

LITTLE LOST/BIRCH CREEK  
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN

Decision Update and Status Summary  
August 1985

Updated September 1987  
Updated May 1997

## LANDS

Decision	Status
1. (A) Legalize the use of Clyde Cemetery (T.9N., R.27E., NW,NE Section 15).	No action. Cemetery Act of March 1, 1907 repealed with FLPMA. The Only alternative is to persuade the county or a non-profit organization to file an R&PP on it.
(B) Locate and authorize a sanitary land fill site for the communities of Lone Pine and Blue Dome.	A site authorized December 1981 and unauthorized site cleaned up and closed.
2. Allow only DLE's which fall within areas where there are no restriction or conflicts which would make them unsuitable.	Only 2 DLE's in area. One (Jensen I-27737) is in progress and has been classified as partially suitable (1985). The other has been examined. Soils are suitable but there are some wildlife and cultural conflicts which are yet to be resolved.
3. Eliminate Agricultural Trespass	Ongoing.
4. Clean up existing unauthorized dumps.	Ongoing.
5. Fence and sign mine shafts and tunnels in Scott Butte area identified as potential safety hazards.	No Action.
6. Provide land for a diversion structure for Little Lost Flood Control group to stop winter flooding.	R/W grant issued for 7/19/85 to Howe Flood Improvement District for 2 infiltration trenches and diversion structure.
7. Mitigate human safety and wildlife mortality hazards of Dry Creek Flume (Right-of-way I-015694 replaced by I-23042 in 1986).	The flume was destroyed and covered as a stipulation to right-of-way I-23042. The new R/W needs to be noted on the MTP and the old R/W removed.
8. Initiate an exchange program with the State of Idaho to acquire isolated State tracts which lie adjacent to public lands within the planning unit.	An exchange for lands in the Birch Creek area (1-7518) was proposed and almost completed. IDL notified the ISO in July 1982, that they wished to postpone it and it was later cancelled per ISO.
9. 1991 plan amendment to exchange of 1,037 acres of Public Land (T5N, R29E, Sec 5 & 14) for private land.	Land exchanged on 10/9/92.
10. Proposed plan amendment in 1989 to exchange 123 acres of Public Land (T9N, R30E, Sec 4, 5 & 9) for private land.	Land exchanged on 2/19/91.

### MINERALS

1. Provide for sale or free use of mineral material. Ongoing
2. Provide for mining claim location under the U.S. Mining laws. Ongoing
3. Provide for leasing of minerals under minerals leasing act. Ongoing

### FORESTRY

1. Offer for sale 60 MBF/yr  
1. Donkey Hills, 2. Sands Canyon, 3. Skull Canyon, 4. Goddard Canyon, 5. Long Canyon. No action being taken due to economic state of timber industry with accompanying lack of demand.
2. Precommercially thin 40 acres in Sands Canyon. No action.
3. Precommercially thin 40 acres in Hawley Mountain. The action is in the Howley Wilderness Study Area and has been deferred until the wilderness status of the WSA is decided by Congress.
4. Initiate prescribed burning on 2500 to 3000 acres in Bassinger Canyon and Taylor Mountain. The action is in the Howley Wilderness Study Area and has been deferred until the wilderness status of the WSA is decided by Congress.
5. Protect 3300 acres designated deferred management. Ongoing  
  
Note: All forestry decisions need to be field checked as to their viability in view of present demand, suitability and economics.

### RANGE MANAGEMENT

1. Allocate 27,800 AUMs of livestock forage. All grazing permit schedules in GABS were consistent with the MFP numbers except for Spring Canyon (GABS=976, MFP=2,090) and Warm Springs (GABS=962, MFP=1,285) allotments. Also, the allotments of Pass Creek and Sawmill Canyon were not found in GABS.  
  
The Cedarville, Mahogany Butte, Wet Creek, Wigwam Butte, Spring Canyon, Uncle Ike, Warm Springs, Cedar Point, and Summit allotments had AMPs in the allotment file that were not signed by the Area Manager.
2. Implement grazing systems on each allotment. Grazing systems implemented on all allotments as shown on attached Table 1.

