

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1  
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

MAR 02 1982

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife (4350)
Objective Number	#5

Objective #5:

Maintain and/or enhance unique or special habitats to retain and/or improve their character and value for wildlife, research, and human enjoyment. Protect habitats supporting other species of nongame wildlife with high public and/or biological interest.

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

W/L-5.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Protect known and suspected nests of birds of prey in the resource area. Manage the adjacent vegetative cover to provide adequate food and cover for the birds' major prey species. Specifically:

- (1) Within a one half mile radius of any active nest or eyrie, consider authorization of construction, ORV events, or site occupancy on a case-by-case basis between March 1 and August 15.
- (2) Habitat alteration within three miles of any golden eagle or prairie falcon eyrie will be designed to accommodate the prey habitat needs for these species.
- (3) Plant native tree species suitable for raptor nesting in depleted areas so these areas can provide adequate raptor roosting and nesting sites (primarily for accipiters and owls) as well as food and cover for their major prey species.

Analysis:

Raptors are an abundant and very important nongame species inhabiting the resource area. The URA has recognized that in order to maintain and/or increase the number of breeding birds, it will be necessary to: 1) manage their habitat in order to maximize the prey species; and 2) minimize the human disturbance to nesting birds.

- (1) Birds of prey are very sensitive to human disturbance during their nesting period (March 1 - August 15) and require a certain degree of solitude during this time if their nesting effort is to be successful.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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Name (MFP)

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W/L-5.1

- (2) Raptor species are dependent upon the existing vegetative habitat to produce the small mammals they feed upon. Research biologists calculate 27 square miles are utilized by prairie falcons and golden eagles for foraging. These areas can be various shapes but for descriptive purposes and because of a lack of specific research, known areas are shown as circles on all overlays.
- (3) Certain species of owls and accipiter hawks are totally dependent upon riparian habitats for nesting, roosting and food production. Presently many riparian habitats are in poor condition and do not provide adequate resources for these birds. Recommendations for riparian habitat management will significantly improve the habitat for these species.
- (4) No surface occupancy will be permitted within essential habitat of the Birds of Prey Area as defined in Ag Decision Component overlay. Also, seek a permanent withdrawal of the area from both agricultural and mineral entry (1872 Mining Law). See M-1.1, 3.1, L-5.1.

Decision:

Accept as written.

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Name (MFP)

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Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 L-2 Step 3 D-2

W/L-5.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage all public lands within Withdrawal Order #5777, the proposed Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, in the same manner as if it were a designated National Conservation Area under Title VI of FLPMA. Maintain minimum raptor population levels as identified in the 1979 Snake River Birds of Prey Special Research Report to the Secretary of the Interior. Retain all federal land within this area and manage these lands in accordance with the multiple-use principles outlined in the Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement on Birds of Prey and follow-up decision documents, but allow land exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired within the boundary and such exchanges are in the best interests of the public.

Analysis:

The proposed Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area boundary is based on scientific research that has identified the habitat area needed to protect this unique ecosystem. Designation of the Birds of Prey Area as a National Conservation Area is supported by many differing interest groups.

Decision:

Manage the Snake River Birds of Prey Area as outlined by PLO 5777 under the following mission and goals:

Manage the Area for the well-being of raptors and for other compatible uses.

Goals:

- (1) Perpetuate the nesting raptor population at the minimum population levels determined for each species between 1975 and 1981.
- (2) Provide for other compatible uses in the Area.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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- (3) Coordinate and conduct research and studies to support management needs.
- (4) Make available to the public, other agencies, and to scientific community knowledge gained from management and research activities.

Prepare and coordinate through public involvement a revised management plan incorporating the above mission and goals.

Designate the Snake River through the Area as a Special Recreation Management Area, also incorporating the above mission and goals (see R-1.1).

Retain all federal lands within this area but allow land exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired within the boundary and such exchanges are in the public interest.

Continue to support/seek legislation for the area under Title VI of FLPMA.

Seek a permanent withdrawal of BOP area from agricultural and mineral entry (1872 mining laws). See M-3.1 and L-5.1.

