompacting the surface and out sloping 20 Percent to improve drainage with Range Permittee Coordination.
- DECOM-OS20PCATV – Decommission road by decompacting the surface and out sloping 20 Percent to improve drainage with Range Permittee Coordination to allow ATV use.
- DECOM-ST – Decommission road through Spot Treatment of targeted work to improve drainage.
- DECOM-STPC – Decommission road through Spot Treatment with Range Permittee Coordination.
- DECOM-STPCATV – Decommission road through Spot Treatment with Range Permittee Coordination to allow ATV access as permitted.
- TAR RECOMMENDATION – The treatment that was recommended by the Payette National Forest Travel Analysis Report. Most unauthorized roads have no TAR Recommendation because they are not National Forest System Roads and as such were not analyzed during Forest level travel analysis, however some were recommended to be added to the system, decommissioned, or further evaluated by an interdisciplinary team with this Project.
  - MAINTAIN – Maintain at the current status of the road.
  - IMPROVE – Improve the maintenance level or condition of the road.

## Road Treatment Table

## Attachment 2

- MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE – Maintain at the current status of the road or Improve the maintenance level or condition of the road.
- DECOMMISSION – Decommission the road; level of decommissioning in road decision field.
- IDT EVALUATE – Further evaluation by an interdisciplinary team during fine scale analysis. Site specific information was used to inform treatment recommendations for this Project through alternative development.
- DECISION RATIONALE – Information about a road segment which helps to clarify why the decision was made when it differed from recommendation in the Travel Analysis Report. Site specific information was used by the interdisciplinary team to determine if a road segment was needed or not needed. Most unauthorized routes have no Decision Rationale because they are not NFS roads and as such were not analyzed unless being considered for adding to the system or used as reroutes.

## Road Treatment Table

## Attachment 2

**Table ROD-21: Roads and other travel routes on National Forest System (NFS) lands or under National Forest jurisdiction that are included in this Record of Decision as travel management actions to determine a Minimum Road System within the Project area. This includes roads on the ridgetops that weave in and out of the Project area.**

ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50002	5.09	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML3OPEN	Followed TAR
500024000	0.28	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500026369	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
500028010	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029000	0.18	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
500029100	0.69	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029110	0.64	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029130	0.27	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029220	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029400	0.48	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029420	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029425	0.17	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029501	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500029800	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	

## Road Treatment Table

## Attachment 2

ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50022	1.63	Seasonal	Maintain	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
500221000	0.28	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500222000	0.33	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
500223000	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
500223500	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500224000	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500225000	0.22	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500227000	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500228000	0.35	Unauthorized	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
500228000	0.13	Unauthorized	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FRTPC	Determined to be not needed
500229000	0.26	Unauthorized	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50034	1.43	Closed	Maintain	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50045	0.29	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50049	0.79	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
500490100	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500490200	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
500490300	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500490310	0.42	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
500490311	0.15	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
50057	0.40	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
50058	1.19	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50064	0.74	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50064	0.36	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50064	0.49	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50064P	0.34	Unauthorized		LTC	Determined to be needed in long term; part of a reroute
50064P	0.12	NA		LTC_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
50064X081	0.53	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50071	1.78	Closed	Maintain	LTC	Followed TAR
50071	1.38	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
500710200	0.40	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500710210	0.35	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500710220	0.46	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
500710250	0.32	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
500710255	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
500710400	0.12	Unauthorized		ML2OPEN_A	Determined to be needed for dispersed camping and access to gravel pit; new NFS road number will be assigned
50072	1.27	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50072	0.65	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50072	2.79	Seasonal	Improve	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed but not open
500720800	1.92	Unauthorized		CONVERT	
500720820	0.17	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500720840	0.24	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
500721000	0.24	Unauthorized		ML2CLOSED_A	Special Use Permit; private land access
500721010	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
500721500	0.28	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
500721540	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
500722000	0.98	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
500723000	2.57	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
500724000	0.82	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
500724500	0.63	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PC	
500810010	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501051750	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501051850	0.38	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501052000	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501052100	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501052700	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501052800	0.12	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501052900	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501053000	0.56	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501053200	0.93	Unauthorized		LTC_A	Determined to be needed for access to gravel pit; new NFS road number will be assigned
501056000	0.47	Unauthorized		ML2CLOSED_A	Determined to be needed; new NFS road number will be 50523
501056000	1.39	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	Decommission in Roadless
501056000	0.16	Unauthorized		ML2CLOSED_A	Determined to be needed; new NFS road number will be 50523