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|----|--|--|
| 3. | Construct projects needed to implement grazing systems.                | Improvements constructed since 1981 are shown on attached Table 2.   |
| 4. | Monitor grazing management systems to assure objectives are being met. | Studies being performed include actual use, forage utilization, condition and trend, climate etal. All studies are evaluated at end of grazing cycle and compared to objectives. |
- Note: Monitoring plan needs updating and revision to add useful studies and delete unuseful ones.

### Recreation

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|----|---|---|
| 1. | Improve Visitor Safety By: 1. Place signs for visitors. 2. Develop District recreation brochure. 3. Eliminate open mine shaft hazards. 4. Develop potable water at campgrounds. 5. Sign safe water at recreation sites. | No action taken on mine shaft and potable water due to personnel and funding limitations as well as higher priority proposals and activities. There has been limited action on sign placement.  |
| 2. | Develop day use and overnight facilities at: 1. John Day Recreation Site. 2. Clyde School 3. Big Springs Creek, 4. Wet Creek/Dry Creek Canal  | Minimal facilities developed at 1 & 2. No development at 3 & 4 due to lack of funding. All sites receive visitor use.   |
| 3. | Develop Access through: 1. Easement acquisition, 2. Road maintenance, 3. Signing  | Highest priority easements have been requested (Bell Mountain road), however, no easements are currently in place. Road maintenance is limited to heaviest used roads. Signing has been minimal due to personnel and funding limitations. |
| 4. | Develop an ORV Plan. Encourage any Non-BLM recreational development proposal.   | Reported as done in the 1985 MFP review. However, no one can find or is aware of any such plan.   |
| 5. | Manage visual resources in accordance with VRM Class designations.  | VRM Class is considered in project proposals. However, projects BLM is involved in have little impact on this activity.   |
| 6. | Enhance Visual Intrusions by:   |   |
|    | 1. Reclaim two material sites along Birch Creek (Kaufman and Blue Dome).  | Sites are authorized to Idaho Highway Department will be restored when closed. It is Department of Transportation policy to reclaim the site after each major use.  |
|    | 2. Repaint microwave facility at Sec. 17, T. 8 N., R. 31 E. to reduce visual impact.  | No action.  |
|    | 3. Remove or relocate INEL weather station at Sec. 35, T. 9 N., R. 30 E.  | No action.  |
|    | 4. Plant cottonwood, willows etc. between   | No action.  |

campsites on Birch Creek.

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| 5. Control mineral exploration along Highway 28 to be compatible with VRM Classification.  | No current activity at this site.  |
| 6. Reclaim mining disturbance on Scott Butte Sec. 5, T. 8 N., R. 31 E.   | No action.   |
| 7. Reclaim mining disturbance in Sec. 21, T. 7 N., R. 28 E.  | Site has been reshaped.  |
| 8. Reclaim disturbed areas along Uncle Ike Road, Wet Creek Road, Pass Creek Road, Badger Creek Road, Birch Creek and Eight Mile Canyon Road. | No action due to personnel and funding limitations.  |
| 9. Close and Reclaim four material sites in lower Little Lost Valley.  | Site has been reshaped.  |
| 10. Establish new riparian vegetation along Summit Creek, Wet Creek, and Sawmill Creek.  | Wet Creek has been fenced to manage cattle. Summit Creek and Sawmill Creek have been fenced and/or improved in FY86. |
| 11. Remove unused facilities at Howe Ski area.   | No action. Authorized party no longer exists.  |
| 12. Remove telephone line along Wet Creek, Hawley Mountain and along Little Lost Highway North of Howe.                                      | Completed about 1982.  |
| 7. Protect Visual Resources of back-country and environmentally sensitive areas as follows:  |  |
| 1. In Lemhi Foothills Scenery unit assure that major cultural modifications conform to VRM contrast ratings.                                 | Visual Impact of BLM proposals have minor impact.  |
| 2. Develop visually acceptable approach to fire suppression.   | Degree of suppression effort needed determines approach.   |
| 3. Retain all public lands.  | Isolated tracts considered for disposal.   |

#### CULTURAL

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|---|--|
| 1. Allocate 36 surface lithic scatters to study of livestock trampling impacts. | Sites allocated, but no action taken.          |
| 2. Allocate 13 rockshelters for long term preservation and protection.          | Sites allocated, but no action taken.          |
| 3. Allocate 42 prehistoric cultural sites for potential scientific use.         | Sites allocated, but no action taken           |
| 4. Protect, preserve, stabilize Clyde Cabin and Warm                            | No action taken on Clyde cabin. River has been |

Springs Creek Tipi Rings.

returned to the original channel at Warm Springs to protect the Tipi rings.

