

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

B.H. - T.H.

Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill
Activity	
Lands	
Overlay Reference	
Step 1 TH/1 BH ³ Step 3	

AGRICULTURE

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RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

L - 3.1 A

For lands not within a MUC, dispose of potentially irrigable Class I or Class II lands when found to be consistent with classification criteria set forth in 43 CFR 2410, 2430.1.

Support Needs

Classification.

These lands are all classified potentially irrigable, Class 1 or Class 2 type. Some of these lands are being farmed at the current time in trespass. There is a current desire and/or demand that some lands be made available for agricultural development and only the better lands should be considered for this type development.

Multiple-Use Analysis

Although the PAA notes a 'lack of demand' for National Resource Lands to be used for agricultural purposes, the current applications on hand and over the counter inquiries indicate otherwise. There are 21 Desert Land Entry applications awaiting classification action in the Shoshone office for lands located in the Bennett Hills planning unit. These are all for lands not included in a Multiple Use Classification. In addition, numerous requests have been made to reclassify lands previously classified as unsuitable for Desert Land Entry and lands presently included within an MUC.

The impacts related to disposal would include both social and economic. New families would be expected to move into the area creating additional demands for various services while putting more money into the local economy. Additional commercial and industrial growth in Bliss would undoubtedly occur. Current, local lifestyle is not expected to be significantly effected. Open space values would be altered, some livestock operations would be impacted, and environmental qualities such as air and water could be reduced. Additional tax revenues would likely be offset by the necessity of providing additional school, fire protection, and transportation maintenance services.

Range Management (RM 1&2.2) proposes to implement an AMP with a rest-rotation grazing system on "...all public lands which can reasonably be expected to remain in Federal ownership for multiple use management...". Since these lands have the potential for disposal, any AMPs developed should have a contingency plan for grazing management when and if disposal does occur.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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Multiple-Use Analysis (continued)

Wildlife (WL 2.8). Retain National Resource Lands in Federal ownership which are identified as being in the deer winter range area. This area includes the lands in T. 4 S., Rs. 12 and 13 E. The disposal and development of agricultural purposes of this land would eliminate native forage and restrict movement of local deer populations.

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Dispose of potentially irrigable Class I or II lands in T. 5 S., Rs. 12 and 13 E. B.M., not included within the Multiple Use Classification when found to be consistent with classification criteria set forth in 43 CFR 2410, 2430.

Support Needs

Classification

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation

Reasons

Modified L-3.1A to exclude the lands in T. 4 S., Rs. 12 and 13 E. which are identified as deer winter range.

Alternatives Considered

Lands Step I

L-3.3 A-A1 Prepare an EIS on agricultural entry program before processing any agricultural entry applications.

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AGRICULTURAL

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RECOMMENDATION

L - 3.2 A1
For lands within a Multiple-Use Classification having a potentially irrigable Class I or II classification; reevaluate MUC on a site specific basis, for possible disposal under agricultural entries when found to be consistent with classification criteria set forth in 43 CFR 2410 and 2430.

RATIONALE

There has been public interest in developing these lands for agricultural purposes. The draft State Water Plan recommends developing these lands for agricultural purposes. The agricultural entry - DLE EAR has identified all lands within these planning units as being High Conflict areas with varying soil capabilities. If taken on a site specific basis, the environment should not be adversely impacted since a more thorough analysis can be made.

Multiple-Use Analysis

Disposal of some of these lands could create management problems for Range (RM 1&2.2) if an AMP is implemented. Any grazing system developed should have a contingency plan in case disposals are made.

Wildlife (WL 2.8, WL 6.2, WL 7.1, WL 9.0) recommendations all show varying degrees of conflict with a disposal action. Classification action would bring out the location and degree of the specific conflict after further identification of sites have been made by the wildlife activity.

Wildlife (WL - 8.1) proposes to "Retain in public ownership and exclude livestock from areas identified as pheasant escape and winter habitat..." Particular lands identified include those in Sections 1-5, T. 5 S., R. 15 E. B.M., lands immediately north of Walker Reservoir in T. 4 & 5 S., R. 11 E., B.M; lands within 1/4 mile of Clover Creek in Section 10, T. 5 S., R. 12 E. B.M. In disposal classification, consideration should be given to retaining strips of National Resource Lands adjacent to these tracts.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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Multiple-Use Recommendation

Accept Step I Recommendation.

Reasons

See Rationale & Analysis.

Alternatives Considered

Make no reviews until further wildlife inventories have been completed.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.

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Area Wide

Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hil

Activity

Lands

Overlay Reference

Step TH 1/BH §step 3

AGRICULTURAL

RECOMMENDATION

L - 3.3 A1

Retain Multiple Use Classification on these lands until an EIS has been prepared on the agricultural entry program within the District.

Support Needs

Idaho State Office.

RATIONALE

The agricultural entry - DLE EAR, prepared by the State Office, has identified all lands within these planning units as being High Conflict Areas with Variable Soil Capabilities. Based on this analysis, agricultural development within these areas may result in significant adverse impacts. Most of the public comments received on this report indicated a desire or need for an EIS before proceeding with allowance of agricultural entries.

Multiple-Use Analysis

No conflicts with other activities exist for this recommendation. See Rationale.

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Reject this recommendation and Accept Step I Recommendation Lands (L-3.2 A1).

Reasons

See Rationale (L-3.2 A1). Also, these lands have undergone previous analysis by resource and a determination was made to retain for multiple use management. Little significant information has become available to indicate that the MUC is not still valid. However, new technology and systems of irrigation, now available, indicate that additional lands may be developed without adversely affecting other resources or degrading the environment.

Support Needs:

Soil Survey, classification

Alternatives Considered

Lands Step I Recommendations (L-3.2 A1 and L-3.4 A-A1).

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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Area Wide

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L - 3.3 A1 (continued)

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use
recommendation

Reason

(Refer to recommendation L-3.2 A1)

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AGRICULTURE

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

L - 3.4 A-A1

Prepare an EIS on the agricultural entry program before processing any agricultural entry applications.

The agricultural entry - DLE EAR, prepared by the State Office, has identified all lands within these planning units as being High Conflict Areas with Variable Soil Capabilities. Based on this analysis, agricultural development within these areas may result in significant adverse impacts. Most of the public comments received on this report indicated a desire or need for an EIS before proceeding with allowance of agricultural entries.

Multiple-Use Analysis

See Rationale

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Reasons

Reject this recommendation and accept L-3.2 A1 recommendation.

See Lands L-3.2 A1.
An agricultural entry EIS will be done in FY 77 and will include these lands. State policy is to proceed with application processing on a site specific basis rather than defer action pending the EIS completion.

Alternatives Considered:

Reconsideration of all present MUCs in consideration of Bureau Motion Classification for agricultural entry allowance.

Decision

Reason

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation

(Refer to reasons above and under L-3.2 A1)

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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UNITED STATES
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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

(14)
Name (MFP)
Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill
Activity
Lands
Objective Number
L-4

Objectives:

Utility Systems/Utility Corridors

Eliminate haphazard and scattered development and installation of major utility systems throughout the planning units.

Rationale:

No local, county, state, or utility company needs have been identified. Existing projects are rather localized or amount to an uprating of existing systems. Keeping the development within areas of existing systems will confine environmental impacts to areas which have already undergone analysis for the various impacts. It will control haphazard and scattered development and will reduce application processing time substantially.

Potential need for additional rights-of-way exists if geothermal resources and oil and gas developments occur in areas of current interest.