Reason:

Although legislation (HR7359/S2683) was introduced in the 96th Congress in accordance with Title VI of FLPMA it was not introduced in the 97th Congress. Thus the MFP II Recommendation is no longer meaningful. The context of P.L.O. #5777 and this decision gives precedence to raptor/prey base habitats over other uses but still recognizes other uses and values.

The uniqueness of the Area is well documented and recognized by experts in the field as well as many national organizations and individuals which support the concept. The uniqueness and importance of the area requires more than just the ordinary protection provided under Section 302 of FLPMA.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife (4350)
Objective Number	#6

Objective: #6:

Manage all meadows and riparian habitat in the BPU to obtain a maximum diversity of vegetative species in order to provide for a maximum diversity and optimum abundance of wildlife species.

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Activity

Wildlife

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W/L-6.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

To enhance wildlife diversity and abundance, all riparian habitats and meadows will be managed to attain a good ecological condition class, based on the SCS ecological site classification system. Specifically:

- (1) Employ livestock management practices including exclusion of grazing where necessary, and/or physical improvement devices to increase the total vegetated area and thus reduce streambank erosion and stream sedimentation. Such devices may include installing small dams to raise the water table after eliminating undesirable vegetation by prescribed burning.
- (2) Restore dessicated and former meadows to riparian vegetation communities.
- (3) Revegetate highly disturbed riparian areas with overstory vegetation by plantings, if necessary, and protect the young trees and shrubs with cages.
- (4) Designate Mapping Unit 7 (canyonlands) as unsuitable for livestock grazing except those segments of this mapping unit which currently constitute a major portion of the given pasture within which they are located. If necessary, fence these areas to excluded livestock. Provide fenced water gaps only where necessary.

Analysis:

Riparian and meadow habitats produce the greatest diversity and abundance of vegetation of any sites. They are also in some cases the most important and heaviest used. In some cases management practices alone will not provide the protection necessary for proper plant/wildlife/watershed needs.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-6.1

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

Decision:

Accept/modify as follows:

Modify to read:

To enhance wildlife diversity and abundance, riparian and meadow habitats will be managed to attain and/or maintain a good ecological condition class (SCS Site System) or reasonable equivalent.

- (1) Employ livestock management systems/practices/improvements including exclusion of grazing where necessary.
- (2) Restore dessicated and former meadows where technically/economically feasible.
- (3) Revegetate highly disturbed riparian overstory vegetation where technically/economically feasible.
- (4) Accept as written.

Reasons:

Attainment of good ecological (SCS System) condition may not be obtainable. Use of non-native species may be required, technically and economically thus still enhance values.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wildlife-aquatics

Objective Number

#1

Objective #1:

Expand habitat for fisheries by 4.3 miles and 315 acres in the BPU. Expansion efforts include the red-band trout (a sensitive native species), rainbow trout, crappie, and/or bass.

Rationale:

Habitat expansion will enhance fisheries production in the BPU by providing increased habitat area to fish. The red-band trout is listed as a sensitive species by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and BLM (1977), and is also designated of special concern by the American Fisheries Society (1979). BLM Manual 6840-06 policy states that crucial habitats of sensitive species will be managed and/or conserved to minimize the need for future listing of those species on federal or state lists. This includes the objective of maintaining or increasing current population levels sensitive species through early habitat protection or enhancement (6840.31).

Hatchery rainbow trout, crappie, and bass plantings in reservoirs will increase fishing opportunities which presently do not exist.

This objective is in compliance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958, The Sikes Act of 1974, and Executive Orders 11514 and 11995 all of which call for enhancement of the quality of the environment for wildlife and other resource values.

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife-aquatics
Overlay Reference	Step WL-aq-10 Step 3 D-3

W/L-aq-1.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Designate 1.5 stream miles on Cottonwood Creek as habitat suitable for red-band trout. Work with Idaho Department of Fish and Game on transplanting red-band trout above a 60 foot falls located in Section 27 & 34, T.10S., R.3E., and Section 3, T.11S., R.3E.