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501056860	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
501061000	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501061020	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
501061400	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501061650	0.25	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501066000	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
50108	1.37	Open	Maintain	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50110	3.02	Open	Improve	ML3OPEN	Followed TAR
501101000	0.18	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501101010	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
501101020	0.12	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501101030	0.23	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501102010	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501104000	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501104500	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501105000	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501105010	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501105040	0.17	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501105041	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501105042	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501105500	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501106000	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501107000	0.29	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501107000	0.16	Unauthorized		CONVERT	
501107020	0.35	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501107500	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501108000	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
50111	1.64	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
501111000	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
501112000	0.88	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
501112800	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501121000	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501122000	0.55	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501122010	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501122030	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501123000	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501124000	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501125500	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501127000	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501128000	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501129000	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
50113	0.64	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50119	0.10	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
50119	0.86	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
501206000	0.56	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
501206040	0.24	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501206060	0.55	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50121	3.35	Open	Improve	ML3OPEN	Followed TAR

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501211000	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
501211010	0.44	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501211100	0.24	Na		DECOM-FRTPC	
501211200	0.22	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501211500	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501211550	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501211600	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501211700	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501211710	0.01	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50123	5.87	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML3OPEN	Followed TAR
501234000	1.26	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501234010	0.24	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
501234011	0.25	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
501234012	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
501235000	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501236000	0.97	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501236010	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
501236500	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50123X048	0.32	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50123X049	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50123X536	0.36	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50124	0.12	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
50124	0.29	Open	Maintain	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed but not open
50125	1.03	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
501252000	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
50129	1.04	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50129	0.90	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50129	0.53	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
501291010	0.15	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501291020	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501291030	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50129X611	0.56	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50130	0.91	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50130	3.45	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
50130	0.94	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-ABANDON	Determined to be not needed
50130	0.81	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50130	0.66	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50130	4.18	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
501300100	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501300210	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501300220	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501300221	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501300230	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501300240	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501300250	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501300251	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501300252	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501300260	0.01	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501300300	0.49	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501300310	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
501300360	0.23	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501300400	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
501300500	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
501300550	0.52	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
501300600	0.91	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501300700	0.65	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501300800	0.29	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501300900	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501301100	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501301200	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501301210	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501301300	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501301400	0.23	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501301500	0.12	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501301500	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501301600	0.24	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501301700	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501301800	0.48	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501301900	0.67	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501345500	0.01	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
50141	1.39	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
50141	2.56	Seasonal	Improve	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed; reroute
50141	4.36	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
501410100	0.02	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501410300	0.12	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
501410500	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501410502	0.02	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501410504	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501410506	0.01	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501410510	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501410700	0.42	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501410800	1.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-STPC	
501410810	0.23	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501410820	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501410900	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501410910	0.38	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501411000	0.15	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501411100	0.60	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501411200	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501411300	0.37	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501411400	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501411500	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501411600	0.53	Unauthorized		DECOM-STPCATV	
501411610	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501411700	0.57	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
501411800	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

## Attachment 2

ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501411900	0.20	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501412000	0.64	Unauthorized		DECOM-STPCATV	
501412050	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501413000	0.41	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501413010	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
50143	2.31	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
50143	7.40	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML3OPEN	Followed TAR
501430200	0.24	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501430300	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501430310	0.01	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501430400	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501430600	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501430700	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501430800	1.86	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
501430810	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501430820	0.27	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

## Attachment 2

ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501430900	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-STPC	
501431000	0.12	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501431100	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501431200	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501431202	0.25	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501431300	0.49	Unauthorized	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
501431310	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501431410	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501431500	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501431600	0.76	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501432500	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501434020	0.88	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501434021	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501434022	0.12	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501434100	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501434500	0.74	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

## Attachment 2

ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501434510	0.61	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501434520	0.23	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501434600	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501434650	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501434700	0.20	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501434900	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501435000	0.57	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501435100	0.02	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501435200	0.18	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501435300	0.02	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501435400	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
501435500	0.28	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501435600	0.66	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501435650	0.33	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501435700	0.36	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501435800	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50143X001	0.44	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50144	1.86	Closed	IDT Evaluate	CONVERT	Determined to be not needed as a road; needed as 2 wheel motorized trail
50144	0.21	Open	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in the long term
50144	1.25	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
501441000	0.48	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
501441010	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501443000	0.18	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501444000	0.70	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
501446000	0.45	Unauthorized		CONVERT	Determined to be needed as a 2 wheel motorized trail
50145	6.73	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50145	2.57	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
501450100	0.20	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501450200	0.45	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
501450255	0.20	Unauthorized		ML2OPEN_A	Determined to be needed; connects loop from 50145 via 51575 back to 50145; new NFS road number will be 51575

