

APPENDIX A2

NORTH FORK FIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT

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1. North Fork Fire Management Unit Guidance

a) FMU Synopsis

Fire Management Unit Identification

Administrative Unit	FMU Name	FMU #	Management Response Zones	Acres
Shoshone National Forest - North Zone	North Fork	1	01 – Suppression	0
			02 – Resource Dependent	68,778
			03 – Wildland Fire Use	398,014

Ownership and Jurisdictions

Owner	Jurisdiction	Acres
US Forest Service	Shoshone National Forest	465,300
Private	Park County Fire District #2	1,492
Total		466,792

Dispatch Center

Name	Phone Number
Cody Interagency Dispatch Center	307-578-5140

Radio Frequencies*

Agency	Name	Receive Frequency	Transmit Frequency	Transmit Tone
USFS	North Zone Net	170.5000	170.5000	110.9
USFS	Clayton RPT	170.5000	166.5625	131.8
USFS	Carter Mountain RPT	170.5000	166.5625	146.2
USFS	Wood Ridge RPT	170.5000	166.5625	103.5

*See the Shoshone National Forest Radio Guide in Appendix F1 for a complete list of radio frequencies.

NFDRS Weather Stations

Station Number	Station Name & Owner	Fuel Model	Location	NESDIS #	Elevation
480214	Eagle USFS	G, H Timber	44° 29.08" 109° 53.47"	326fa142	7,500 ft.
480212	Rattlesnake BLM	H, L Timber	42° 35.24" 109° 14.14"	52117480	6,800 ft.

NFDRS Weather Station Fire Behavior Indicators and Thresholds

Station	ERC		KDBI		1,000 hr Fuel Moisture	
	90th %	97th %	90th %	97th %	90th %	97th %
Eagle	75	81	300	333	9	8

General Risk Category

Subjective overall risk relative to values present, fuel hazard and fire frequency is identified for each fire management unit response zone in the table below. Additional risk information related to fire behavior and length of season are described in Section III, Part D.

Response Zone	Risk Rating			
	Values Present	Fuel Hazard	Fire Frequency	Overall Risk
01 - Suppression	NA	NA	NA	NA
02 – Resource Dependent	4	3	3	3
03 – Wildland Fire Use	1	4	3	2

1 – Low; 2 – Low Moderate; 3 – Moderate; 4 - Moderate High; 5– High

Predominate Vegetation Types

Cover Type	Acres
Grassland-Sagebrush	
Forest – conifers	
Forest – aspen & willow	
Barren	

b) Management Guidance

Wildland fire management guidance for the resources associated with the fire management unit is derived from the Shoshone National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). Applicable wildland fire management Forest Plan direction, goals, desired conditions, standards, guidelines, and management area prescriptions are detailed in Section III, Part C of the Shoshone Fire Management Plan (FMP). The specific Forest Plan direction that is used to formulate wildland fire benefit and resource protection objectives; initial attack/response actions; and appropriate management response strategies and tactical options that apply to the resources, values and attributes that occur in the fire management unit (FMU) are referenced throughout this section.

Other sources of wildland fire management direction and resource protection measures that originate in other laws, policy, handbooks and guides are also used to provide direction and guidance for wildland fire management activities for this FMU.

c) Safety Considerations**Firefighter and public safety considerations**

Firefighter and public safety is the priority in all fire management activities. Reduce firefighter and public injuries and loss of life, and damage to communities from unwanted wildland fires, by prioritizing firefighter and public safety above other concerns in fire management activities (Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page 4).

History on the Forest indicates that while the annual number of fire starts is not particularly high, the fire environment is complex as high intensity fires with rapid rates of spread are common during active burning years. The fire environment is further complicated by a Forest-wide insect epidemic; mature forest, steep terrain, and frequent wind events that are not always well forecasted. There have been three recorded fire fighter entrapments on the Forest. The most serious occurred in 1937 when ten firefighters lost their lives on the Blackwater Fire. The most recent entrapment occurred in 2006 on the Little Venus Fire where ten firefighters survived an entrapment, fortunately with only minor injuries.

Environmental and Aviation Hazards

Aviation hazards are identified on the Forest Aviation Hazard Map (FMP electronic file). High winds and terrain-influenced winds that affect aviation operations are common. Environmental hazards include steep, rocky and difficult terrain, and grizzly bears.

Travel routes

Most of the FMU does not have road access. The primary travel route through this portion of the Forest is U.S. Highway 14, which is known as the North Fork corridor. Highway 14 serves as an entrance to Yellowstone National Park and is major travel route for tourist. There are a few Forest roads that access the lower portions of the Forest along the North Fork corridor where recreation residences, permitted lodges, and developed recreation sites are located. This area of development and access corresponds closely with the Resource Dependent Management Response Zone boundary.

d) Fire Management Unit Resources and ValuesAir Quality

The North Absaroka and Washakie Wildernesses are federally designated Class I Airsheds in the FMU. Yellowstone National Park located to the west of the FMU is also designated as a Class 1 Airshed. There are no non-attainment areas within or adjacent to the FMU.

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
air quality	Comply with State and Federal air quality standards (Forest Plan 1986, page III-97).

Resource Protection Measures for Fire Management Activities

Resource	Description of Protection Measures
air quality	Implement smoke management actions in accordance with Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations (Regulations) chapter 10, section 4, Smoke Management Requirements.

Vegetation

Forested vegetation varies widely across the FMU due to variations in elevation, aspect, climatic factors, and past disturbances. The uppermost elevation zone is characterized by alpine tundra and the absence of trees. The next lower elevation zone is the subalpine zone, dominated in most places by Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, and whitebark pine. Below the subalpine zone lies the montane zone, characterized by Douglas-fir. Other species that occur in the subalpine and montane zones include lodgepole pine, limber pine, and aspen.

Grass, sometimes mixed with sagebrush, regularly occurs in forest openings. In areas where environmental factors do not support tree reproduction, grasslands and shrublands persist. In the foothill zone below the montane zone, grass and shrubs dominate. In the montane and subalpine zones, grass and shrubs persist in areas where site conditions limit moisture, such as well-drained landforms, southern or western exposures, thin or poorly developed soils, and high windswept sites. In the severe environment of the alpine zone, grass and shrubs dominate. In portions of the subalpine and montane zones, lodgepole pine and aspen are common early seral species following fire disturbance. Fire also affects the acres that are dominated by grasses and shrubs.

