

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1  
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

B.H. - T.H.
Name (MFP)
Bennett Hills-Timmerman-Hill
Activity
Wildlife
Objective Number
11

OBJECTIVE:

Protect the 14 known eagle eyries in the Bennett Hills Planning Unit and manage the vegetative cover within a two-mile radius of the nest sites such that it provides adequate food and cover for the birds' major prey species.

RATIONALE:

Raptors and specifically golden eagles are an abundant and very important nongame species inhabiting the planning units. As the importance of these birds increase over time more and more emphasis will be placed on the management and improvement of their habitat. The URA has recognized that in order to maintain and/or increase the number of breeding birds, it will be necessary to: 1, manage the habitat in order to maximize the prey species; and 2, minimize the human disturbance of nesting birds.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

B.H. - T.H.

Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill
Activity	Wildlife
Overlay Reference	Step 1 No. 2. Step 3

EAGLE EYRIES

RECOMMENDATION

WL - 11.1

Retain in public ownership and manage the vegetative cover within a two-mile radius of the known eagle eyries in order to maintain and/or enhance the birds prey species.

RATIONALE

Studies indicate that jackrabbits and marmots, when available, are the primary prey of golden eagles in this vicinity. If adequate food sources are to remain available for these birds, the undeveloped National Resource Lands should be maintained in a state which provides adequate habitat for such animals.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation conflicts with the range management recommendations dealing with the control of sagebrush. It is complementary to watershed recommendation W-1.4, recreation recommendations R4.1, 2 & 3, and wildlife recommendations WL-8.2 and 12.1, and where eagle eyries are located on deer winter range 2.2 and 2.8.

Since this recommendation does not preclude the control of brush but only states that the vegetation should be managed such that the birds major prey are maintained and/or enhanced, it is not felt that this recommendation constitutes a major conflict with range management.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reasons

Refer to the above Multiple-Use Analysis and Rationale.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation

Reasons

(See Appendix I and II of Range Management for additional coordination criteria).

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

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<u>Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill</u>
Activity
<u>Wildlife</u>
Overlay Reference
Step 1 No. 2 Step 3

EAGLE EYRIES

RECOMMENDATION

WL - 11.2

Close the National Resource Lands within 1/2 mile of known eyries to off-road vehicles and discourage other human activities during the nesting season (Feb. - June).

RATIONALE

Eagles, when excessively disturbed by man, will abandon their nests. These birds are more vulnerable to man and his depredation during the nesting period, especially during incubation (Mar.-mid-April) and if disturbed they will abandon their nests.

, Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation conflicts with recreation recommendation R-8.2, which recommends that the entire unit remain open to ORVs. However, since it is felt that ORV use, specifically motorcycles, could cause harassment and nest abandonment, and that the areas as identified are only a small portion of the unit, the recreation recommendation will be modified.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reasons

The ORV closure will not significantly affect ORV use, but will provide an added measure of seclusion to the nesting birds.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.

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Name (MFP)
Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hil
Activity
Wildlife
Overlay Reference
Step 1 None Step 3

BIRDS OF PREY

RECOMMENDATION

WL - 11.3

Initiate studies and inventories to determine the species, their population dynamics, and habitat requirements of the raptors inhabiting the planning unit.

RATIONALE

There are nine species of raptors and five species of owls which inhabit the planning unit. If we are going to adequately manage raptor habitat, these inventories and studies will have to be made.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation will cause no adverse social, environmental, or economic impacts, nor does it conflict with other resource activity recommendations.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reasons

Refer to the above Multiple-Use Analysis and Rationale.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.

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ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)

Activity

Wildlife

Objective Number

12

OBJECTIVE:

Manage for a maximum diversity of vegetative species in order to meet the habitat requirements for a variety of wildlife species.

RATIONALE:

To identify and discuss in the URAs the habitat requirements of all the wildlife species inhabiting the planning units would be impossible. Consequently, we must recognize that many species which have specific habitat requirements have not been identified in the URAs. Therefore, prior to the initiation of any project or activity that could adversely affect the animal or its habitat, impacts of the project or activity must be considered. Public attitudes have changed over the past several years and the wildlife management emphasis has gone from a concern primarily for game species to one of concern for both nongame as well as game animals. The Bureau's Supplemental Guidance (1603.12D3a) identifies this changing emphasis.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

B.H. - T.H. Name (MFP)
Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hi Activity
Wildlife
Overlay Reference
Step 1 None Step 3

ALL WILDLIFE

RECOMMENDATION

WL 12.1

Intensively manage grazing livestock to ensure that no more than 60 percent of the herbaceous vegetation is utilized by livestock in any pasture, and implement grazing systems to establish and maintain a diverse vegetative composition (20- 25 percent forbs, 55- 65 percent grasses, and 15- 20 percent shrubs) throughout both planning units.

RATIONALE

A good variety of vegetative species would provide succulent, highly nutritious forage for many small mammals and birds, and also provide them with excellent cover. Improve habitat conditions for small herbivorous mammals will both directly and indirectly improve carnivorous animal habitat.