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
501450300	0.54	Unauthorized		ML2OPEN_A	Determined to be needed for dispersed camping; new NFS road number will be 51569
501450500	0.15	Unauthorized		ML2OPEN_A	Determined to be needed for dispersed camping; new NFS road number will be assigned
501451000	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
502204000	0.01	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
50253	1.04	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in the long term
50253	0.13	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
50280	2.18	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in the long term
502802000	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
502808000	1.31	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
50289	0.61	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
502896000	0.64	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
50296	0.11	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in the long term
50324	0.30	Closed	Maintain	DECOM-OS20	Determined to be not needed; access replaced by adding 503241000 which is out of RCA

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
503241000	0.07	Unauthorized	Decommission	LTC_A	Determined to be needed in the long term; right of way easement exists; new NFS road number will be 50324
503242000	1.33	Unauthorized	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
50351	1.23	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50358	0.36	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50360	0.24	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
50362	0.07	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed; reroute
50362	0.68	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2OPEN	
503621000	0.34	Unauthorized	Decommission	DECOM-ST	
50362R	0.04	NA		ML2OPEN_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
50363	0.29	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
50379	1.89	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
50399	1.47	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50438	0.76	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
50438	0.26	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50438	0.95	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
504380100	0.26	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
504380200	0.29	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
504380300	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
504380400	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
50490	0.95	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-OS20PCATV	Followed TAR
504901000	0.52	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
50499	1.25	Closed	Decommission	LTC	End of road determined to be needed in the long term, connects to 50506; rest of road already decommissioned in RCA of Deer Creek
50499	0.01	Closed	Decommission	ML2OPEN	Determined to be needed for access to 51242, an ML2OPEN road; Road number will be changed to 51242
50499	0.47	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
504990300	1.66	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
504990310	0.12	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
504990320	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
504990330	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
504990340	0.23	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
504990350	0.65	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
504990400	0.50	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
504990500	0.33	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
504990600	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
504990700	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
504990800	0.20	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50505	0.81	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
505051010	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505052000	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50506	0.86	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50506	0.59	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR; reroute
50506R	0.29	NA		LTC_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
50507	3.79	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
505071000	0.20	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505071100	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505071200	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-STPCATV	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
505071300	0.15	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50507P	0.36	NA		ML2OPEN_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
50510	1.20	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
505101000	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
50514	0.09	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50523	1.84	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
505691050	0.37	Unauthorized		DECOM-STPCATV	
505691060	0.32	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
50570	0.17	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML3OPEN	Followed TAR
50571	0.60	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50571	1.82	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
505711000	0.10	Unauthorized		ML2OPEN_A	Determined to be needed for dispersed camping; new NFS road number will be assigned
505711000	1.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505711010	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
505711020	0.05	Unauthorized		ML2OPEN_A	Determined to be needed for dispersed camping; new NFS road number will be assigned
505711020	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505712000	0.41	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505712010	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505712020	0.40	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505712025	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
505715000	0.50	Unauthorized		ML2SEASONAL_A	Determined to be needed; connects 50571 and 50758 to make seasonal loop; new NFS road number will be assigned
50599	1.05	Closed	Decommission	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
505990076	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50600	0.36	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
506001000	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
506003000	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50630	2.45	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
50630	1.77	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed; reroute