5. Evaluate 13 cultural sites to determine scientific value and appropriate use.

No action taken.

#### WILDERNESS

1. Grant WSA status to Hawley Mountain, Black Canyon and Pass Creek. Manage under Interim Management guidelines.

Final EIS was done in 1986. All WSA's recommended not suitable for wilderness.

#### WATERSHED

1. Rotobeat and reseed 2,000 acres of Birch Creek secondary flood plain.
2. Perform land treatment (interseed spray, rotobeat or burn) 216,783 acres under one or more conditions.

1,000 acres rotobeat in 1982 by permittee. Economics questionable, remaining 1,000 acres deferred for later consideration.

See attached table of improvement projects conducted since 1981.

- a. SSF could be improved 10 Pt.
- b. Less than 15% perennial grasses
- c. 30% or more small rock density
- d. 40% crown density sagebrush
- e. 50% bare ground

3. Remove sagebrush cover on 50 acres at Squaw Springs.
4. Control erosion in Hurst Creek with rock dams in gully.

Sagebrush burned in 1982 also fenced.

No dams built, erosion not active.

#### WILDLIFE (TERRESTRIAL)

1. Maintain 366,000 acres of antelope habitat by:
- a. Retaining in federal ownership: 120,000 acres fawning habitat 170,000 acres winter habitat. All permanent water sources and riparian habitat.
  - b. Maintain existing shrub production on 9,868 acres of winter range in Jumpoff allotment.
- Treat 800 acres
- c. Devise AMP's to consider antelope habitat requirements.
  - d. Allocate 6,882 AUM's to antelope.

One sale involved riparian zone - Robison Unintentional Trespass Act (UTA) 40 acres.

Ongoing

Accomplished FY80 sagebrush chained and/or plowed and seeded.

AMP grazing systems and range improvements developed considering antelope habitat requirements.

Done 1982

- e. Include seeds for forbs, grass and shrubs on reseeding projects. Ongoing. Examples of compliance: Warm Springs seeding, Jumpoff seeding, and Williams Creek seeding.
- f. Maintain 35-40% native shrub composition on 169,000 acres winter range. Ongoing
- g. Maintain 20-35% native shrub composition on 191,000 acres spring-summer range. Ongoing
2. Enhance antelope habitat by:
- a. Maintaining livestock pipelines to provide Water through October 1 Note: Additional antelope water developments are needed on some existing pipelines to assure full time supply. Ongoing-Examples: Red Hills pipeline, Upper Flume pipeline, Lower Flume pipeline, Pass Creek Ext. pipeline, Cedarville pipeline, Burnt Canyon pipeline, Kaufman pipeline, Deer Pass pipeline and Fowler pipeline.
- b. Construct 7 catchments Bird Canyon, Sands canyon, Fallert, 8-mile canyon, O'brien canyon, Rattlesnake Gulch, Cedar Canyon. Ongoing; Catchments presently built: Reno Gulch-3, Deer Canyon pipeline extends to Sands Canyon. Antelope Habitat Management Plan written in 1982. At this time time, review of the 1982 Habitat Management Plan indicates that there are adequate water sources in the planning area to satisfy the objectives of the habitat plan.
- c. Restrict livestock trailing to existing roads during fawning (May 25-June 21) Ongoing referred to in AMP's and Antelope HMP 1982. Not all Allotment Management Plans or grazing permits contain this stipulation. However, not all allotments in the area graze during the fawning periods.
- d. Maintain antelope migration routes free of livestock concentrations during spring (March 30 to May 30) and fall (October 1 to November 30) migrations. Ongoing addressed in Antelope HMP 1982 and Howe Peak AMP 1980.
3. Maintain 91,661 acres of mule deer habitat by:
- a. Design AMP's to minimize dietary overlap between livestock and deer. Ongoing. Bell Mountain AMP Hawley Mountain AMP, Williams Creek AMPs, address this item.
- b. Allocate 2,490 AUMs to deer. Done - 1982.
- c. Retain winter range in BLM ownership. Ongoing - No winter range disposal.
- d. Exclude deer winter range from brush control projects. Ongoing - None treated
4. Improve 5,000 acres of deer winter range by:
- a. Design AMP's to increase vegetative Ongoing - Bell mountain AMP addressed this item.