Multiple-Use Analysis

The recommendation complements watershed recommendation W-1.3, recreation recommendations R-4.1, 2 & 3, and wildlife recommendations WL-1.1, 3.1, and 8.2. It does not conflict with other resource recommendations, but it does constrain the development and management of AMPs.

It is felt that over-all public values would be enhanced by maintaining the residual herbaceous vegetation and developing a diversity of vegetative species. The short-term cost of implementing such a grazing system would be higher, but over the long-term the social and economic benefits would outweigh the initial cost.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reasons

Refer to the above Multiple-Use Analysis and Rationale.

Decision

Modify the Step 2 multiple use recommendation as follows:

Maximum allowable utilization by livestock in any pasture will be determined in the formulation of the AMP. The degree of utilization in any use pasture will not

Reasons

To allow more flexibility in development of specific grazing systems and AMPs commensurate with related on-site needs.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hil

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 None Step 3

WL 12-1

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Continuation - Decision

exceed the identified needs of  
wildlife (food and cover) and water  
shed protection.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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Name (MFP)
Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hil
Activity
Wildlife
Overlay Reference
Step 1 None Step 3

ALL WILDLIFE

RECOMMENDATION

WL 12.2

To insure that all wildlife habitat needs are met, any and all land treatment projects should be coordinated with the wildlife program. Considerations to keep in mind for such projects are: forage requirements, availability, quality, succulence, and cover and water availability.

RATIONALE

This is in accordance with 1603.12D3a, 12D4b, and 12D4c, Idaho Manual Supplement 6711.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation does not conflict with other resource activities, nor will it produce any adverse social or economic impacts.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reasons

Refer to the above Multiple-Use Analysis and Rationale.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.



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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1  
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)

Activity  
Wildlife

Objective Number  
13

OBJECTIVE:

Manage the 51 miles of streams and associated riparian habitat in order to maximize the fisheries potential in both the Bennett and Timmerman Hills Planning units.

RATIONALE:

The PAA and URAs identify that the fisheries resources throughout the planning units are important to both the local and surrounding communities. Noted fishery problems, to date, have been identified only for the larger more significant reservoirs or streams. The Bennett Hills URA indicates that perhaps there is an excellent potential to expand or enhance the fisheries in many small streams and reservoirs. However, before any firm recommendations can be made, certain studies should be undertaken to determine what the potential is for these waters.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

B.H. - T.H. *CHH*

Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hil
Activity	Wildlife
Overlay Reference	
Step 1 No. 3	Step 3

FISHERIES

RECOMMENDATION

WL 13.1

Improve the riparian habitat and fisheries habitat by excluding livestock along the reaches of King Hill Creek, Dry Creek, and Clover Creek.

RATIONALE

Improved riparian habitat along the streams will enhance the fisheries habitat by reducing the water temperatures, provide shaded areas for fish, increase their food supply and in instances increase the dissolved oxygen content of the water.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation is complementary to watershed recommendation W-3.3 to improve water quality, and recreation recommendation R-1.1 to increase the fisheries throughout the unit. Although it will constrain the range management recommendations dealing with livestock grazing it is not considered as conflicting with these recommendations. It appears that in addition to the enhancement of the fisheries habitat both the recreation and watershed values will be benefited at little or no expense to other resource activities.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reasons

Refer to the above Multiple-Use Analysis and Rationale.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

B.H. - T.H. *TH*  
Name (MFP)  
Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hil  
Activity  
Wildlife  
Overlay Reference  
Step 1 None Step 3

FISHERIES

RECOMMENDATION

WL 13.2

Intensive surveys should be made to determine the fisheries potential within all the streams and reservoirs throughout the two planning units. Additionally, these surveys would gather water quality data, identify stream improvement measures, and potential beaver introduction areas.

RATIONALE

The Bureau is judged with the responsibility to maintain and/or improve the water quality in streams, etc., which arise or run through National Resource Lands. Associated directly with water quality is the fisheries potential of any stream. Before recommendations or management programs can be developed certain basic data must be available. This data is presently lacking throughout the planning units and must be gathered if we are to accept our management responsibilities.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation does not conflict with any other resource recommendation, nor does it create any adverse impact on the environment. If the information is not gathered it could have serious environmental as well as economic impacts.

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reason

Refer to the above Multiple-Use Analysis and Rationale.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.

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B.H. - T.H. *[initials]*

Name (MFP)
<u>Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill</u>
Activity
<u>Wildlife</u>
Overlay Reference
Step 1 None Step 3

FISHERIES

RECOMMENDATION

WL 13.3

Improve the overall watershed conditions within both planning units.

RATIONALE

By improving the watershed conditions the quality of water would be enhanced, and secondly, it would extend or prolong the run-off thus lengthening the time that streams would have water in them.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation complements watershed recommendation W-3.2, and range management recommendations dealing with the adjustment of stocking rates, and implementing grazing systems. It does not conflict with other resource activity recommendations, nor would there be any adverse economic or environmental impacts created.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reasons

Refer to the above Multiple-Use Analysis and Rationale.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.