

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1  
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timme	H:
Activity	Recreation	
Objective Number	R-9	

OBJECTIVE:

In cooperation with the Boise BLM District manage the identified area near King Hill Creek as a Back Country.

RATIONALE:

The Boise District has recognized the National Resource Lands on the west side of King Hill Creek as having high potential for Back Country management. There are no Primitive Areas or Back Country Areas within the Shoshone District at the present time, and the identified area probably has the highest potential of any of the National Resource Lands within the District for management of the primitive values.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
 RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

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

King Hill Back Country

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

R-9.1

Designate this area as a Back Country, reduce livestock grazing, avoid any intensive developments, and generally manage it in accordance with the Back Country Policy outlined in ISO Instruction Memo 73-278 .

Managing this area as a Back Country would be consistent with the policy guidelines in ISO 73-278, and would be consistent with the Boise District MFP recommendation to establish a Back Country on the west side of King Hill Creek.

Support Needs

Withdraw from mineral location.

Multiple-Use Analysis

Designation of this area as a Back Country would present a conflict with proposed land treatments (RM 1 & 2.4) and possibly other range management programs. No conflicts are foreseen with activities other than range management, with the possible exception of lands recommendation L-4.1 on utility corridors. A relatively low potential for increasing livestock forage through spraying and/or seeding exists within this area. The area receives very little use as a Back Country now, but has good potential for this use, especially in conjunction with the proposed Back Country across King Hill Creek in the Boise District.

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Reasons

Manage the area as a Back Country, but continue the present grazing system without livestock reduction unless a reduction is needed to reach the carrying capacity of the entire allotment. Allow no brush treatments which would conflict with the back country management. Show preference for the utility corridor to the south of this area if it would provide a feasible alternative to crossing the Back Country.

Modified to recognize other resource values while still protecting the potential of the area to be managed as a Back Country. Multiple use concepts would be upheld if the values were strongly considered before allowing land treatments, rights-of-way, or similar developments.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

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Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timmerman
Activity	Recreation
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Step 3	

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R-9.1 (Continued)

Decision

Reasons

Defer action on Back Country designation until planning efforts in Boise District progress to MFP formulation.

The majority of the identified area is situated in the Boise District. Only the east fringe area is situated in the Shoshone District.

In the interim, allow no action that would jeopardize future designation as a Back Country.

Planning efforts in the Boise District have not progressed to MFP stage.

Employ "low-key" approach toward designation or development.

Final designation should only be made after close coordination with Boise District and local residents.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1  
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

BH/TH

Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hills  
Activity

Recreation

Objective Number

R-10

OBJECTIVE:

Manage the area adjacent to Mormon Reservoir, Thorn Creek Reservoir, Richfield Canal, and Silver Creek in order to accommodate additional visitor use for fishing, hunting, and/or camping.

RATIONALE:

These areas are presently popular and occasionally very crowded. They have good potential for improvement and for providing additional recreation opportunities. Based upon the regional population growth indicated by the PAA, it would be logical to expand opportunities to meet the anticipated demand.

BH

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

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Activity	Recreation	
Overlay Reference	Step 1 No. 1 Step 3	

Mormon Reservoir

RECOMMENDATION

R-10.1

Expand the parking and camping facilities on Mormon Reservoir to provide a one-time use capacity for an additional 50 vehicles by 1990.

RATIONALE

Existing facilities are very crowded at certain times. Additional parking and sanitary facilities could be provided on National Resource Lands on the east side of the Reservoir with minimal expenditure of funds.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation is consistent with Lands recommendation L-2.11 P2 for Recreation and Public Purposes. It is felt that this area is appropriate for BLM development rather than leasing or patenting to another agency, when and if the BLM funds be available. No significant conflicts with other activities are foreseen.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the activity recommendation as stated above.

Reasons

No unresolved conflicts with other uses or values have been identified.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

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

Richfield Canal Access

RECOMMENDATION

R-10.2

Plan and construct new road access, parking areas, and sanitary facilities along the Richfield Canal to accommodate a total one-time use capacity for 50 vehicles and 150 people by 1990.