- composition of important deer forage.
- b. Thin or prune mountain mahogany to stimulate growth within reach of deer. 160 acres thinned FY1981 40 acres pruned FY 79 & 80, 300 acres still pending WSA outcome.
5. Maintain 8,254 acres of elk habitat by:
- a. Removing all livestock on elk winter range by October 1st. Ongoing. Hawley Mountain AMP addresses this. Other allotments with elk winter range cows are off by Oct. 1.
  - b. Allowing brush control only if it is beneficial to elk. Ongoing. The only brush control project on elk range was the Squaw Springs burn which shall benefit elk due to design and prescription. Fy 83 & 85.
  - c. Prune 595 acres of mountain mahogany. 160 acres thinned FY-81. Fourty acres were pruned in fiscal years 1979 and 1980. 300 of the acres identified for action are within the Howley Mt. Wilderness Study Area.
  - d. Allocate 1,777 AUM's to elk. Done 1982.
  - e. Retain all elk range in federal ownership. Ongoing. None sold.
6. Maintain 375,243 acres of raptor nesting and hunting habitat by:
- a. Maintaining Current diversity and aspect of vegetation. Ongoing
  - b. Minimizing human disturbance within 1 mile of nest sites for prairie falcons, ferruginous hawks, and golden eagles. Ongoing
  - c. Retaining these lands in federal ownership. Ongoing - None sold
7. Maintain 375,000 acres of upland game and non-game habitat by:
- a. Use "The Guidelines for Maintenance of Sage Grouse Habitats" from the western States Sage Grouse Committee vegetation manipulation projects. Ongoing - all brush control projects to date have adhered to the guidelines.
  - b. Retaining 250,000 acres of sage grouse nesting, brood rearing and winter habitat in federal ownership. Ongoing - None sold.
  - c. Maintain vegetative diversity except on existing crested wheatgrass seedings. Ongoing.



- d. Reserving about one-half production of livestock forage for food and cover. Ongoing. Actually 89% of vegetative production allocated for wildlife and watershed needs.
- 8. Improve upland game and nongame habitat by:
  - a. Providing water for sage grouse, small mammals etc. Ongoing. Refer to wildlife decision # 2a & 2b.
  - b. Designing AMP'S to consider sage grouse nesting and brood rearing habitat on 250,500 acres. Ongoing. AMP'S designed to accommodate this habitat need.

**WILDLIFE (aquatic)**

- 1. Modify existing irrigation diversion structures to allow fish passage and reduce erosion and siltation:
  - a. Diver Warm Creek back to its original channel to eliminate vertical drops. A fish ladder was placed in the Pancheri Diversion (September 1992) on Wet Creek to allow migration of Bull Trout. Warm Spring Creek was put back into it's original channel (October 1991) from a failing irrigation system.
  - b. Develop a by-pass flow at the Williams Creek diversion or a series of shallow sloped drops. No Action.
  - c. Encourage development of a drop structure at the junction of Williams Creek and the Cedar Run ditch. No Action.
  - d. Remove barriers to fish passage (vegetation jams, rock drops, culvert) on Badger and Horse Creek. No Action.
- 2. Replace the bridge over the Little Lost River at Clyde to reduce erosion and siltation. Completed.
- 3. Reduce siltation and degradation of stream and riparian areas through protective fencing to exclude livestock from concentrated use areas:
  - a. Fence 7 miles of Wet Creek (in conjunction with recreation site development) to prevent further degradation of stream quality. Water gaps will be used to provide livestock water. (AQ 3.1) 7 miles fenced FY81. Cattle excluded on 4 miles, 3 miles under management System.
  - b. Fence the upper 1/2 mile of Summit Creek to prevent damage to riparian vegetation and streambanks by livestock, if this practice is shown effectively in adjacent areas. (Aq 3.2) Completed in FY86.
  - c. Fence Squaw Springs to prevent continued erosion and siltation (in conjunction with Watershed) (AQ 3.3 and 2.1) Done 1980. Also burned to improve vegetative species diversity. Substantial improvement now evident.