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
506301000	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50630R	0.18	NA		ML2SEASONAL_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
50630X539	0.26	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50630X540	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50630X540	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
50630X544	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50630X545	0.50	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50630X546	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50636	0.31	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50636	2.96	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
50637	1.28	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50638	2.58	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
506382000	0.23	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
506382500	0.04	Unauthorized		NA	
506384000	0.35	Unauthorized		NA	
506384050	0.08	Unauthorized		NA	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50639	0.68	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
50639	1.49	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
506391000	1.98	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
506392000	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
506392010	0.33	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
506392020	0.24	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
506392030	0.38	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50639R	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50640	0.28	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50640	3.75	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
506401000	0.37	Unauthorized	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
506402000	0.70	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
506402010	0.63	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
506402011	0.33	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50646	0.41	Seasonal	Maintain	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
50650	0.28	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50650	0.53	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
50652	1.75	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
506520300	0.31	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
506520400	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50678	0.62	Closed	Maintain	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50678	0.42	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50678	2.19	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
506783000	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
506783010	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
506785000	0.42	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50717	0.86	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50717	0.63	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50717	1.13	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
507170200	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
507170300	0.06	Unauthorized		LTC_A	Determined to be needed in long term; new NFS road number will be assigned
507170300	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
507170310	0.46	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507170400	0.03	Unauthorized		LTC_A	Determined to be needed in long term; new NFS road number will be 50717
507170400	0.22	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507170500	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507170600	0.53	Unauthorized		LTC_A	Determined to be needed in long term; new NFS road number will be 50720
507170700	0.20	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50717X015	0.63	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50720	0.04	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50720	0.40	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed; access replaced by 507170600
50750	1.22	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50751	1.73	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50751	0.37	Closed	Decommission	ML2OPEN	Determined to be needed
507511000	0.92	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507511010	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
507512000	0.65	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
507512010	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507513000	0.36	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
507514000	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507515000	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50752	1.90	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50752	0.87	Open	Improve	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
507521000	0.24	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507522000	0.46	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507523000	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507525000	0.37	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
50753	2.52	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50754	0.35	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50755	3.03	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
507551000	0.29	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507551010	0.25	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507552000	0.31	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
507552010	0.02	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50758	5.28	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
507582000	0.18	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507583000	0.37	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
507583010	0.03	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507584000	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50759	7.03	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
507591000	0.68	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
507591500	0.40	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507592000	0.89	Unauthorized		LTC_A	Determined to be needed; new NFS road number will be assigned
507593000	0.44	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
507594000	0.55	Unauthorized		ML2SEASONAL_A	Determined to be needed; connects 50758 and 50759 to make seasonal loop; new NFS road number will be assigned
507594010	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50760	0.68	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50761	0.73	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50762	0.81	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50762	1.15	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
507621000	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507622000	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507623000	0.90	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
507624000	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507624001	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
50763	3.08	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
507631000	0.06	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507633000	0.39	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507633050	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507634000	0.26	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507635000	0.35	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507635010	0.45	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
507636000	0.33	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
50764	0.23	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR; reroute

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50764	0.19	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR; reroute
507641000	1.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
507641010	0.24	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50764P	1.12	NA		LTC_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
50821	0.61	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
508211000	0.32	Unauthorized		DECOM-STPC	
508212000	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50822	0.64	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
50822	0.68	Open	Maintain or Improve	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
508221000	0.02	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
50823	1.67	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
508231000	0.72	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
508231010	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
50824	0.21	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50824	1.87	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
508241000	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
508242000	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
508242010	0.22	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
508243000	0.98	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50826	2.93	Seasonal	Maintain	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
50826	0.12	Seasonal	Maintain	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
508261000	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50871	1.68	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50871	0.11	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2OPEN	Determined to be needed; dispersed camping
508719000	0.12	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50894	2.96	Closed	Maintain	ML2CLOSED	Followed TAR
508943000	0.14	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
508944000	0.20	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
508945000	0.40	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
508945500	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
50896	0.12	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50896	0.22	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
508961000	0.53	Unauthorized		LTC_A	Determined to be needed in long term; new NFS road number will be assigned
50897	0.25	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
50897	1.46	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed; access replaced by adding 508961000
508971000	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
508972000	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
508972000	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
50905	0.45	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
509050500	0.17	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509051000	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50966	2.29	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
509661000	0.79	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509661010	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509661500	0.28	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
509662000	0.65	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
509663000	0.46	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
509663010	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
509664000	0.34	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509665000	0.31	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PC	
509666000	0.19	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509667000	0.43	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509668000	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50967	1.34	Seasonal	Maintain	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
50968	4.47	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
509681000	0.58	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509682000	0.63	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509683000	0.47	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
509684000	0.73	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509684500	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509685000	0.25	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
50969	0.38	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50970	0.31	Closed	Decommission	ML2SEASONAL	Determined to be needed

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50970	1.98	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
509702000	0.09	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50970P	0.28	NA		ML2SEASONAL_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs; 50141
50971	0.36	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
509711000	0.29	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
50972	2.76	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
509723000	0.55	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50983	1.71	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
509832000	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509833000	0.29	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509833050	0.01	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509833100	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509833200	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509834000	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50984	1.95	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
50984	0.99	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed; reroute