RATIONALE

The Richfield Canal is one of the most popular fishing waters within the Planning area. There is presently a narrow, very steep-sided road along the bank of the canal, but it does not allow for vehicles to pass each other or to turn around, and accidents frequently occur as a result of vehicles slipping off the road. The Canal Company is opposed to having public vehicular traffic on their access road, and would favor new access being provided. This recommendation would provide for increased use of the canal and more enjoyment and safer conditions for the visitors.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation could conflict with intensive range management by limiting access of livestock to the canal. However, this conflict could be mitigated by allowing sufficient water gaps. No conflicts with other activities are foreseen.

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Accept activity recommendation as stated, stipulating that adequate provision will be made for livestock watering.

Reasons

No unresolved conflicts with other activities or values are foreseen.

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

R-10.2 (Continued)

Decision

Modify Step 2 multiple use recommendation as follows:

Seek a cooperative effort by BLM, Big Wood Canal Company, and Idaho Fish and Game Department to provide better public access to Richfield Canal. Coordinate all proposed construction projects with needs of livestock, watershed, and wildlife.

Reasons

The Big Wood Canal Company holds a right-of-way for use of the Richfield Canal; Idaho Fish and Game administers hunting and fishing in the State; BLM administers lands, across which the canal traverses. Efforts to enhance recreation and protect adjacent resources should be a joint agency venture.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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Name (MFP)  
Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill  
Activity  
Recreation  
Overlay Reference  
Step 1 Step 3

Thorn Creek Reservoir

RECOMMENDATION

R-10.3

Acquire the private land included with-  
in this recommendation area and manage  
the land surrounding Thorn Creek Reser-  
voir to provide a total of 5,000  
visitor-days per year of high-quality  
fishing, hunting, and camping oppor-  
tunities by 1990.

Support needs.

Land exchange and mineral withdrawal.

RATIONALE

Thorn Creek Reservoir is presently a popular  
place for fishing, and the State Dept. of Fish  
& Game has also initiated an aeration program  
to eliminate winter kill of fish in the  
Reservoir, which reportedly has a very high  
Potential as a fishery. The area around the  
Reservoir is relatively attractive and inter-  
esting, and supports substantial sage grouse  
hunting and some waterfowl hunting.

*Accomplished  
Thorn Creek Reservoir  
Land Exchange  
BLM  
Issued 1984*

Multiple-Use Analysis

Acquisition of the private land would be compatible with all multiple-use programs.  
In fact, expanding the recommendation to include all the adjacent private land  
(increasing total area to approximately 1,000 acres) would benefit range and water-  
shed management and also provide for improving wildlife habitat. The area would form  
an integral part of surrounding National Resource Lands.

Range management recommendation RM-1 & 2.3 would support this proposal, as long as  
livestock watering would not be severely restricted.

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Accept the activity recommendation  
for an area including all the adj-  
acent private lands.

Reasons

The area has high potential for multiple-use  
management, especially recreation, range,  
watershed, and wildlife habitat.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use  
recommendation.



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Bennett Hills-Timme	Hi
Activity	
Recreation	
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Silver Creek Access

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

R-10.4  
Retain this area in public ownership and continue to manage it in cooperation with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game for public fishing access.

The "Priest Campground" area is the only access on National Resource Land to Silver Creek, which is a famous trout fishing stream. Although existing facilities appear to be adequate for now, they should be upgraded and/or expanded as the need arises.

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation is consistent with Lands recommendation L-2.5 P2 and it does not conflict with any activity recommendations. In view of long-term multiple-use management, however, it is felt that the BLM should accept complete responsibility for the recreation management, assuming the means become available.

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Reasons

Accept activity recommendation as stated above, but favor complete BLM management as means become available.

No unresolved conflicts with other activities or values.

Decision

Adopt the Step 2 multiple use recommendation.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)