

## Environmental Consequences

analysis, the overall impacts of this alternative on the availability of oil or gas leasing and development would be insignificant.

### Geothermal

The proposed 4,500 acre withdrawals along the Payette River includes 2,600 acres covered by existing power site and Bureau of Reclamation withdrawals and an additional 1,900 acres currently open. This means that 93% of the area would remain open for geothermal leases. No other withdrawals are proposed. The impacts would be insignificant.

No surface occupancy stipulations under this alternative total 7,726 acres. The lands involved are generally small parcels and represent a very small percentage of the total prospectively valuable area. The impacts would be considered insignificant.

Time stipulations are the same as Alternative A and are considered insignificant.

Since the lands identified for transfer would have the geothermal estate reserved in areas classified as prospectively valuable, the impact of land transfers would be insignificant.

Based on the lack of any commercial geothermal electric projects in Idaho, the lack of any known large reservoirs in the area, the declining interest in geothermal resources and the above analysis, the overall impacts of this alternative on the availability of geothermal leases and development would be insignificant.

### Locatables

A total of 17,324 acres of land are proposed to be transferred from federal ownership under this alternative. No lands having valid mining claims or mineral potential would be transferred from federal ownership unless they are patented under the mining laws, the mineral estate is paid for, or lands of equal overall values are obtained. The impact from land transfer on the availability of lands for mineral location and development would therefore be insignificant.

The resource area would have 93% of its lands open to mining activity. Those areas closed to mining include 31,177 acres of existing withdrawals, a 2,600 acre overlapping withdrawal and a new withdrawal of 1,900 acres along the Payette River, and various small protective withdrawals amounting to 1,803 acres total. Because the 2,600 acre Payette River withdrawal overlaps existing withdrawals, it would not have any significant impacts on the availability of lands for locatable mineral discovery and development. The new 1,900 acre Payette River withdrawal would not be a significant impact.

The largest of the other withdrawals are Rebecca Sandhill, Summer Creek, Goodrich Creek and Box Creek. None of these areas are within zones of current mineral interest and none of them have any record or history of mineral locations. The impacts from these withdrawals would, therefore, be insignificant.

An analysis of the location of and activity on the existing mining claims and areas of mineral interest compared to an analysis of the actions proposed under this alternative indicates that there would not be any significant impacts on the availability of locatable minerals.

#### Salables

The impacts of this alternative on mineral materials would be the same as that for Alternative A. Decisions on allowing or not allowing mineral material sales from any particular site would be made on a site specific basis.

### FOREST RESOURCES

#### Timber

Under this alternative the total acres of commercial forest land would be reduced by 7,241 CFL set aside acres. The impact of this reduction in the number of high productive and high volume per acre commercial forest land would result in the lowering of the allowable cut to approximately 0.5 million board feet.

### FIRE MANAGEMENT

Same as Alternative A.

### ECONOMICS

#### Crop Agriculture

With this alternative there would be no new agricultural development.

#### Livestock

The 5-year livestock forage level would be 47,233 AUMs. This would support 3,936 animal units which would generate earnings of \$1.9 million. This would be 7% of the total permittee earnings, 4% of the RMP area meat animal earnings, and 2% of total farm earnings. The total earnings (including the multiplier effect) would be \$5.1 million. This would be 0.2% of total RMP area 1983 earnings.

The direct earnings would generate 68 jobs. This would be 2% of the 1983 farm wage and salary employment. The total earnings would generate 235 jobs. This would be 0.2% of the RMP area 1983 wage and salary employment.

This initial stocking level represents a capital value of between \$2.6 and \$11.8 million.

The 20-year livestock forage level would be 53,543 AUMs. This would support 4,462 animal units which would generate earnings of \$2.2 million. This would be 9% of total permittee earnings, 5% of the RMP area meat animal earnings, and 2% of total farm earnings. The total earnings (including the multiplier effect) would be \$5.8 million. This would be 0.2% of total RMP area 1983 earnings.

## Environmental Consequences

The direct earnings would generate 77 jobs. This would be 2.2% of the 1983 farm wage and salary employment. The total earnings would generate 266 jobs. This would be 0.2% of the RMP area 1983 wage and salary employment.

This 20-year stocking level represents a capital value of between \$3.0 and \$13.4 million.

### Recreation

Impacts would be the same as for Alternative A.

### Lumber and Wood Products

Approximately 0.5 million board feet of wood products would be harvested annually with this alternative. This would generate earnings of \$107,500. This would be 0.04% of the RMP area durable manufacturing 1983 earnings. The total earnings (including the multiplier effect) would be \$257,500. This would be 0.01% of the total RMP 1983 earnings.

The harvest level would lead to 5 jobs (Youngblood 1983). This would be 0.03% of the 1983 manufacturing wage and salary employment. Total employment (including the multiplier effect) would be 13. This would be 0.01% of the total 1983 RMP area wage and salary employment.

### Management Costs

Range and wildlife improvements associated with this alternative would cost approximately \$1.6 million.

### Summary

The initial livestock stocking level would lead to earnings and employment (including the multiplier effect) of \$5.1 million and 235 jobs. These are both less than one-half of one percent of the RMP earnings and employment. The 20-year stocking level would lead to total earnings of \$5.8 million and employment of 266 jobs. This alternative would not lead to any change in the recreation-related earnings and employment. The total (including the multiplier effect) lumber and wood products earnings and employment would be \$257,500 and 13 jobs. These are both less than one-tenth of one percent of the 1983 RMP area earnings and employment. Project costs needed to implement this alternative would be \$1.6 million.