North Fork FMU Vegetation Types and Acres

Cover Type	Acres	Cover Type	Acres
Grassland		Lodgepole pine	
Sagebrush		Whitebark pine	
Willow		Limber pine	
Spruce/fir		Aspen	
Douglas-fir			

Resource Benefit Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
vegetation	Both unplanned ignitions and prescribed fire are used as tools to achieve and maintain vegetation conditions and desired fuel levels. Fire operates within historical fire regimes appropriate to the vegetation type and management objectives. Prescribed fire plays a role in areas where managing unplanned ignitions for resource benefits is not appropriate because of high values (FPA 2008-1 p. 3). Improve the health and vigor of vegetation types outside wilderness and selected types in wilderness where necessary (Forest Plan 1986, page III-6). Integrate vegetation management with resource management in functional areas – range, recreation, water and wildlife (Forest Plan 1986, page III-7).
aspen	Clearcut, burn or treat aspen mechanically to in order to promote suckering and revegetation of aspen patches (Forest Plan 1986, page III-155)

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
vegetation	Fire management strategies are designed to achieve land management protection or benefit objectives, are cost effective, and meet safety objectives for firefighting and the public(Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page 3).

Wildlife habitats – terrestrial and aquatic

Critical Winter Range: Critical wildlife winter range areas are identified on Map 2.1. Currently, there are no issues with condition of the winter range area that would prevent a fire to be managed for resources benefits or require protection.

Grizzly Bear: This species is a Forest Service Region 2 sensitive species. Grizzlies have variable habitat, and eat everything from carcasses to moths to whitebark pine seeds to garbage. The most important elements needed to stabilize grizzly bear populations are minimizing bear/human conflicts and protecting key food sources, such as whitebark pine and moth sites. Most of the FMU is inside the Crandall Sunlight Bear Management Unit of the Primary Conservation Area.

Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout: Yellowstone cutthroat trout is a subspecies of cutthroat trout that was historically found in the Yellowstone River drainage and reaches of the Snake River drainage. Stream segments containing Yellowstone cutthroat trout are identified on Map 2.1.

Resource Benefit Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
wildlife	Integrate vegetation management with resource management in functional areas – range, recreation, water and wildlife (Forest Plan 1986, page III-7) Maintain fuel conditions that permit fire suppression and prescribed fire to maintain habitat needed for selected species or species population levels (Forest Plan 1986, page III-152).

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
grizzly bear – food storage	Minimize grizzly bear/human conflicts using food storage, information and education, and other management tools (FPA 2006-001).
grizzly bear habitat – food sources	Maintain the productivity, to the extent possible, of the four key grizzly bear food sources as identified in the Conservation Strategy (FPA 2006-001).

Resource Protection Measures for Fire Management Activities

Resource	Description of Protection Measures
grizzly bear	Implement bear safety and food storage mitigation measures as described in the Shoshone National Forest Wildland Fire Management Resource Protection Standards and Guidelines.
Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout	Implement protection measures for riparian areas, lakes and streams as described in the Shoshone National Forest Wildland Fire Management Resource Protection Standards and Guidelines.

Special areas

Research Natural Areas: There are two proposed research natural areas in the FMU: Grizzly Creek and Sheep Mesa. These research natural areas are also located within the Washakie Wilderness. Research Natural Areas are part of a national network of ecological areas designated in perpetuity for research, education, and to maintain biological diversity on National Forest System lands.

See Map 2.2 for the location of special areas in the FMU.

Resource Benefit Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
special management areas	Allow natural succession to proceed without human intervention in designated wilderness, wilderness study areas, and special management areas (Forest Plan 1986, page III-6). Both unplanned ignitions and prescribed fire are used as tools to achieve and maintain vegetation conditions and desired fuel levels. Fire operates within historical fire regimes appropriate to the vegetation type and management objectives. (Forest Plan Amendment 2008-1 p. 3).

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
research natural areas	Fires within research natural areas (established and proposed) should be suppressed when they threaten the values for which the research natural area was established or threaten other values outside the research natural area. For unwanted wildland fires that threaten to burn into research natural areas, the appropriate management response should consist of strategies and tactics that keep fires from burning into research natural areas (FPA 2008-1 p. 6).

Resource Protection Measures for Fire Management Activities

Resource	Description of Protection Measures
Research Natural Areas	Use minimum impact suppression techniques when suppressing fires within research natural areas area (FPA 2008-1 p. 6).

Water quality

All the 6th level hydrologic unit watersheds in the FMU are rated as being in good condition or better (Map 2.3). At this time there are no concerns with application of fire on the landscape as a means to accomplish resource benefits.

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
water	Improve or maintain water quality to meet state water quality standards (Forest plan 1986, page III-70).

Resource Protection Measures for Fire Management Activities

Resource	Description of Protection Measures
water quality	Implement protection measures for riparian areas, lakes and streams as described in the Shoshone National Forest Wildland Fire Management Resource Protection Standards and Guidelines. Implement practices regarding fire management activities as described in the Forest Service Handbook 2509.25, Watershed Conservation Practices.

Cultural Resources

The general location of known cultural resource sites and not yet surveyed areas that have a high probability of containing sites are located on the Cultural Resources Map for the FMU Map 2.4). The map with the general locations is part of the FMP electronic file and is also available for use by fire managers and agency administrators. More specific information regarding site locations will be provided by the heritage program manager when needed.

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
cultural	Wildland fire management activities should protect cultural resources when feasible with priority given to sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places, sites recommended for selection to the Register and to known unevaluated sites (FPA 2008-1 p. 6).

Resource Protection Measures for Fire Management Activities

Resource	Description of Protection Measures
cultural	<p>Follow procedures for wildland fire management activities as outlined in Appendix G of the Programmatic Agreement with the State Historic Preservation Officer for Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act on Forest and Grasslands of Wyoming.</p> <p>Implement protection measures for cultural resources as described in the Shoshone National Forest Wildland Fire Management Resource Protection Standards and Guidelines.</p>

Wilderness

There are two wildernesses in the FMU (Map 2.0). The North Absaroka comprises a significant portion of the north half of the FMU and extends into the Clark Fork FMU to the north. The Washakie Wilderness comprises much of the southern half of the North Fork FMU. It extends into the South Fork and Greybull FMUs. The middle of the FMU is bisected by the North Fork of the Shoshone River corridor, which is not wilderness.

Resource Benefit Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
wilderness	<p>Permit fires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role within wilderness area (FPA 2008-1 p. 9).</p> <p>Allow natural succession to proceed without human intervention in designated wilderness, wilderness study areas, and special management areas (Forest Plan 1986, page III-6).</p>

Resource Protection Measures for Fire Management Activities

Resource	Description of Protection Measures
wilderness	Implement minimum impact suppression and logistic techniques as described in the Shoshone National Forest Wildland Fire Management Resource Protection Standards and Guidelines.

