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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)

Big Lost

Activity

Minerals

Objective Number

1

OBJECTIVES

Make energy minerals (geothermal resources, oil, gas) locatable minerals (silver-lead-zinc ores, agate, lime) and mineral materials (sand, gravel, cinders, riprap, building stone) available for use on a managed and controlled basis consistent with national energy policies and public demand.

Allow the identification, quantification and quality determination of sub-economic and undiscovered mineral resources.

RATIONALE

Our national welfare depends on an uninterrupted supply of mineral commodities. Increased dependence on foreign mineral sources due to current declines in the domestic supply of some locatable minerals places this welfare in jeopardy. Increasing demands and improved exploration techniques have generated interest in areas previously considered low in mineral value. Therefore, energy development on public lands is the BLMs highest priority.

Maintenance and construction of State, County and other roads that provide access throughout the area requires the availability of mineral materials. These materials are also found on BLM administered public land and are in demand by the public and other agencies.

Carroll 8/82

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Prepare a separate form for each Activity Objective.
2. Under a heading "Objective," enter a concise quantified statement of the specific activity objective.
3. Under a heading "Rationale," enter a detailed statement fully covering all the reasons necessary to justify the proposed action in the objective. Also describe all anticipated positive and negative impacts. (See BLM Manual section 1608 for additional instructions)

UNITED STATES
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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	
Big Lost	
Activity	
Minerals M-1	
Overlay Reference	
Step 1 M-1	Step 3 M-1

DECISION

The federal mineral estate now open to mining claim location will remain open to exploration and mining under the U.S. Mining Laws.

ANALYSIS

Deposits of silver-lead-zinc ores, agates and lime occur throughout much of the planning unit. Subeconomic silver-lead-zinc ore (M-1) and agate (M-2) deposits identified on the Minerals MFP overlay are of particular importance. Over \$8 million worth of gold, silver, lead, zinc and ores was mined from the Lava Creek Mining District from 1883 to 1948. Although there has been no significant production from the mining district since the 1950s, active prospecting (mostly within the M-1 and M-2 areas) continues to this time.

Of the 20 locatable minerals identified in the URA, 16 are considered "critical and strategic" minerals of compelling domestic importance by the U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines. The annual rate of increase in demand for these minerals is expected to be from 1% to 3% through 1990.

Protection of wilderness and other resource values is provided by the 43 CFR 3802 and 3809 mining claim surface management regulations.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Prepare a separate form for each Activity Recommendation.
2. Code each recommendation to the specific objective for which it was prepared; i.e., Wildlife objective 1, Recommendation 3 would be W/L 1.3; Lands objective 4, Recommendation 2 would be L 4.2 etc.
3. Entries are made as described in BLM Manual Sections 1608.3 and 1608.4. See BLM Manual section 1608, Illustration 2 for a sample format of the headings and additional instructions.
4. Use additional sheets for each recommendation as necessary.
5. File recommendation sheets behind the sheet for the objective they are supporting (Form 1600-20) *Management Framework Plan - Step 1* in the MFP narrative.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Big Lost

Activity

Minerals M-2

Overlay Reference 45.A.2

Step 1

Step 3 M-1

Decision

All federal mineral estate presently open will remain open to exploration and development of leasable minerals under the appropriate laws.

On public demand, lease oil, gas and geothermal resources from open public lands and non-federal lands with federally reserved mineral rights. Approve notices of intent and plans of operations for the exploration and development of oil, gas and geothermal resources.

All leases, plans and applications for permit to drill (APD) will contain stipulations that restrict surface operations, as necessary, to protect:

- a) seasonal wildlife values
 - Sagegrouse Strutting and Nesting 02/01 - 06/15
 - Deer and Elk Fawning and Calving 05/15 - 07/15
 - Deer, Elk, Antelope Winter Ranges 12/01 - 04/01
- b) live waters
- c) wilderness study areas
- d) Provide protective stipulations to protect soils designated with high erosion potential. These are listed in URA-3, Section 2, C-3.
- e) Prohibit surface disturbance on slopes greater than 25 percent without providing erosion control.

Analysis

Due to the area's proximity to the Overthrust Belt Oil and Gas province, the U. S. Geological Survey has classified it as potentially valuable for petroleum. The planning unit shows patterns of faulting and folding similar to that within the Idaho portion of the Overthrust Belt about 80 miles to the ESE. Over 60 percent of the open public oil and gas estate within the unit has been leased or is under lease application.

Beneath the lava flows of the Snake River Plain in the southern portion of the planning unit is a hot-water dominated geothermal reservoir. The USGS has classified this area as potentially valuable for geothermal resources. Calculated subsurface temperatures are from 54 to 106°C. Seventeen thousand acres of geothermal estate within the unit are under lease application.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

INSTRUCTIONS

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Big Lost
Activity	Minerals M-2
Overlay Reference	Step 1 M-1 Step 3 M-1

Analysis (cont.)

The United States is dependent on foreign sources for a third of its oil supplies. Although domestic demand for oil and natural gas is not expected to increase through 1990, dependency on foreign sources of oil is expected to stay between 30 and 40 percent. The annual rate of increase in the demand expected for electrical energy through 1990 is 3-4 percent.

A reasonable balance between the development of energy minerals on the public lands and the protection of other resource values can be obtained.

Soils identified in URA-3, Sec. 2, C-3 are prone to heavy soil losses and deep gullying. Surface disturbances can greatly accelerate these losses when cover is removed.

High slope areas have an exceptionally high erosion potential and should be avoided.

No restriction on exploration activities is necessary along existing roads. Exploration activities would create no greater disturbance to wildlife than incidental vehicle travel. Occupancy of areas currently without roads would cause disturbance and displacement of animals during critical periods in their life cycle.

Leasable minerals (oil and gas, geothermal) development potential is low in the Big Lost Unit. Due to the dispersed nature of exploration and the need to stay on roads with testing equipment little adverse impact on wildlife is expected.

INSTRUCTIONS

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Big Lost

Activity

Minerals M-3

Overlay Reference

Step 1 M-1 Step 3 M-1

Decision

Open federal mineral estate will remain open to the exploration and development of salable minerals under the appropriate laws.

New material sites will be established as necessary to meet public demand. Approve free use permits and conduct sales at newly or previously established sites. Provide for use of mineral materials in support of BLM projects.

No mineral materials extraction is permitted within wilderness study areas being considered for inclusion in the national wilderness system. Mining of materials at new or existing sites will be allowed except where the impact of such material removal would have unacceptable consequences to other resource uses and values.

Analysis

Mineral materials occur throughout the planning unit, but particularly within the sand and gravel (M-3), volcanic cinders (M-4) and riprap (M-5) areas identified on the Minerals MFP overlay. The annual demand for sand, gravel and cinders is 10,000 to 30,000 cubic yards while that for riprap may exceed 500 tons. An estimated \$300,000 worth of mineral materials have been mined so far.

Material sites involve small parcels of land and do not usually interfere with other land uses. Other resource values will be protected according to FLPMA and NEPA provisions.

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