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
50984	1.80	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed; reroute
509841000	0.59	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509842000	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509842500	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509843000	0.23	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509843010	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509843020	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509843021	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509844200	0.20	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
509844250	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
50984R	0.17	NA		ML2CLOSED_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
50985	0.69	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50986	3.99	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
50986	0.45	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
50986	0.50	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
509861000	0.60	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
509862000	0.15	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
51121	2.74	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51230	1.12	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
51230	0.10	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51238	1.97	Seasonal	Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
51242	0.95	Open	Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
51304	1.19	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
513042000	0.30	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51304X622	0.65	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
51307	0.11	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51310	1.94	Seasonal	Maintain	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
513101000	0.42	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51310X031	0.81	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
51310X032	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51310X541	0.62	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
51310X542	0.02	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

## Road Treatment Table

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
51310X543	0.05	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51310X547	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51310X548	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51310X549	0.66	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51310X550	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51311	2.72	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51311X553	0.40	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51312	0.12	Open	Maintain	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
51312	1.36	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
51334	0.97	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51336	0.62	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51338	0.73	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
51341	0.38	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51341X509	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51341X510	0.07	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
51341X512	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
51341X513	0.78	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
51362	0.31	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51362	1.32	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-OS20PCATV	Determined to be not needed
51362	0.28	Seasonal	Maintain or Improve	ML2SEASONAL	Followed TAR
513621000	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51362X508	1.32	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	
51500	0.43	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
51539	1.17	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
515399000	0.53	Unauthorized		CONVERT	
51569	0.22	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
51570	0.20	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51570	0.80	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR; long term access replaced on top of ridge by adding 515702000
515702000	1.07	Unauthorized		LTC_A	Determined to be needed in long term; new NFS road number will be 51570
51571	0.72	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
515715000	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
51572	0.11	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51573	1.51	Open	Maintain or Improve	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
51575	1.87	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
51575P	0.32	Closed		ML2OPEN_NC	New construction to connect loop
51576	0.64	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51577	0.39	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
51580	0.23	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51608	0.33	Open	Maintain	ML2OPEN	Followed TAR
51609	0.07	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51609	0.45	Closed	Maintain	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
516091000	0.18	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
516093000	0.21	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51610	0.75	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51610	0.46	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
516101000	0.16	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
516105000	0.42	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20PCATV	

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
51611	0.58	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51635	0.80	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51635	0.30	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
516351000	0.71	Unauthorized		LTC_A	Determined to be needed in long term; new NFS road number will be assigned
516352000	0.10	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
51636	0.40	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51637	1.13	Closed	Maintain	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
516374000	0.40	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
516374020	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
516375000	0.04	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
516376000	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
516379000	0.74	Unauthorized		DECOM-ABANDON	
51638	1.04	Closed	Maintain	DECOM-ST	Determined to be not needed
516385000	0.17	Unauthorized		DECOM-ST	
51639	0.76	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
516391000	0.33	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
51640	0.38	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
516402000	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51641	0.77	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
51642	0.17	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
51643	0.62	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
51643	0.36	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
516435000	0.46	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRPC	
51644	0.41	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51644	0.51	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-OS20	Followed TAR
516441000	0.52	Unauthorized		DECOM-OS20	
51645	0.24	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
51647	0.92	Closed	Decommission	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51735	0.11	Closed	Decommission	DECOM-FR	Followed TAR
51798	3.51	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51798	0.12	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
517983000	0.08	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
51799	2.63	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
517991000	0.11	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
517992000	0.22	Unauthorized		DECOM-FRTPC	
517992050	0.13	Unauthorized		DECOM-FR	
51800	0.68	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51802	0.80	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51802	0.43	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51803	0.32	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51803R	0.81	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51803R	1.00	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51804	0.33	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2OPEN	Determined to be needed
51804	0.98	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51805	0.58	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51805	0.28	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51805P	0.90	NA		LTC_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
51806	0.21	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed

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ROAD ID	MILES	CURRENT STATUS	TAR RECOMMENDATION	ROAD DECISION	DECISION RATIONALE
51808	1.74	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51808P	0.36	NA		ML2CLOSED_R	Reroute to reduce roads in RCAs
51809	0.69	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51809	0.34	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51810	0.92	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51811	0.25	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51811	0.70	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51812	0.89	Closed	IDT Evaluate	DECOM-FR	Determined to be not needed
51813	0.67	Closed	IDT Evaluate	LTC	Determined to be needed in long term
51828	0.47	Closed	Maintain	LTC	Determined to be not needed in short term
51929	1.16	Closed		ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
51930	1.02	Closed	Maintain	ML2CLOSED	Followed TAR
51931	0.69	Closed	IDT Evaluate	ML2CLOSED	Determined to be needed
51932	0.54	Closed	Maintain	ML2CLOSED	Followed TAR