Goods and Services

Timber: Lands suitable for timber production are present within the FMU and are primarily located within the resource dependent zone. Lands suitable for timber production are identified on the Values at Risk Map for the FMU (Map 2.5) Lands suitable for timber production are considered high value assets and under most circumstances would not be allowed to burn unless it was determined there would be beneficial effects or no effects. Development of strategies to manage a fire for resource benefits would consist of an assessment of what areas would benefit from fire and what areas should be protected from fire or subject to limited fire intensity.

There may be a few instances where lands suitable for timber production may be allowed to burn and commercial timber products destroyed or damaged while managing a fire as wildland fire use or as an unwanted wildland fire. For example, situations where it is infeasible to protect an isolated stand, or where the value of the timber does not warrant the cost or commitment of resources and a substantial resource benefit may be achieved.

North Fork FMU Active and Planned Timber Sales

Sale Name	Location	Status	Purchaser
Canfield TS	T52N, R109W, S2,3,8,9,10, 11,12,13; T52N, R108W, S7, 18	Active	Wyoming Sawmills- Jason Ewers 307-752-2274
Pagoda/Moss TS	T52N, R106W, S22,23,27; T52N R107W, S22	Active	Great Divide Forestry – Russ Linneman 307-388-1890

Grazing: There several grazing allotments within the FMU and they are identified on the Values at Risk Map (Map 2.5). Forest-wide Forest Plan direction and desired conditions regarding vegetation is generally consistent with range management objectives. Whether a fire is being managed for resource benefits or protection objectives, coordination with range management specialist and permittees occur.

Special Uses: Permitted outfitter and guide operations occur throughout the FMU. Camp locations are identified on the Values at Risk Map (Map 2.5). Whether a fire is being managed for resource benefits or protection objectives, coordination with special uses managers and outfitters occur.

Minerals: There are no mining, drilling or exploration operations occurring in the FMU.

Resource Benefit Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
timber and grazing	Both unplanned ignitions and prescribed fire are used as tools to achieve and maintain vegetation conditions and desired fuel levels. Fire operates within historical fire regimes appropriate to the vegetation type and management objectives. Prescribed fire plays a role in areas where managing unplanned ignitions for resource benefits is not appropriate because of high values. Fire management strategies are designed to achieve land management protection or benefit objectives, are cost effective, and meet safety objectives for firefighting and the public(Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page 3).

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
goods and services	Wildland fire plays a role within and outside of wilderness where appropriate and desirable, but active suppression of fire occurs where necessary to protect life, investments, and valuable resources. Valuable resources include the wildland urban interface, utility corridors and communication sites. Other valuable resources include public water supply, recreation facilities, administrative sites, range allotments, special management areas, fish and wildlife habitats, and lands suitable for timber production (Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page2).

Developments, Facilities and Infrastructure

Developments, facilities and infrastructures occur within and adjacent to the FMU and are displayed on the Values at Risk Map (Map 2.5). Most of the sites are located within the Resource Dependent Management Zone. There are some facilities and developments in the Wildland Fire Use Management Zone.

North Fork FMU Recreation Sites (developed)

Name	Geographic Location
Three Mile Campground	T52N, R109W, S11
Pahaska/Grinnell Trailhead	T52N, R109W, S11
Sleeping Giant Picnic Area	T52N, R109W, S12
Eagle Creek Campground	T52N, R108W, S17
Eagle/Kitty Creek Trailhead	T52N, R108W, S21
Fishhawk Trailhead	T52N, R108W, S26
Newton Creek Campground	T52N, R107W, S28,29
Newton Spring Picnic Area	T52N, R107W, S28
Rex Hale Campground	T52N, R107W, S27
Clearwater Campground	T52N, R106W, S19
Elk Fork Campground/TH	T52N, R106W, S21
Wapiti Campground	T52N, R106W, S21
Big Game Campground	T52N, R106W, S22
Horse Creek Picnic Area	T52N, R106W, S23
Jim Mountain Trailhead	T52N, R105W, S1

North Fork FMU Backcountry Administrative Sites

Name	Geographic Location
Robbers Roost Cow Camp	T53N, R104W, S6
Pat O'Hara Cow Camp	T54N, R104W, S25

North Fork FMU Utilities and Communication Sites

Name	Geographic Location
Rocky Mountain Power Powerline	Above ground powerline extending from the eastern forest boundary to the East Entrance of Yellowstone NP parallels Highway 14-16-20 and runs to all the lodges and recreation residences scattered along the North Fork corridor.
Qwest Phone Company	Buried and above ground phone lines follows powerline and highway along Highway 14-16-20 from eastern forest boundary to East Entrance and runs to all the lodges and recreation residences scattered along the North Fork corridor.
Qwest Phone Comm Site	T52N, R108W, S22
Clayton Mountain Repeater	T51N, R107W, S10
Blackwater SNOTEL	T51N, R107W, S19
Eagle RAWS	T52N, R108W, S8

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
developments, facilities and infrastructure	<p>Wildland fire plays a role within and outside of wilderness where appropriate and desirable, but active suppression of fire occurs where necessary to protect life, investments, and valuable resources. Valuable resources include the wildland urban interface, utility corridors and communication sites. Other valuable resources include public water supply, recreation facilities, administrative sites, range allotments, special management areas, fish and wildlife habitats, and lands suitable for timber production (Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page2).</p> <p>Fire management strategies are designed to achieve land management protection or benefit objectives, are cost effective, and meet safety objectives for firefighting and the public(Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page 3).</p>

Wildland Urban Interface

Structures occurring within and adjacent to the FMU are primarily located within the Resource Dependent Management Zone (Values at Risk - Map 2.5).

Local fire departments and agencies are responsible for structure protection; management of wildland fires burning on the Shoshone National Forest is the responsibility of the Forest Service. Keeping fires from reaching structures and private property adjacent to the Forest as well as permitted lodges and residences located on the Forest is consistent with current federal policy and Forest Plan direction. In addition, cooperative agreements and operating plans are in place that permits Forest Service firefighters to assist local jurisdictions with structure protection on private property, but for not entering structures to suppress fires.

The approach for developing the appropriate management response for wildland fire burning on the Forest that threatens individual structures or the wildland urban interface is the same for fire being managed for resource benefit or suppression objectives. Aggressive or intense management actions would occur in locations that have the highest probability of success in preventing damage or loss while ensuring the safety of the public and firefighters. These actions could occur near structures in close cooperation with the local jurisdiction or at some distance from structures where circumstances are favorable for stopping the advance of a fire toward structures.

