

MAR 18 1983

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Overlay Reference	Step 1 WN-3 Step 3 D-3/WN-4

WN-1.4: Multiple Use Recommendation

- (1) Recommend to Congress as "suitable" for wilderness about 34,000 acres (Overlay WN-4) (WSA-6) to be known as Little Jacks Creek Wilderness.
- (2) The boundary of the proposed Little Jacks Wilderness will be adjusted to accommodate a utility corridor 1/8 mile on both sides of the El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline. Only underground utilities will be permitted adjacent to the proposed wilderness. The utility corridor will be managed as VRM Class IV, however VRM Class II guidelines will be used for rehabilitation standards with the wilderness boundary as the KOP.
- (3) Proposed road and way closures will not be implemented prior to wilderness designation unless they are degrading wilderness values. If the area is designated wilderness by Congress, then road and way closures will be evaluated in the Wilderness Management Plan.

In the event Congress declares these lands "non-suitable" for wilderness, they will be managed as follows:

- (1) The priority in management will be preservation of bighorn sheep habitat as per W/L-2.1 followed by W/L-3.1 and balanced with RM-1.4 and 2.2. An area encompassing bighorn sheep habitat will be designated an ACEC to target the area for special management consideration because of bighorn sheep habitat and existing natural conditions. A Herd Management Plan will be written for the bighorn sheep.
- (2) Canyonlands will be designated a Special Recreation Management Area to maintain primitive and non-motorized semi-primitive settings for dispersed recreational opportunities.
- (3) ORV use will be limited to designated roads and trails.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION WN-1.4

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wilderness

Overlay Reference

Step 1 WN-3 Step 3 D-3

(4) The area will be managed as VRM Class II with the roads as KOPs.

Analysis:

See WN-1.4, MFP Step I and II.

Decision:

The decision is to carry the multiple use recommendation forward as Proposed Action for Wilderness EIS. The recommendation will be reevaluated during the Wilderness EIS process. Also see VRM-1.1.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Overlay Reference	Step 1 WN-3 Step 3 D-3/WN-4

WN-1.5: Multiple Use Recommendation

- (1) Recommend to Congress as "suitable" for wilderness about 5,700 acres (Overlay WN-4) (WSA 111-44b) to be known as the Deep Creek Wilderness.
- (2) Evaluate proposed wilderness areas in Owyhee RA and adjacent Districts to determine if other units may provide a better representation of climax juniper stands for inclusion in the NWPS.
- (3) The proposed wilderness does not include any livestock water developments. New livestock water developments will be permitted within the proposed wilderness (but not within the canyon system) if their objective is to maintain or improve ecological condition. This will enhance the primary wilderness objective for the area which is preservation of examples of the juniper component of the Sagebrush Steppe ecosystem within the National Wilderness Preservation System.

In the event Congress declares these lands "non-suitable" for wilderness, they will be managed as follows:

- (1) A portion of the proposed wilderness will be designated an ACEC as part of the Pole Creek-Camas Creek Archaeological District.
- (2) The remaining area will be managed for a different array of use with no special priorities governing management strategy.

Analysis:

See WN-1.5, MFP Step I and II.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION WN-1.5

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wilderness

Overlay Reference

Step 1 WN-3 Step 3 D-3

Decision:

The decision is to carry the multiple use recommendation forward as Proposed Action for the Wilderness EIS subject to the following modification:

- (1) Pole Creek-Camas Creek Archaeological District will not be designated an ACEC if Congress declares these lands non-suitable for wilderness.

The recommendation will be reevaluated during the Wilderness EIS process. Also see VRM-1.1.

Reason:

See CRM-1.2.

Pre: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wilderness

Overlay Reference

Step 1 WN-3 Step 3 D-3

WN-1.6: Multiple Use Recommendation

- (1) Recommend the entire Pole Creek WSA (111-18) as non-suitable for wilderness.
- (2) Designate the area an ACEC to provide special management for protection of cultural resource values. Allow only those multiple uses which are consistent with CRM-1.2.
- (3) ORV use will be limited to designated roads and trails.
- (4) The area will be managed as VRM Class II with the roads as KOPs.