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| <p>d. Fence about 3 miles along Birch Creek; Sec. 5, 9, 16; T. 9 N., R. 30 E.</p>  | <p>2 miles fenced FY76 and FY80 Section 16 still not fenced. State exchange was pursued but not successful. Section 16 is still State land Sec. 5 &amp; 9 fenced.</p>   |
| <p>4. Restore the Little Lost River to its original channel to reduce erosion and improve stream quality. (Aq 4.1)</p>   | <p>The original problem was an illegal structure in the river. The site was reviewed in 1987, and it was determined that the new channel had stabilized and it would do more damage to put the river back into the old channel.</p> |
| <p>5. Obtain a water right on Birch Creek.</p>   | <p>Attempted in FY79, but unsuccessful. A 5 cfs instream flow will be secured through completion of Birch hydro project.</p>  |
| <p>6. Continue to use water gaps on both Big Spring Creek and Birch Creek. Construct 2½ miles of fence on Birch Creek to exclude livestock grazing. Provide adequate water gaps for livestock. Construct 3½ miles of fence along LL road to exclude livestock from 4½ miles of Big Spring Creek and ½ mile of the Little Lost River.</p> | <p>Water gaps are still in use. Refer to Decision #3d on Birch Creek. Fence on Big Spring Creek and Little Lost built FY83.</p>   |

#### Fire

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| <p>1. Keep fire lookout Big Southern Butte.</p>                                  | <p>Lookout continues to be necessary to fire management program.</p>   |
| <p>2. Prepare limited suppression plans for Hawley Mountain and Donkey Hill.</p> | <p>Formal plans not developed. District policy calls for only limited suppression.</p>   |
| <p>3. Begin prescribed burning by 1981.</p>                                      | <p>Prescribed burns done in on 50 acres at Squaw Spring and 3800 acres in 1985 Squaw Spring allotment. No other burns presently planned.</p> |

Table 1  
Allotment Management Plans in the Little Lost/Birch Creek MFP Area

Allotment Name	AMP Developed	AMP Signed
Deferred Rotation System		
Bear Canyon		
Bell Mountain		
Bernice		
Horse Creek		
Cedarville	Yes	No
Howe Peak		
Mahogany Butte	Yes	No
Sinks		
Wet Creek	Yes	No
Wigwam Butte	Yes	No
Rest Rotation System		
Hawley Mt.		
Jumpoff		
Spring Canyon	Yes	No
Uncle Ike	Yes	No
Warm Springs	Yes	No
Williams Creek		
Seasonal System		
Briggs Canyon		
Burnt Canyon		
Cedar Point	Yes	No
Eight Mile Canyon		
Kyle Canyon		
Pass Creek		
Sawmill Canyon		
Summit	Yes	No