North Fork FMU Communities and Subdivisions

Community Name	Geographic Location
Wapiti Valley	Off forest extends from forest boundary east, extending into the Big, Dunn, Jim and Trout Creek areas
Rattlesnake	Ranch in-holding along bottom of Rattlesnake Creek drainage extending west along the foothills of southern Logan Mountain
Cody Country & Green Creek Subdivisions	Off forest in the Green Creek area north of forest boundary

North Fork FMU Permitted recreation residences

Community Name	Geographic Location
Pahaska Cabin Group	T52N, R109W, S3
Grinnell Creek Cabin Group	T52N, R109W, S12
Isolated Cabins	T52N, R108W, S18
Mormon Creek Cabin Group	T52N, R108W, S17, 18
Eagle Creek Cabin Group	T52N, R108W, S17, 20
Kitty Creek Cabin Group	T52N, R108W, S21, 28
Isolated Cabin	T52N, R107W, S29
Moss Creek Cabin Group	T52N, R107W, S22
Isolated Cabin	T52N, R107W, S23
Aspen Creek Cabin Group	T52N, R107W, S14, 23
Pagoda Creek Cabin Group	T52N, R106W, S23, 27
Green Creek Cabin Group	T52N, R105W, S4, 33

North Fork FMU Permitted lodges

Lodge Name	Geographic Location
Pahaska	T52N, R109W, S3
Shoshone Lodge	T52N, R109W, S12
Sleeping Giant Ski Area	T52N, R109W, S11
Crossed Sabres	T52N, R108W, S21
Buffalo Bill Scout Camp	T52N, R108W, S22, 27
Goff Creek	T52N, R108W, S27
Elephant Head	T52N, R108W, S25
Absaroka Mountain Lodge	T52N, R107W, S19
Blackwater	T52N, R107W, S21

Lodge Name	Geographic Location
UXU Ranch	T52N, R107W, S22, 23,26,27
Bill Cody Ranch	T52N, R105W, S19
Rimrock Ranch	T52N, R105W, S29
Trail Shop	T52N, R105W, S20

North Fork FMU Administrative sites

Site Name	Geographic Location
Wapiti Ranger Station	T52N, R106W, S22
Sweetwater Lodge	T52N, R106W, S5
East Entrance Yellowstone NP	T52N, R109W, S8

Resource Protection Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
wildland urban interface	<p>Wildland fire plays a role within and outside of wilderness where appropriate and desirable, but active suppression of fire occurs where necessary to protect life, investments, and valuable resources. Valuable resources include the wildland urban interface, utility corridors and communication sites. Other valuable resources include public water supply, recreation facilities, administrative sites, range allotments, special management areas, fish and wildlife habitats, and lands suitable for timber production (Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page2).</p> <p>Fire management strategies are designed to achieve land management protection or benefit objectives, are cost effective, and meet safety objectives for firefighting and the public(Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page 3).</p>

e) Invasive species

Invasive plants: There are over 20 high priority terrestrial invasive species on the Shoshone with many more invasive species with the potential to spread across large portions of the Forest. Wildfires of any cause can enhance conditions for spread if fires expose soil, reduce native vegetation, and facilitate the introduction or movement of invasive seed sources into an area. Locations of invasive plants are mapped (Map 2.6) and are located in the FMP electronic files.

Invasive aquatics: Aquatic nuisance species occur just inside or adjacent to the Forest (Map 2.7), including whirling disease, New Zealand mudsnails, and didymo. Fire suppression equipment can travel long distances to the Forest, and with them, the potential to introduce other aquatic nuisance species or move them to another area.

Whirling disease has not been documented in any of the streams or lakes in or near the FMU at this time.

Resource Protection Measures for Fire Management Activities

Resource	Description of Protection Measures
vegetation	<p>Implement protection measures for invasive plants as described in the Shoshone National Forest Wildland Fire Management Resource Protection Standards and Guidelines.</p> <p>Follow practices related to fire management activities described in Forest Service Manual 2080 Noxious Weed Management for Forest Service activities.</p>
aquatic	Implement protection measures for riparian areas, streams and lakes as described in the Shoshone National Forest Wildland Fire Management Resource Protection Standards and Guidelines.

f) Fire Environment

Historic Fire Occurrence and Behavior

Map 2.8 displays the historic fire occurrence and cause for the FMU. Additional information related to fire behavior on the Forest is described in Section III, Part D.

Fire Weather

Historical weather information, patterns influencing fire behavior and fire seasons are described in Section III, Part D. Additional weather and fire behavior related information is located in the Shoshone National Forest Weather Handbook in Appendix J.

Fire Behavior and fuels

Map 2.9 displays the fuel types and relative acres for each type associated with the FMU. GIS data layers are also available in the FMP electronic file. Additional information regarding fuel conditions and topography that influence fire behavior and potential control problems are described in Section III, Part D.

Resource Benefit Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
fuels	<p>Both unplanned ignitions and prescribed fire are used as tools to achieve and maintain vegetation conditions and desired fuel levels (Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page 3).</p> <p>Reduce the accumulation of natural fuels (Forest Plan 1986, page III-8).</p> <p>Prescribed fire will be utilized as a vegetative and fuels management technique where it is the most cost-efficient and acceptable alternative to achieve management objectives (Forest Plan 1986, page III-96).</p> <p>Maintain fuel conditions that permit fire suppression and prescribed fire to maintain habitat needed for selected species or species population levels (Forest Plan 1986, page III-152).</p>

Fire Regime Condition Class

Sixty-two percent of the FMU is in a fire regime condition class 1. Two vegetation conditions are in some jeopardy based on the time since the last disturbance. These include approximately 177,565 acres of fire regimes II and III that are in condition class 2. This represents approximately 38 percent of the FMU. A summary of the number of acres by fire regime condition class are displayed in the table below and on Map 2.10.

