

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Range Management

Overlay Reference

Step 1

Step 3

RM-5.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

Designate the Oolytic Limestone Area, T.7S., R.3E., Section 5 as an ACEC, and evaluate this area as a Research Natural Area.

Analysis:

The area contains unique habitat where several threatened and "Idaho Uncommon" plants are present.

Decision:

Reject in preference to R-1.2(12), also see M-1.1(3).

ore: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(instructions on reverse)

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

JUN 15 1982

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Watershed

Objective Number

#1

Objective #1:

Maintain stability of 408,300 acres of moderate, high, and critical erosion hazard classes by reducing or minimizing wind and water erosion.

Rationale:

The Unit Resource Analysis identified the Snake River sediments as an area where proper grazing management could effectively protect against soil loss. The maintenance of soil stability will be of benefit to bureau grazing, recreation, and fishery programs as well as having an aesthetic value.

Achievement of this objective will reduce or prevent high sediment yields and dissolved solids in runoff water. This will enhance surface water quality for a variety of uses.

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Watershed
Overlay Reference	
Step 1	Step 3

WS-1.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Minimize erosion by maintaining good perennial vegetation cover on all sites. Do not allocate more than 50% of vegetation to consumptive use. As a guideline 50% utilization of perennial grass is recommended. The guide is to manage for stable watershed. Restrict water developments or placement of salt which encourages utilization of slopes $\geq 50\%$. On seeded ranges a good rule of thumb is $\geq 75\%$ perennial vegetation by weight of the sites potential.

Analysis:

Soil stability will benefit all range land uses. Soils are the building blocks for all uses (also see WS-1.1 MFP I Rationale).

Decision:

Accept with the following modification:

Minimize erosion by maintaining good perennial vegetation cover where it exists and where feasible/economical strive for establishing perennial vegetation cover to benefit all uses. If not feasible/economical to establish perennial vegetation manage to achieve stable watershed conditions.

Reason:

Good ecological range condition may not be feasible or achievable in all instances through management alone. Converting cheatgrass ranges for instance to perennial vegetation can be accomplished, however, it would be very expensive.

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Name (MFP)

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Activity

Watershed

Overlay Reference

Step 1

Step 3

WS-1.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

Minimize soil erosion of all surface disturbance activities through proper timing with regards to soil moisture content. All projects and/or authorized uses will consider soil erosion both on site and off site.

Analysis:

Proper timing of all activities with regards to soil moisture content and range readiness will serve to minimize soil erosion. Soil compaction resulting from use when soils are saturated will affect seeding establishment.

Decision:

Accept as written.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Watershed
Overlay Reference	
Step 1	Step 3

Recommendation WS-2.1:

Nominate the following areas as ACEC's:

1. Bruneau River Canyon
2. Indian Bathtub
3. Oolytic Limestone
4. Little Jacks Creek

Multiple Use Analysis:

See CRM-1.1, 1.2, RM-5.2, W/L-2.1, WN-1.1, 1.3, 1.4 for analysis.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Do not carry these forward as Watershed recommendation as they are covered adequately by other activity recommendations (see CRM-1.1, 1.2, RM-5.2, W/L-2.1, WN-1.1, 1.3 and 1.4.

Decision:

Concur

ore: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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Form BLM-21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wildlife (4350)

Objective Number

#1

Objective #1:

Protect and/or improve endangered species habitat within the BPU.

Rationale:

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 directs all federal agencies to:

1. Ensure the continued existence of listed species.
2. Pursue an active program to improve numbers or remove threats to listed species

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife
Overlay Reference	
Step W/L-t9	Step 3 0-2

W/L-1.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage the potential peregrine habitat consistent with endangered species act, (i.e. C.J.-Bruneau River-Owyhee River (see overlay W/L-t9)).

- (1) Retain in public ownership those lands within Withdrawal Order #5777 and manage these lands consistent with the Snake River Birds of Prey Management Plan (SRBOPMP). Allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired within the boundary as depicted on W/L-t9 overlay (see W/L-5.2).
- (2) Allow improvement of existing roads.
- (3) Enhance potential prey populations.
- (4) Support reintroduction efforts of peregrine falcons at other locations within the BPU.
- (5) Retain these lands in public ownership.