Analysis:

This falls is blocking upstream migration of red-band trout. Cottonwood Creek above the falls is suitable for trout introduction. This upper portion of Cottonwood Creek has been identified as a potentially important use area for spawning. Expanding habitat by planting above the falls will increase production of red-band trout in Cottonwood Creek.

Decision:

Accept as written.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
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Step #	WL-aq-10 Step 3 D-3

W/L-aq-1.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

Establish a cooperative management program with the State Department of Lands, Department of Fish and Game, and leasee to expand red-band trout habitat on 2.6 contiguous stream miles of Black Leg Creek.

Analysis:

An earthen dam on state lands is silted in and is blocking migration of red-band trout into fish habitat upstream. Headwater portions of streams are important use areas of trout for spawning (URA 3, Water Needs), and cooperative management is necessary to provide adequate fish habitat on both state and federal lands. If cooperative programs are not achieved and the state lands become available through exchange support the public acquisition of these lands (600 acres).

Decision:

Accept as written.

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife-aquatics
Overlay Reference	Step WL-aq-10 Step 3 D-3

W/L-aq-1.3: Multiple Use Recommendation

- (1) Provide increased habitat on 3.4 stream miles of Mary's Creek for red-band trout by working closely with Idaho Department of Fish and Game on planting of trout in T.13S., R.4E., Section 25, 26 and 35.
- (2) Establish a cooperative management program with the State Department of Lands, Department of Fish and Game, and leasee to expand red-band trout habitat on an additional 2.0 stream miles on state lands on Mary's Creek.

Analysis:

Inventory has determined that no game fish are present in this reach of Mary's Creek. The habitat should be supportive of a trout introduction and productivity of red-band would increase in this stream section. If cooperative programs are not achieved and state land becomes available through exchange support the public acquisition of these lands (440 acres).

Decision:

Accept as written.

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife-aquatics
Overlay Reference	Step WL-aq-10 Step 3 D-3

W/L-aq-1.4: Multiple Use Recommendation

Provide fishing opportunities on 315 public and 121 state acres on three reservoirs by:

- (1) Working closely with Idaho Department of Fish and Game for eradication of rough fish.
- (2) Assist the Department on plant efforts.
- (3) Provide improved access to the following reservoirs:

Reservoir	Fish Species	Location			Acres	Access Miles
		T	R	Sec		
Buckhorn	Hatching Rainbow	15S	4E	15, 22	108	0.75
Blackstone	Craddie/Bass	11S	5E	25	36	0.25
		11S	6E	30		
Little Blue	Hatchery Rainbow	13S	3E	16	121 (state)	0.40
Big Blue	Hatchery Rainbow	13S	2E	2, 11	171	0.25

Analysis:

These reservoirs contain habitat suitable for recommended plantings. There is not a significant fisheries at present. Stocking of cold and warm water fish by the Fish and Game Department will increase habitat for these species. Providing improved access will increase fishing opportunities.

Decision:

Accept as written with the following modification:

When the demand increases and is requested by the Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game.

Attach additional sheets, if needed

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife-aquatics
Objective Number	#2

Objective #2:

Improve fisheries physical habitat to fair and good condition by 1989 in 144 stream miles that are in poor or fair condition (see Table 15 and good habitat condition standard below). Improve water quality in 18 stream sites to chemical constituent levels that are within proper tolerance levels for trout (see Appendix 2). Special priority should be given to improve habitat of the red-band trout, a sensitive species.

Fair to good habitat condition standards for fisheries are as follows:

- 1) High streambank cover should provide 60 to 80 percent shading to a stream.
- 2) Low streambank vegetative cover should be mostly over 4 inches in height; sod should be intact with less than 10% bare soil with broken sod.
- 3) No more than 10 percent of the streambanks in any stream reach should be active eroding.
- 4) No more than 5 percent lateral channel movement in any stream reach. There should also be minor channel scouring or changing channels within the stream (unless a natural condition).
- 5) No more than 10-15 percent of the stream channel bottom should be covered by fine sediments.
- 6) Between 25 to 50 percent of the stream channel should contain in-stream fish cover which would include deep pools, undercut banks, boulders, debris, overhanging vegetation, velocity breaks or turbulence.