North Fork FMU Fire Regimes and Condition Classes

Fire regime	Condition class	Fire return interval	Burn severity	Acres	Percent
II	1	35 – 70 years	Stand replacement	68	<1%
	2			11,422	2%
III	1	35 -100 years	Mixed	3,432	<1%
	2			166,143	36%
IV	1	70 - 150 years	Stand replacement	171,905	37%
V	1	200 – 300 years	Stand replacement	111,216	24%
Barren	None	None	None	3,940	<1%

Resource Benefit Objectives

Resource	Forest Plan Direction (Goal, Desired Condition, Standard, Guideline)
fire regime condition class	Both unplanned ignitions and prescribed fire are used as tools to achieve and maintain vegetation conditions and desired fuel levels. Fire operates within historical fire regimes appropriate to the vegetation type and management objectives. Prescribed fire plays a role in areas where managing unplanned ignitions for resource benefits is not appropriate because of high values (Forest Plan Amendment 2008-01, page 3).

g) FMU Initial Response/Attack Run Card

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North Fork Fire Management Unit Initial Response/Attack Run Card

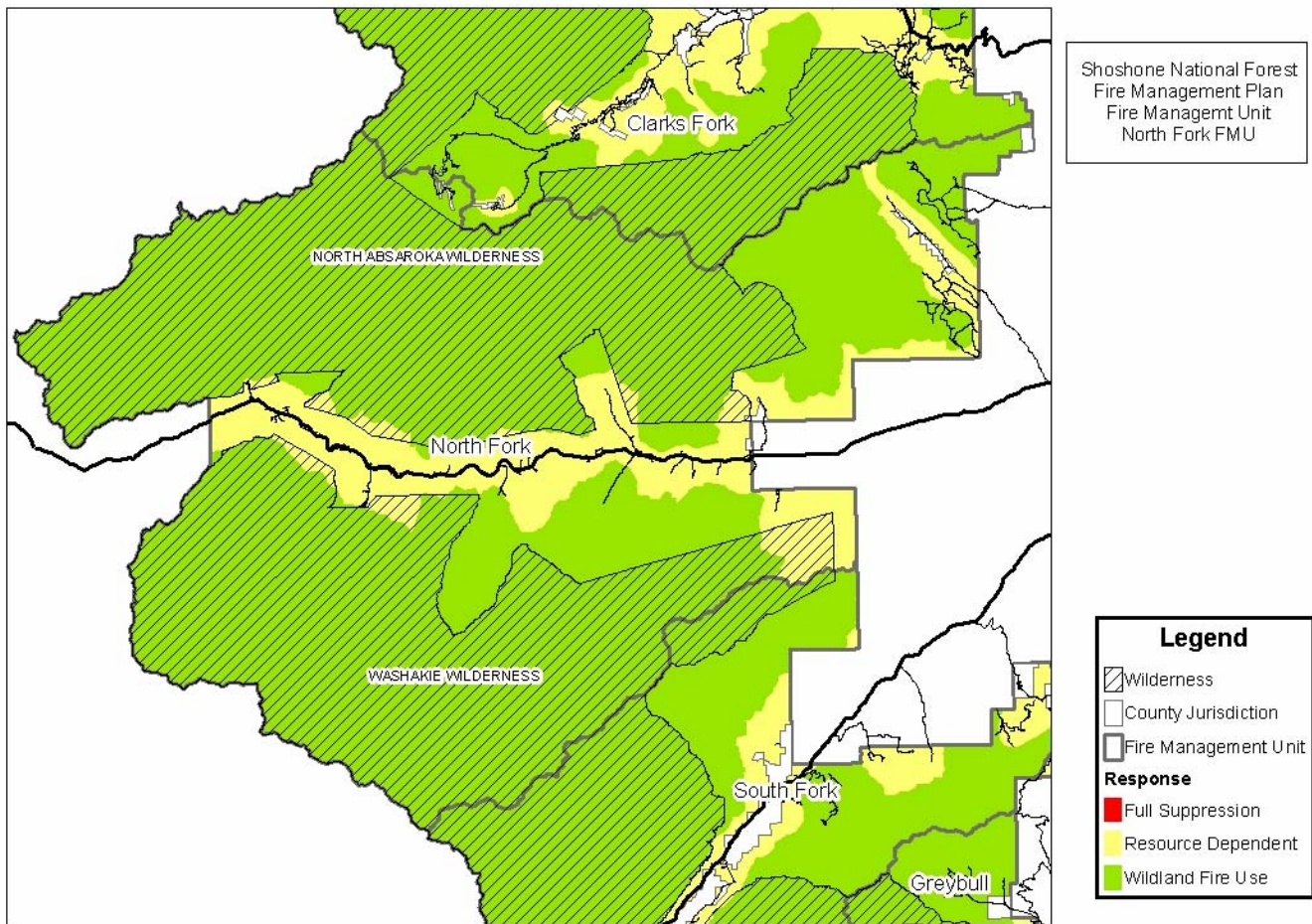
Full Suppression Response Zone					
Dispatch Resource	Fire Danger - Eagle RAWS 480214				
	Low	Mod	High	VH	EXT
Engine	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hand Crew (2 - 4 person)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Helicopter/Aerial Recon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Duty Officer/AFMO/FMO Notification	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<p>Unplanned ignitions are considered to be unwanted fires and initial attack responses will consist of the safest and most effective and cost efficient actions to contain and control fires as quickly as possible.</p>					

Resource Dependent Response Zone					
Engine (T3, T4, or T6)	1	1	1	2	3
Hand Crew (2 - 4 person)			1	1	2
Helicopter/Aerial Recon				1	1
Duty Officer/AFMO/FMO Notification	X	X	X	X	X
Local Jurisdiction Notification (if structures are threatened)			X	X	X
<p>Initial response to fires within the Resource Dependent Response Zone will require an assessment as to whether or not the fire is a wildland fire use candidate. The Duty Officer/AFMO/FMO begins this assessment immediately by evaluating the probable cause and location of the fire relative to resource values. Commensurate with the assessment, initial attack resources are dispatched to a fire under the assumption that the fire is to receive a suppression response unless directed otherwise. Human caused fires are classed as an unwanted fire and will receive a suppression response.</p>					