Analysis:

See WN-1.6, MFP Step I and II.

Decision:

The decision is to carry the multiple use recommendation forward as Proposed Action for the Wilderness EIS with the following modifications:

- (1) Area will not be designated an ACEC.
- (2) Management of cultural resources will be guided by decisions for CRM-1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.3 and 2.4.
- (3) ORV use will not be limited.

This recommendation will be reevaluated as part of the Wilderness EIS process.

Reason:

See CRM-1.2 and R-1.1(4).
Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Overlay Reference	Step 1 WN-3 Step 3 D 3/WN-4

WN-1.7: Multiple Use Recommendation

- (1) Recommend to Congress as "suitable: for wilderness 11,680 acres (Overlay WN-4) (WSA 111-36A) to be known as the Sheep Creek Wilderness.
- (2) Water developments will be permitted on the plateau if necessary to maintain overall ecological condition since the overriding wilderness value of this area is its ecological condition.

In the event Congress declares these lands "non-suitable" for wilderness, they will be managed as follows:

- (1) A priority will be given to maintain existing ecological condition while returning the land to general multiple use management.
- (2) The canyon will be managed for improved fisheries as recommended in W/L-aq.-3.4.
- (3) The area will be managed as VRM Class II.

Analysis:

See WN-1.7, MFP Step I and II.

Decision:

The decision is to carry the multiple use recommendation forward as Proposed Action for the Wilderness EIS. The analysis referred to in Item 3 of the Multiple Use recommendation will be completed in the Wilderness EIS. This recommendation will be reevaluated as part of the Wilderness EIS process. Also see VRM-1.1.

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Overlay Reference	Step 1 WN-3 Step 3 D-3/WN-4

WN-1.8: Multiple Use Recommendation

Recommend that Congress designate the Bruneau River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (see R-1.1(2)).

- a) If the Bruneau River is designated a Wild and Scenic River, recommend it to Congress as "non-suitable" for wilderness.
- b) In the event Congress does not designate the Bruneau River a "Wild and Scenic River", then recommend to Congress that about 14,200 acres (WN-4) (WSA 111-17) as "suitable" for wilderness to be known as the Bruneau River Wilderness.

In the event Congress does not designate a "wild an scenic river" and declares these lands "non-suitable" for wilderness, they will be designated SRMA per R-1.1(2) multiple use recommendation.

Analysis:

See WN-1.8, MFP Step I and II. This study area will be included in the Jarbidge RMP EIS.

Decision:

Modify the Multiple Use Recommendation by recommending the Bruneau River for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic River System (see R-1.1(2)) and recommending to Congress as "suitable" for wilderness 14,200 acres to be known as the Bruneau River Wilderness. The districts preference is for Wild and Scenic River status.

This decision is carried forward as the Proposed Action for evaluation in the Jarbidge RMP EIS. The recommendation for Wilderness will be reevaluated during the Wilderness EIS process. Also see VRM-1.1.

Should the California Bighorn transplant, started in 1982, become a successful transplant, the priority for management in the SRMA will be for bighorn. Also see W/L-2.1.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

JUN 17 1982

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Objective Number	#2

Objective #WN-2:

Recommend as unsuitable for wilderness WSAs that the BLM cannot be reasonably sure can be effectively managed as wilderness in the long run.

Rationale:

1. This is a requirement of the Preliminary Final Wilderness Study Policy.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Overlay Reference	Step 1 WN-3 Step 3

WN-2.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Recommend to Congress that the Sheep Creek East WSA (111-36b) is "non-suitable" for wilderness.

The canyon will be managed for improved fisheries (in accordance with decision W/L-aq.-2.6). The remaining area will be managed as general multiple use lands in accordance with other MFP Decisions.

Analysis:

See WN-2.1, MFP Step I and II.