Analysis:

The recommendation complies with requirements of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, as outlined in the "Rationale" above. Previous reintroduction efforts through a cross-fostering experiment from 1977 through 1979 in the Snake River Birds of Prey Natural Area (BPNA), have demonstrated that young peregrines can be raised in an area of substantial recreational activities. Although cross-fostering was successful, the reestablishment program for peregrine falcons in the SRBOP area was discontinued in favor of an approach oriented toward saturation-reintroductions of higher priority habitats in other geographic locations. The suitability of these lands in the BPU for future reintroduction efforts is assured if they are managed for the existing raptor population which provided the original "foster parents".

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-1.1

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife
Overlay Reference	Step W/L-t9 Step 3D-2

Reintroduction at other locations within the BPU should be undertaken to the degree that successful reestablishment of breeding peregrines will not constrain management actions through formal designation of Critical Habitat where none now exists.

Decision:

Accept recommendation with the following modifications:

- (1) Retain in public ownership those lands within PLO 5777 and manage them consistent with decision W/L-5.2. Allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired.
- (2) Allow improvement and new road construction if consistent with General Decision above.
- (4) Consistent with PLO 4153 and coop. between U.S.F. & W.S.; Idaho Department of Fish & Game and BLM (see R-1.1).
- (5) Retain these lands in public ownership; however, allow exchanges if higher and better habitat can be acquired.

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Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 W/L-t9 Step 3 D-2

W/L-1.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage bald eagle habitat in the vicinity of C.J. Strike Reservoir (overlay W/L-t9) to encourage additional use by these birds. Specific management actions are:

- (1) Retain in public ownership those lands within Withdrawal Order #5777 and manage these lands consistent with the Snake River Birds of Prey Management Plan (SRBOPMP). Allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired within the boundary and such exchanges are in the best interests of the public.
- (2) Allow improvement of existing roads if consistent with Withdrawal Order #5777 and the SRBOPMP.
- (3) Plant rapidly growing trees such as cottonwood on suitable sites adjacent to the reservoir to provide secure perch and roost sites.

Analysis:

Human disturbance and the lack of perch sites are considered to be the primary factors which currently and will continue to effect the population of wintering eagles in the C.J. Strike area. Retention of public lands in this area ensures that bald eagle needs will be considered before any developments occur.

This recommendation complies with requirements of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, for participation by the BLM in conservation programs. Because bald eagles frequent the area only during winter and early spring and recreational use is limited at that time, the potential for conflict is considered insignificant.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-1.2

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife
Overlay Reference	Step W/L-t9 Step 3 D-2

The purpose of management for bald eagles at C.J. Strike is more likely to enhance rather than diminish the diversity and equipment of winter recreational activities.

Management of this area consistent with the SRBOPMP will ensure that habitat for bald eagles is protected and/or enhanced.

Decision:

Accept with the following modification:

- (1) Retain in public ownership those lands within PLO 5777 and manage them consistent with decision W/L-5.2.
- (2) Allow improvement and construction of new roads if consistent with General Decision above.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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Form 10-07-21 April 1975

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)
Bruneau

Activity
Wildlife (4350)

Objective Number
#2

Objective #2:

Manage sensitive species habitats in the BPU to maintain or increase existing and potential populations.

Rationale:

Sensitive species are species of wildlife mutually designated by the BLM and Idaho Department of Fish and Game for which there is concern for their continued existence. Although these species are not in as much jeopardy as endangered or threatened species, further population or habitat declines may result in the more restrictive listing.

Bureau policy (Manual 6840) is to maintain or increase current population levels of sensitive species through habitat protection or enhancement.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/L-t11 Step 3 D-2

W/L-2.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage 93,500 acres of bighorn habitat to provide adequate food, cover, water and space for 420 bighorns by 1990. Idaho Department of Fish and Game population goals for each area within the BPU are as follows: Little Jacks - 100 bighorns; Owyhee River - 220; West Fork Bruneau River - 100. Specific habitat management needed to maintain or achieve the population goals are:

- (1) In order to provide sufficient forage for bighorns in the BPU, allocate forage as shown on Table 1. This table reflects the AUM's that are competitive with livestock.
- (2) Reserve the canyonlands of Little Jacks, Battle and Deep Creeks, and the Owyhee River for use by bighorns and other wildlife. Where necessary to prevent livestock access to these areas, provide management (e.g. salting) or fencing.
- (3) Maintain a separation of use between cattle and bighorn by not developing livestock water sources within 1 mile of bighorn habitat or potential livestock unless the potential adverse impacts to bighorn can be avoided (see RM-1.4).
- (4) The conversion of existing cattle licenses to domestic sheep licenses should not be allowed if the domestic sheep will graze within one mile of identified bighorn sheep habitat.
- (5) Retain public lands within bighorn habitat, unless a proposed exchange results in the acquisition of higher quality habitat.
- (6) Support the public acquisition of private lands and the exchange for state lands within bighorn sheep habitat.
- (7) Maintain the current low level of human disturbance in bighorn habitat by avoiding constructing or upgrading any roads in these areas.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-2.1

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1W/L-t11 Step 3 D-2

- (8) Oil and gas, geothermal and mineral exploration and development shall be limited to methods and seasons of activity which do not adversely impact bighorn sheep population numbers identified in this recommendation.

Analysis:

Fewer than 1,700 California bighorns exist in the United States. The entire population is limited to about 3,500 animals. Maintenance of existing populations and the reestablishment of other populations is needed to assure the continued existence of these bighorns (also see MFP II Rationale).

Decision:

Accept/reject/modify/add as follows:

Accept General as written.

- (1) Reject in preference to RM-3.1. The habitat will be monitored to adjust livestock use to provide for 420 bighorns by 1990.
- (2) Modify to read: Manage canyonland for the priority of bighorns and other wildlife and allow other reasonable compatible uses. Accept 2nd sentence as written.
- (3) Accept as written.
- (4) Modify to read - The conversion of cattle use to domestic sheep use will not be allowed unless the use will not be within one mile of the habitat and reasonably be guaranteed to be maintained by physical barrier of, but not limited to, fences and canyons.
- (5) Accept as written.
- (6) Accept as written.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-2.1

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife
Overlay Reference	Step 1 W/L-t11 Step 3 D-2

- (7) Accept as written. Avoid upgrading or constructing roads that would lead to or encourage human disturbance in bighorn habitat (also see RM-1.4).
- (8) No surface occupancy for oil and gas and geothermal exploration or development within existing and potential habitat areas and withdraw existing or potential habitat from all forms of mineral entry.
- (9) The population goals of 420 bighorn by 1990 is subject to review and change in consultation with the Idaho Fish and Game goals.
- (10) In 1976 a sheep management plan was cooperatively adopted between BLM and IDF&G which identified Shoofly canyons, Big Jacks, and Bruneau River canyon as potential sheep habitat. If the IDF&G inventories these areas further and finds them suitable, the BLM will prepare and circulate the findings to affected and interested parties prior to a decision.

In the interim, the BLM will defer any actions which would unreasonably negate the opportunity.

- (11) Potential and existing bighorn sheep habitat of the Owyhee River herd is designated an ACEC to protect and enhance bighorn sheep habitat. Recreational boating will be managed to minimize adverse impacts on bighorn sheep. The ACEC recommendation has been expanded to include potential habitat between the pipeline crossing and the Duck Valley Indian Reservation. This expansion is in response to comments received from Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game.

Reasons:

- (1 & 2) Bureau policy is not to use SVIM data or modified SVIM data for allocation decisions. RM-3.1 shows the starting point for livestock decisions which essentially will be the 5-year average licensed use. However, the monitoring process and AMP must still allow for the 420 bighorn goal.
- (4) There must be a reasonable guarantee. One mistake could wipe out bighorn populations.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wildlifew✓

Overlay Reference

Step 1W/L-t9 Step 3 D-2

W/L-2.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage the potential habitat for kit fox in the Shadscale desert south of the Snake River and west of the Bruneau River to retain its suitability for kit fox. Coordinate with IDF&G to reestablish this sensitive species based on the merits of such reintroduction at the time contemplated.

Analysis:

This fox historically occupied the low desert area south of the Snake River.

Because of the small size of this fox, it preys largely on small rodents and will not create any deprecation problem to domestic animals or game species of wildlife.

Decision:

Modify the recommendation to: Identify the area as potential kit fox habitat.

Coordinate with IDF&G to reestablish this sensitive species based on the merits of such reintroduction at the time contemplated.

Reason:

The IDF&G has expressed an interest in reestablishing kit fox. However to manage this area for kit fox prior to conducting a specific analysis is premature.