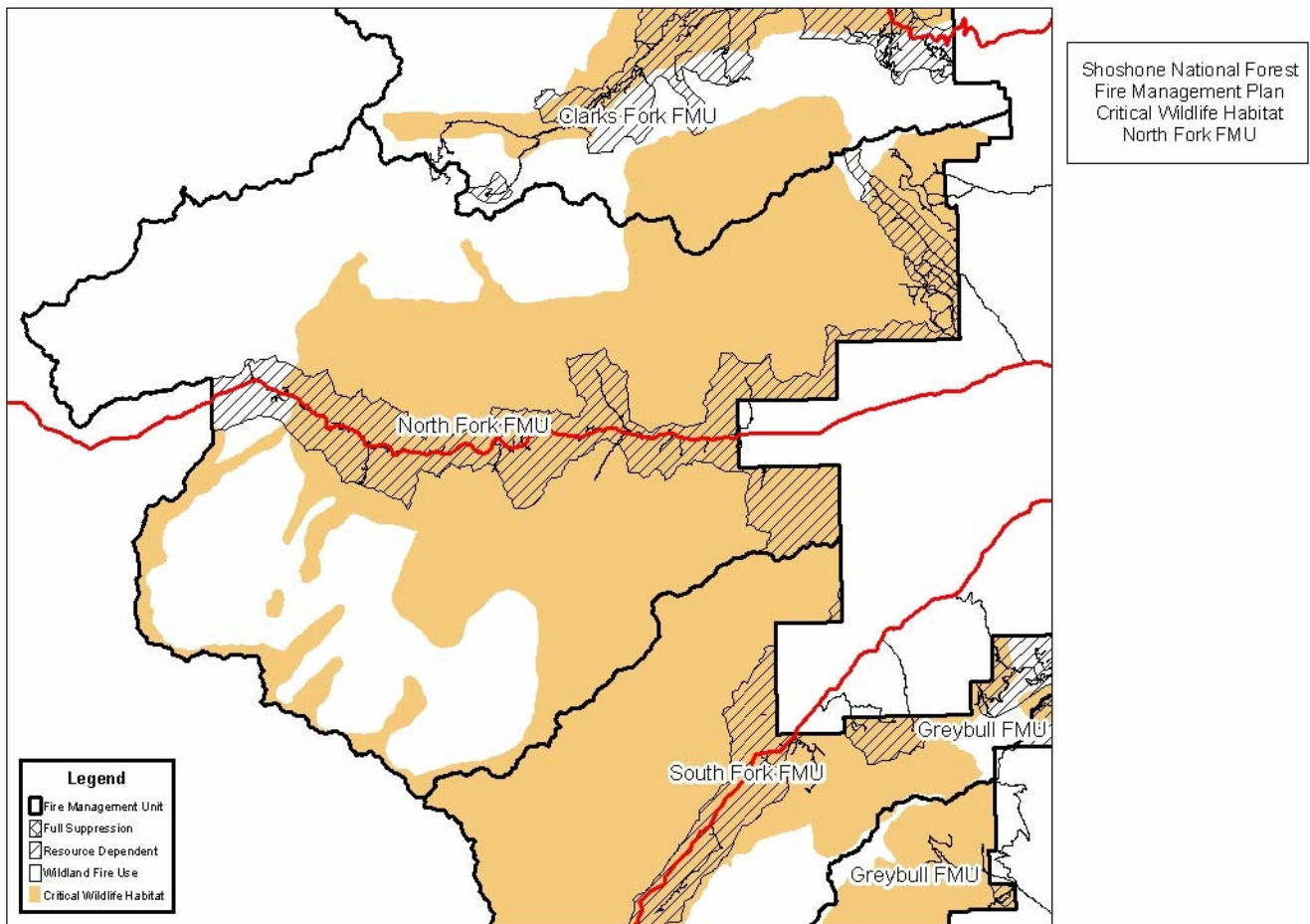
Wildland Fire Use Response Zone					
Engine				1	2
Hand Crew (2 - 4 person)	1	1	1	2	2
Helicopter/Aerial Recon		1	1	1	1
Duty Officer/AFMO/FMO Notification	X	X	X	X	X
<p>Initial response to fires within the Wildland Fire Use Response Zone will require an assessment as to whether or not the fire is a wildland fire use candidate. The Duty Officer/AFMO/FMO begins this assessment immediately by evaluating the probable cause and location of the fire relative to resource values. Human caused fires are classed as an unwanted fire and will receive a suppression response. Initial response resources are dispatched to a fire under the assumption that the fire is a potential wildland fire use candidate and would not begin suppression actions unless directed otherwise.</p>					

Other Instructions

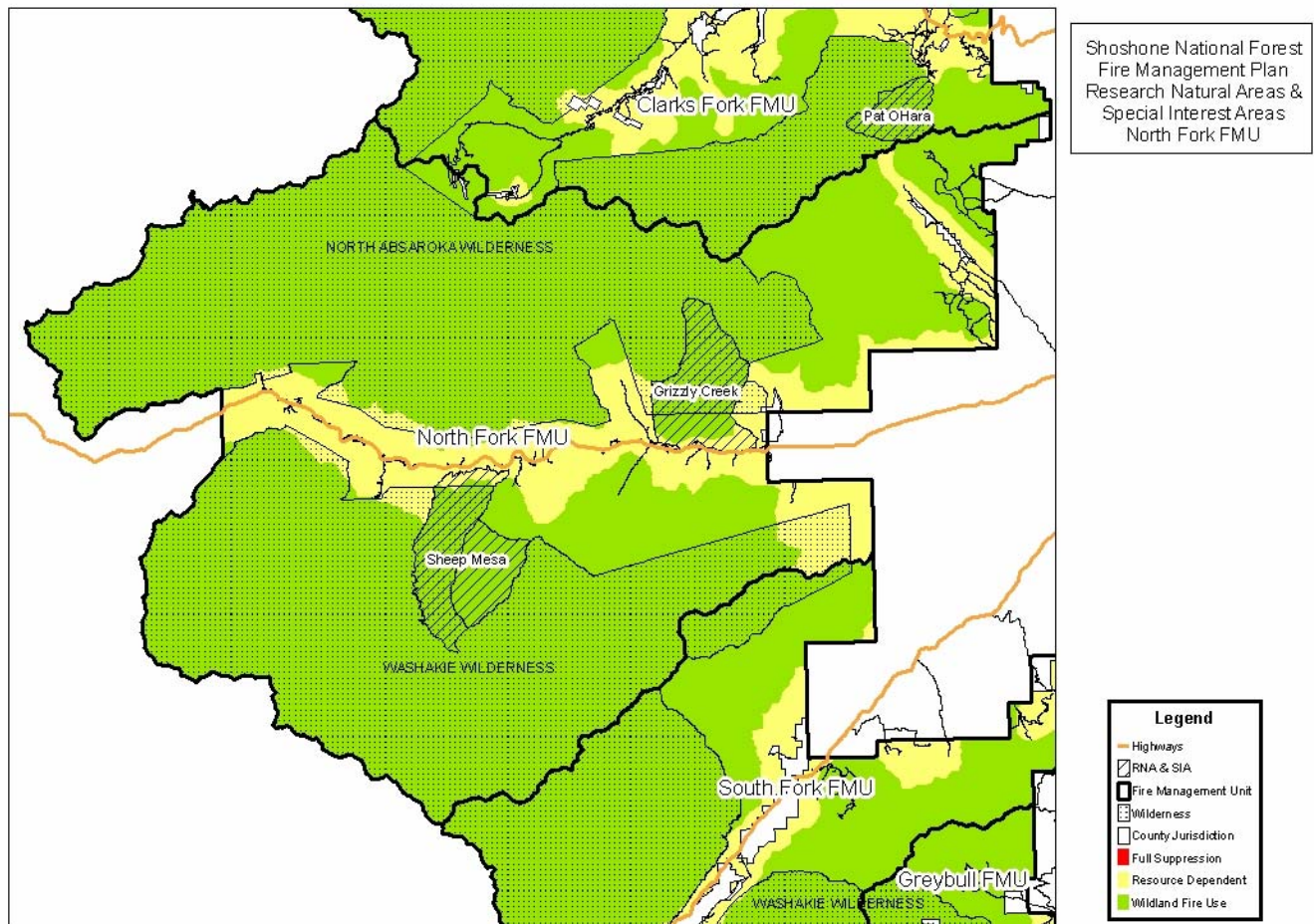
Map 2.0 - North Fork FMU Boundaries and Response Zones