Decision:

The decision is to carry the multiple use recommendation forward as Proposed Action for the Wilderness EIS. This recommendation will be reevaluated as part of the Wilderness EIS process.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Objective Number	#3

Objective #WN-3:

Defer a decision on WSAs when inventory data is inadequate to assess manageability and wilderness values.

Rationale:

Manageability and wilderness values are the two criteria that the Preliminary Final Wilderness Study Policy specifies for evaluation in suitability or unsuitability recommendations. If there is inadequate data to evaluate these criteria then the study procedures cannot be followed unless the decision is deferred.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bruneau

Activity

Wilderness

Overlay Reference

Step 1 WN-3 Step 3

WN-3.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Defer a decision on wilderness suitability of 6,765 acres of the Jarbidge WSA (17-11) in the Bruneau R.A. and evaluate this area in conjunction with the Jarbidge RMP. Continue under IMP management.

Analysis:

See WN-3.1, MFP Step I.

Decision:

Accept as written.

The West Fork, Bruneau River and its tributary canyons are included in the Bruneau River "wild and scenic river" recommendation [R-1.1(2)]. In the event Congress does not designate a "wild and scenic river" and declares these lands "non-suitable for wilderness, these canyonlands will be designated SRMA per R-1.1(2) multiple use recommendation. The remaining area will be managed for a greater array of uses in accordance with other MFP decisions.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed.

(Instructions on reverse)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Objective Number	#4

Objective #WN-4:

To protect the wilderness characteristics of all areas recommended as "suitable" for wilderness until Congress acts on the recommendations.

Rationale:

1. Some areas that are no longer subject to the Wilderness IMP policy are recommended for wilderness to improve manageability of adjacent WSA areas. These areas should also be protected under the IMP policy to preserve their wilderness characteristics and the wilderness potential of the adjacent WSA lands.

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Name (MFP)	Bruneau
Activity	Wilderness
Overlay Reference	Step 1 WN-3 Step 3 WN-1,3

WN-4.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage areas outside WSA boundaries depicted in solid blue on Overlay WN-3 under the IMP when not in conflict with other laws and regulations.

Terminate IMP management when these areas are no longer recommended as wilderness or when Congress acts on the wilderness recommendation.

Analysis:

See WN-4.1, MFP Step I.

Decision:

Accept as written.

APPENDIX

WILDERNESS PLANNING CRITERIA AND QUALITY STANDARDS - RELATION TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

DUNCAN CREEK WSA - 111-7B - Recommendation WN-1.2

1. Criteria #1: Wilderness Values

a. Mandatory Wilderness Characteristics

- 10,005 acres, adjacent to 54,835 acres Big Jacks Creek WSA, which is adjacent to 58,040 acre Little Jacks Creek WSA; recommendation would result in a wilderness block of 93,275 acres
- 99% natural appearing; recommendation would remove existing imprints and allow management to maintain pristine quality
- outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation

b. Special Features

- ecological values; 65% in good ecological condition (sagebrush steppe) (about equally divided between big and low sagebrush communities)
- population of "sensitive" mountain quail
- "sensitive" red-banded trout in creek

c. Multiple Resource Benefits

- not applicable to recommendation

d. Diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System

- less than 35,500 acres of sagebrush steppe designated wilderness
- recommendation would add 9,400 acres with 65% in good ecological condition

2. Criteria #2: Manageability

- effective management would require acquisition of the state inholding or agreement by the state that only wilderness compatible uses would be permitted; suitable recommendation is dependent upon this condition being satisfied
- imprints of man have been removed from area recommended suitable which will permit management to maintain pristine quality of proposed wilderness area