Rationale:

Riparian habitat improvement would enhance fishery production and water quality in the BPU. Red-band trout and rainbow trout are two of the major species benefited by the proposed habitat improvement. Increasing the supply of trout will improve the trout fishery throughout the planning unit. The red-band trout is listed as a sensitive species by the Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game and BLM (1977) and is also designated of special concern by the American Fisheries Society (1979). BLM Manual 6840 policy states that crucial habitats of sensitive species will be managed and/or conserved to minimize the need for future listing of those species on federal and state lists. This includes the objective of maintaining or increasing current population levels of sensitive species through early habitat protection or enhancement (6840.31).

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife-aquatics
Overlay Reference	
Step	W/L-aq-1 Step 3

W/L-aq-2.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Improve on-site fisheries habitat from poor to fair and good condition on 94.4 public stream miles. The areas specifically listed are designated as high priority fisheries habitat. Exclusion of livestock grazing is in all probability the only method of bringing the habitat to an upward trend and fair to good condition. Although this could be accomplished by gap fencing the placement will be evaluated on a case by case basis using an interdisciplinary approach. Livestock may be reintroduced as long as habitat condition are maintained to an upward trend and fair to good condition.

Stream	Location			Public Stream Miles
	T	R	Sec	
Little Jacks (Ox Prong)	9S	2E	20, 21	1.2
Little Jacks (Main)	9S	2E	21, 27, 34	4.2
Castle Creek (South Fork)	7S	1W	32	
Castle Creek	8S	1W	5, 8, 9, 16, 21, 27	4.37
Battle Creek	8S	1E	19, 30	
Battle Creek	8S	1W	25, 36	
Battle Creek	11S	1E	10, 15, 33, 34	
Battle Creek	12S	1E	8, 17, 20	3.4
Blackleg Creek	15S	5E	35, 36	
Blackleg Creek	16S	5E	2, 3, 10, 15, 22, 28	4.0
Big Blue Creek	12S	2E	9, 10, 15, 16, 22, 27, 34, 35	1.6
Cottonwood Creek	10S	3E	34	1.2
Crab Creek	12S	4E	20, 21, 27	2.1
Duncan Creek	10S	3E	24, 25	
Duncan Creek	10S	4E	17, 19	7.80
Big Jacks Creek	8S	4E	5, 8, 17, 18, 20, 29, 31, 32	
Big Jacks Creek	9S	3E	12	
Big Jacks Creek	9S	4E	6, 7, 18, 19, 20, 28, 29, 33	

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed.  
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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wildlife-aquatics
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Stream	Location			Public Stream Miles
	T	R	Sec	
Big Jacks Creek	10S	2E	23, 24, 26	
Big Jacks Creek	10S	3E	12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23	
Big Jacks Creek	10S	4E	4, 7, 8, 17, 18	33.49
Little Jacks Creek	8S	3E	9, 16	
Magpie Creek	8S	1W	23	
Mary's Creek	13S	5E	11, 12	2.2
Pixley Creek	7S	1W	15, 22, 27	5.02
Pole Creek (North)	11S	2W	6, 7	
Pole Creek (North)	11S	3W	12, 24, 25	3.40
Sheep Creek	15S	5E	12, 13, 23, 24, 27, 28, 32, 33	
Sheep Creek	15S	6E	6, 7	
Sheep Creek	16S	4E	13, 24	
Sheep Creek	16S	5E	5, 7, 8, 18	12.0
Shoofly Creek (North)	8S	2E	3, 4, 9	
Shoofly Creek (W. Fork)	8S	2E	7, 9	
Shoofly Creek (W. Fork)	8S	1E	13	
Shoofly Creek (E. Fork)	8S	2E	8, 9, 17, 18,	
Shoofly Creek (E. Fork)	8S	1E	24	8.30
				94.40

Analysis:

After the period of time of exclusion of livestock required to bring habitat factors to an upward trend and a fair to good condition in 3 to 5 years, livestock use may be made as long as an upward trend and good fisheries habitat condition is achieved. Livestock water will be provided where fencing is implemented (gaps, troughs) as needed.

See: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)