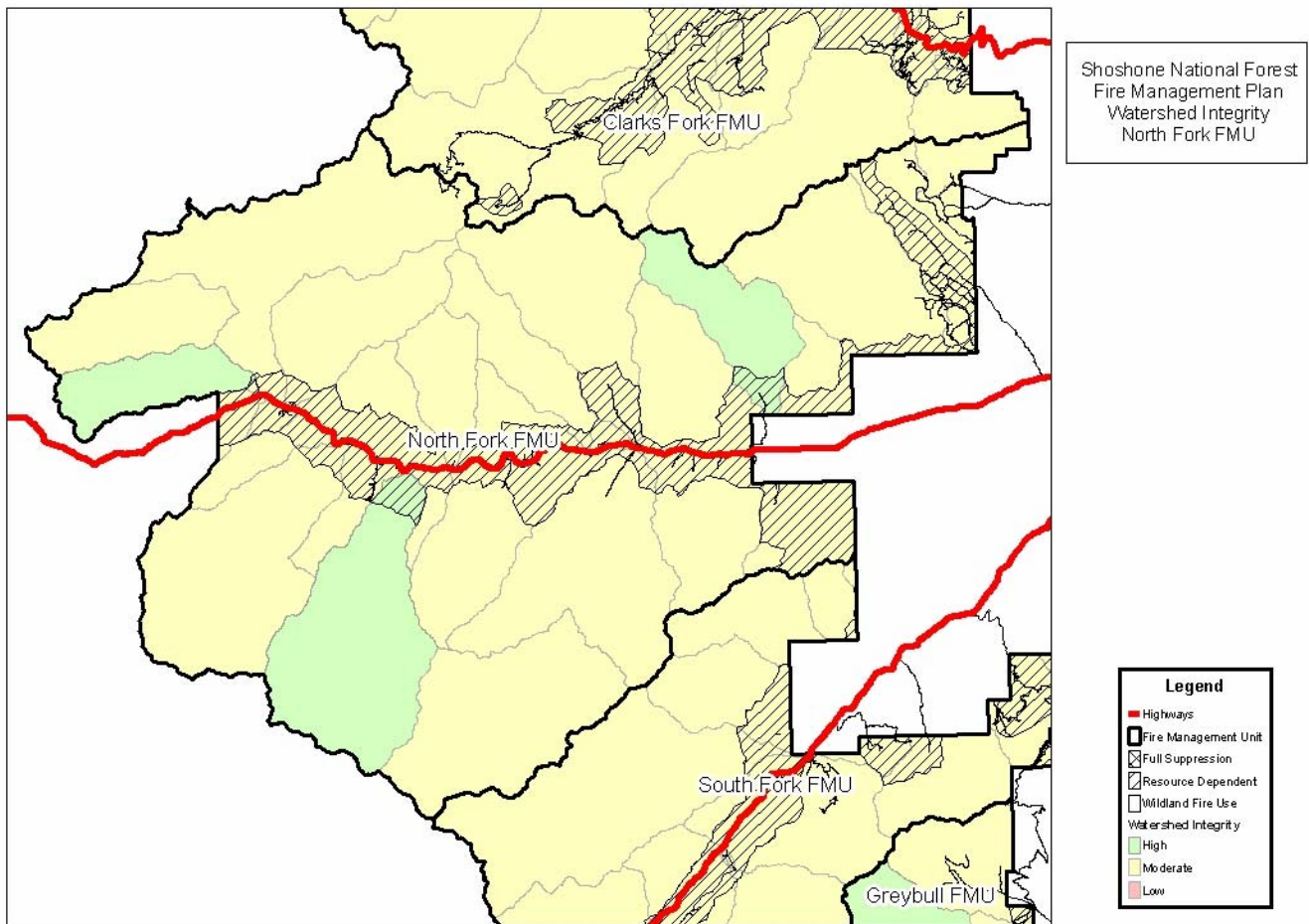
Map 2.1 - North Fork FMU Wildlife Critical Winter Range and Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Locations



Map 2.2 - North Fork FMU Special Areas



Map 2.3 - North Fork FMU Watershed Condition



Map 2.4 - North Fork FMU Cultural Resources

A hard copy map of the approximate location of known cultural sites and not yet surveyed areas that have high probability of containing sites have been distributed to the zone FMOs. Detailed site-specific information is held by the Forest heritage program manager and can be obtained when needed. The information is stored in a GIS database as well.

Map 2.5 - North Fork FMU Values at Risk

A comprehensive map displaying the values in the FMU that may be at risk is available in hardcopy and can be printed from the FMP electronic file. The associated data is also stored in a GIS data format that can be accessed from the Forest's GIS fire files at anytime when needed.

