

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (WFP)	Twin Falls
Activity	Wilderness Management
Objective Number	WM-1

OBJECTIVE:

Provide for the protection, use, and management of the Lower Salmon Falls Creek Unit (17-10), a roadless area identified as a Wilderness Study Area (WSA) by the wilderness inventory process.

RATIONALE:

PUBLIC LAW 94-579—OCT. 21, 1976

90 STAT. 2785

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT WILDERNESS STUDY

SEC. 603. (a) Within fifteen years after the date of approval of this Act, the Secretary shall review those roadless areas of five thousand acres or more and roadless islands of the public lands, identified during the inventory required by section 201(a) of this Act as having wilderness characteristics described in the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) and shall from time to time report to the President his recommendation as to the suitability or nonsuitability of each such area or island for preservation as wilderness: *Provided*, That prior to any recommendations for the designation of an area as wilderness the Secretary shall cause mineral surveys to be conducted by the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines to determine the mineral values, if any, that may be present in such areas: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall report to the President by July 1, 1980, his recommendations on those areas which the Secretary has prior to November 1, 1975, formally identified as natural or primitive areas. The review required by this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure specified in section 3(d) of the Wilderness Act.

Review:
report to
President.
43 USC 1782.

(b) The President shall advise the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of his recommendations with respect to designation as wilderness of each such area, together with a map thereof and a definition of its boundaries. Such advice by the President shall be given within two years of the receipt of each report from the Secretary. A recommendation of the President for designation as wilderness shall become effective only if so provided by an Act of Congress.

Report to
President.

(c) During the period of review of such areas and until Congress has determined otherwise, the Secretary shall continue to manage such lands according to his authority under this Act and other applicable law in a manner so as not to impair the suitability of such areas for preservation as wilderness, subject, however, to the continuation of existing mining and grazing uses and mineral leasing in the manner and degree in which the same was being conducted on the date of approval of this Act: *Provided*, That, in managing the public lands the Secretary shall by regulation or otherwise take any action required to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the lands and their resources or to afford environmental protection. Unless previously withdrawn from appropriation under the mining laws, such lands shall continue to be subject to such appropriation during the period of review unless withdrawn by the Secretary under the procedures of section 204 of this Act for reasons other than preservation of their wilderness character. Once an area has been designated for preservation as wilderness, the provisions of the Wilderness Act which apply to national forest wilderness areas shall apply with respect to the administration and use of such designated area, including mineral surveys required by section 4(d)(2) of the Wilderness Act, and mineral development, access, exchange of lands, and ingress and egress (1) for mining claimants and occupants.

Recommendations
to President
of the Senate
and Speaker
of the House.

Regulation.

Ante, p. 2751.

16 USC 1131
note.

16 USC 1133.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Twin Falls

Activity

Wilderness Management

Overlay Reference

Step 1 WM-1.1 Step 3

Recommendation WM-1.1: (Decision)

Recommend the Lower Salmon Falls Creek WSA Unit (17-10) as non-suitable for wilderness.

OK
GC
9-14-87

Rationale:

Based on criterion Number 1, "evaluation of wilderness values," of the wilderness study policy as published in the Federal Register on February 3, 1982, this WSA fails to qualify for wilderness designation.

The small size and narrow configuration of Salmon Falls Canyon limit the canyon's ability to provide a high degree of outstanding opportunities for solitude and outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. These wilderness characteristics are present in the canyon, but not to the degree that merits wilderness designation. The canyon is better suited for a natural area designation that could include the WSA unit, the canyon area between Lilly Grade and Balanced Rock, and a buffer strip along each canyon rim. This designation would include a longer and wider acreage, thus improving the recreation opportunities and the area's manageability.

Inclusion of the Lower Salmon Falls Creek Unit in the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS) would provide very minimal enhancement of the system on the statewide, regional, and national levels. The wilderness regional profile includes many WSAs with landform and ecosystem features that are very similar to those of the Lower Salmon Falls Creek Unit. Most of these WSAs are considerably larger than Salmon Falls Creek Canyon and offer better opportunities for a wilderness experience. Inclusion of the Lower Salmon Falls Creek Unit in the NWPS would do little to expand the opportunities for solitude or recreation within a day's driving time (five hours) of any major population center nor would such action help to balance the geographic distribution of wilderness areas on a statewide, regional, or national basis.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)
Twin Falls

Activity
Wilderness Management

Overlay Reference
Step 1 WM-1.2 Step 3

Recommendation WM-1.2: (Decision)

Designate the Lower Salmon Falls Creek WSA Unit (17-10) as an outstanding natural area. Include in the designation the canyon area between Lilly Grade and Balanced Rock and a 500-foot buffer strip along each canyon rim.

Rationale:

Salmon Falls Creek Canyon contains wilderness characteristics, and if it is not included in the National Wilderness Preservation System, it should receive alternative protection. The canyon contains the most primitive area within the Twin Fall Planning Unit. The imprints of man in the area are substantially unnoticeable. The values of the opportunities for solitude and for primitive and unconfined recreation are significant.

Much of the public comment obtained during the wilderness inventory expressed interest in protecting the area. A recommendation to designate an area of Salmon Falls Creek Canyon as a natural area was approved in February 1976 by the Burley District Multiple Use Advisory Board. The 1973 Twin Falls MFP effort identified substantial public interest in designating the canyon as a natural area.

OK
PL
9-14-87

Burley District
has W. rim.

Support Needs:

District Resources or Area Staff -
Realty Specialist to initiate withdrawal procedures (General Mining Laws, DLE, Carey Act, etc.)

Multiple Use Analysis

An outstanding natural area designation would help maintain the primitive nature of Salmon Falls Creek Canyon. This designation would help protect the significant opportunities for solitude and for primitive recreation that are found within the canyon. Provisions for primitive recreation will be possible

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)