3. Quality Standards

a. Energy and Mineral Resources

- no known energy or mineral conflicts

b. Impacts on Other Resources

- no other known resource conflicts

c. Impact of Nondesignation on Wilderness Values

- increased livestock grazing could affect ecological values of good condition sagebrush steppe
- affirmative safeguards of wilderness designation would be lacking; accretion of small projects could erode wilderness characteristics; pristine character probably would not be maintained

d. Public Comment

- During the public comment period following MFP Step 2 recommendations; 38 comments were received on Duncan Creek (33 supporting wilderness and 4 opposed). Proponents of wilderness cited the following values: ecological values (11), wildlife habitat or sensitive species (2), rare plants (2), and general wilderness characteristics (2).

e. Local Social and Economic Effects

- there are no significant social impacts
- there are no significant economic effects on Owyhee County or the State of Idaho

f. Consistency with Other Plans

- recommendation does not conflict with the 1974 Owyhee County Comprehensive Land Use Plan; Owyhee County Commissioners have however opposed BLM wilderness in Owyhee County
- recommendation is consistent with Idaho Fish and Game Departments big game management plans which specify the area will be managed for quality mule deer hunting and preservation of its back-country nature.

APPENDIX

WILDERNESS PLANNING CRITERIA AND QUALITY STANDARDS - RELATION TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

BIG JACKS CREEK WSA - 111-7C - Recommendation WN-1.3

1. Criteria #1: Wilderness Values

a. Mandatory Wilderness Characteristics

- 54,835 acres, adjacent to 58,040 acre Little Jacks WSA and 10,005 acre Duncan Creek WSA
- 98% natural appearing
- opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are exceptional when compared to other WSAs in the district

b. Special Features

- ecological values; 50% in good ecological condition (sagebrush steppe); 16,000 acres of good condition plateau (75% big sagebrush and 25% low sagebrush)
- identified by Idaho Fish and Game Department as potential bighorn sheep habitat
- population of "sensitive" mountain quail
- "sensitive" red-banded trout in creek
- Class A scenery

c. Multiple Resource Benefits

- preservation of natural plant communities

d. Diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System

- less than 35,500 acres of sagebrush steppe ecosystem is in designated wilderness
- recommendation would add about 48,000 acres of sagebrush steppe with about 50% in good condition; included would be about 15,500 acres of good condition plateau
- there is no representation of the Salt Desert Shrub ecosystem in designated wilderness
- the WSA includes about 3,000 acres of Salt Desert Shrub vegetation; about 2,000 acres is included in the wilderness recommendation; all of the Salt Desert Shrub vegetation is in poor ecological condition

2. Criteria #2: Manageability

- 4,500 acres were trimmed from the northeastern portion of the WSA because the area does not have sufficient wilderness values to justify management actions necessary to incorporate it into the proposed wilderness

3. Quality Standards

a. Energy and Mineral Resources

- no known energy or mineral conflicts

b. Impacts on Other Resources

- The proposed Jacks Creek livestock watering pipeline would water plateaus to the west of Big Jacks. Two laterals of this pipeline conflict with the proposed wilderness. Specific AUMs involved will be analysed in the Wilderness EIS.
- the boundary of the proposed wilderness has been adjusted to accommodate a utility corridor 1/8 mile on both sides of the El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline

- no other known conflicts

c. Impact of Nondesignation on Wilderness Values

- Jacks Creek livestock watering pipeline laterals would severely impair wilderness characteristics of affected areas
- increased livestock grazing could affect ecological values of good condition sagebrush steppe
- affirmative safeguards of wilderness designation would be lacking; accretion of small projects could erode wilderness characteristics

d. Public Comment

- see discussion under Little Jacks WSA

e. Local Social and Economic Effects

- there are no significant social impacts
- there are no significant economic effects on Owyhee County or the State of Idaho

f. Consistency with Other Plans

- recommendation does not conflict with the 1974 Owyhee County Comprehensive Land Use Plan; Owyhee County Commissioners have however opposed BLM wilderness in Owyhee County

- recommendation is consistent with Idaho Fish and Game Department's Draft big game management plans which specify priority management of bighorn sheep habitat for sheep with remainder of the area managed for quality mule deer hunting and preservation of its back-country nature