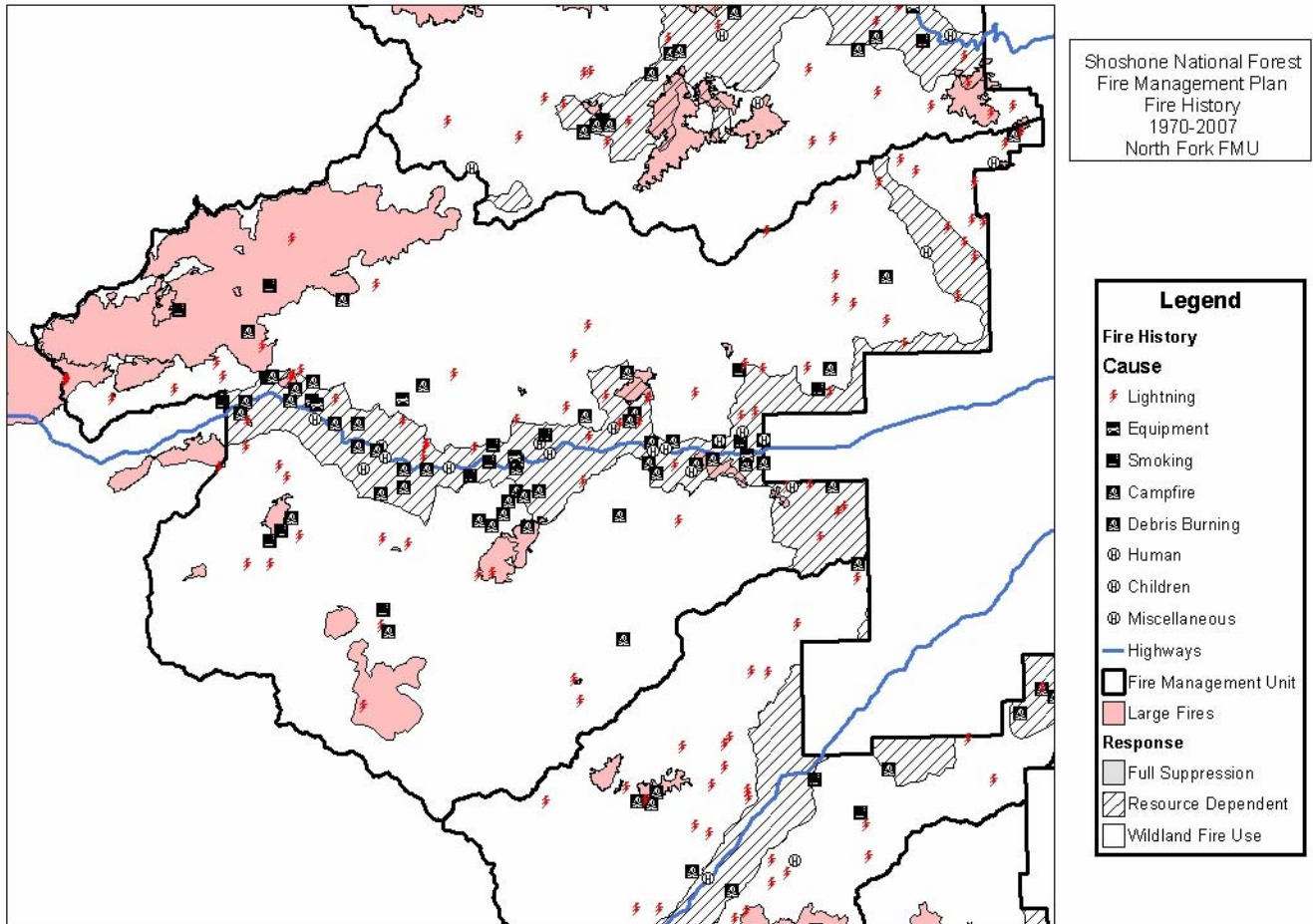
Map 2.6 - North Fork FMU Invasive Plants

Invasive plant locations are mapped and available from the Forest's GIS corporate database.

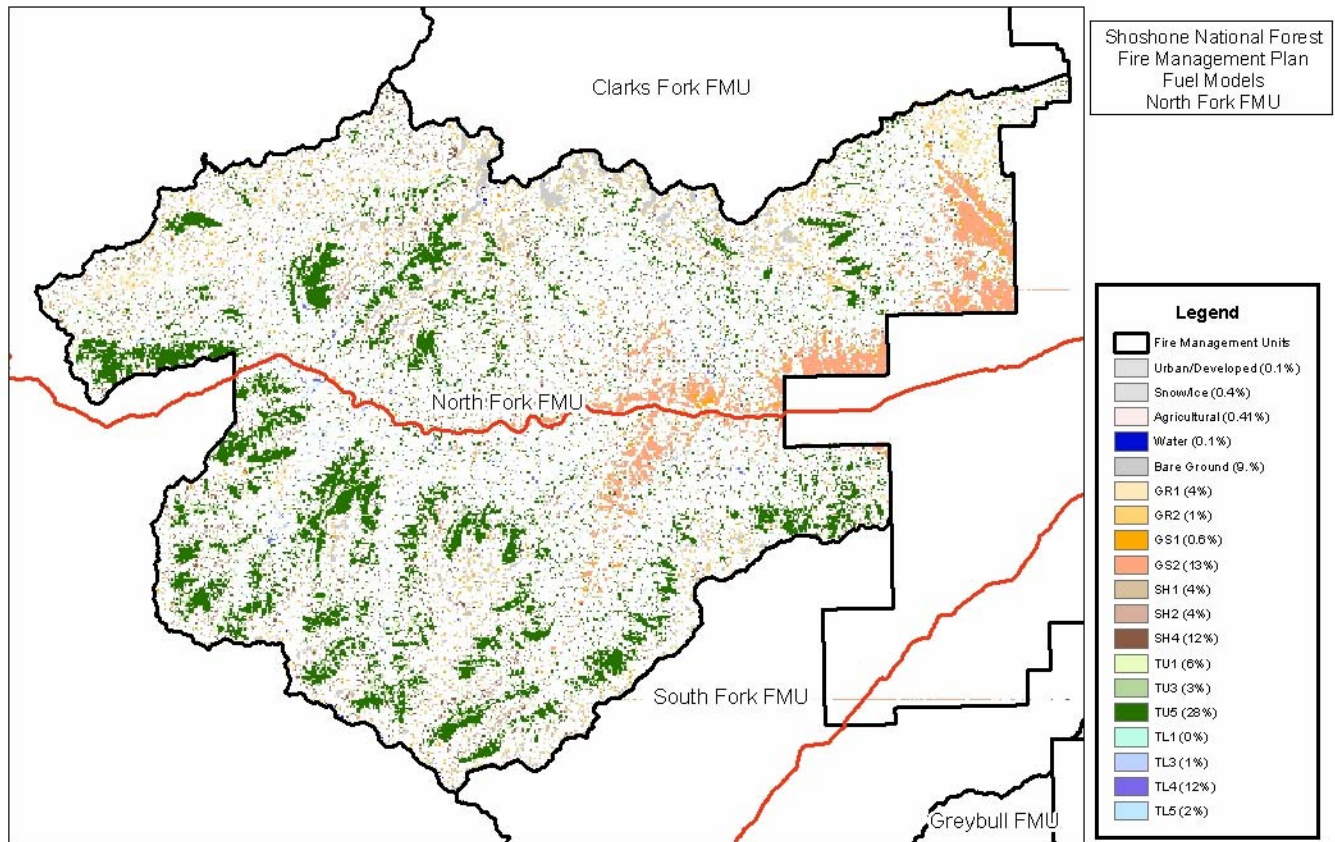
Map 2.7 - North Fork FMU Invasive Aquatics

To be developed

Map 2.8 - North Fork FMU Historical Fire Occurrence



Map 2.9 - North Fork FMU Fuel Type



Map 2.10 - North Fork FMU Fire Regimes and Condition Classes