Table 2  
Range Improvement Projects in the Little Lost/Birch Creek MFP Area

RIPS #	NAME	FISCAL YEAR	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	QUARTER
344333	CEDARVILLE ALLOT FENCE	1994	8N	27E	15	SWSESE
344340	NORTH CREEK POISN FENCE	1983	8N	29E	31	NESE
344365	CORRAL WATER GAP FENCE	1987	10N	25E	34	SESE
344883	WET CR FENCE	1989	10N	26E	33	SWSESE
344424	UPPER FLUME PIPELINE	1982	10N	25E	24	NENE
344425	LOWER FLUME PIPELINE	1982	10N	26E	20	SWSW
344427	NORTH HAWLEY CGS	1982	10N	26E	33	NWSE
344435	FOWLER PIPELINE	1982	9N	28E	32	NESE
344438	DEER PASS PIPELINE	1982	9N	26E	28	SENE
344442	SPG CYN BRUSH CONTRL	1982	9N	30E	27	SESE
344450	BEAR CANYON PIPELINE EXT	1982	11N	26E	19	SENW
344451	RED HILLS PIPELINE	1982	10N	25E	27	SWNE
344453	KAUFMAN PIPELINE	1982	10N	29E	29	SWNW
344974	WET CR FISH LADDER	1992	9N	27E	5	NWNE
344513	SUMMIT PIPELINE	1982	11N	25E	1	SENE
344514	BRIGGS/CABIN FORK PIPELINE	1982	6N	27E	4	NENE
344515	SOUTH IKE SPRING	1984	7N	29E	5	SWSW
344523	BIRCH CREEK FENCE	1982	9N	30E	9	SESW
344540	MAHOGANY CREEK PIPELINE	1982	11N	26E	31	SESE
344543	WET CREEK FISH FENCE CGS	1982	9N	26E	4	SWNE
344548	SQUAW SPRINGS BURN	1984	9N	26E	18	SWSW
344642	HANSEN POND	1983	5N	28E	12	NWNE
344669	WIND FALL CATTLEGUARD	1982	9N	30E	28	SWSE
344677	BASSINGER PIPELINE	1984	10N	27E	5	NESE
344679	BEAR CANYON SPRING	1985	11N	26E	5	SESW
344680	BRIGGS RIVER FENCE	1982	6N	28E	11	NWNW
344722	SAWMILL CREEK RIPARIAN EXC.	1987	11N	26E	14	NESW
344723	UNCLE IKE FENCE	1982	9N	27E	27	SWSW
344736	BIRCH CREEK CATTLEGUARD	1984	8N	30E	3	NENW

344739	STATE SECTION CATTLEGUARD	1984	9N	30E	16	NWNE
344742	EIGHT MILE CATTLEGUARD	1984	4N	29E	6	SWSW
344743	LONG CANYON FENCE	1984	9N	30E	9	SESW
344804	RENO GULCH WATER #3	1982	9N	32E	32	NWSW
344818	KYLE PIPELINE AND WATER #2	1985	7N	30E	28	SWSE
344819	KYLE PIPELINE AND WATER #1	1985	7N	30E	28	NWNW
344848	SUMMIT FISH FENCE	1986	11N	25E	23	NENE
344853	LOWER SUMMIT CREEK FENCE	1989	10N	26E	2	SWSE
344857	JUMPOFF POND	1986	5N	28E	1	SWNW
344861	UNCLE IKE PIPELINE	1986	8N	28E	24	SWSW
344864	SAWMILL CREEK FENCE	1986	11N	26E	10	NENE
344899	RENO POINT GUZZLER	1990	8N	31E	2	SENW
344882	PETERSON CANYON CATTLEGUARD	1991	8N	31E	7	NWNW
344809	KAUFMAN FENCE	1985	10N	29E	25	SS
344949	MASSACRE DRIFT FENCE	1992	9N	25E	21	
344951	DRY CREEK FLUME CATTLEGUARD	1992	10N	25E	16	NESESW
344946	DONKEY HILLS PIPELINE	1992	10N	25E	14	SESWNWSW
344944	CEDARVILLE WELL AND PIPELINE	1992	6N	27E	1	SESW
344966	UPPER SUMMIT FENCE	1994	11N	26E	33	SESE
344919	BRIGGS RIVER FENCE CATTLEGUARD	1990	7N	28E	20	SWSW
344914	CEDARVILLE RIVER FENCE	1990	8N	27E	22	NWNW
344925	BIRCH CREEK STREAM REHAB FENCE	1992	9N	30E	28	NESE
344964	BIRCH CREEK RIPARIAN FENCE	1994	9N	30E	16	
344976	WARM SPRINGS CREEK RE-DIVERSION	1991	7N	28E	21	NESE
344945	DISTRICT BOUNDARY FENCE	1993	11N	25E	2	SWSWSE
344980	CLYDE ADMINISTRATION SITE	1993	9N	27E	4	SENESEW
344989	LITTLE LOST HIGHWAY FENCE	1994	10N	26E	29	SE
344879	DRY CREEK/MULKEY FENCE	1988	10N	26E	28	SWSESW

BIG BUTTE RESOURCE AREA

LITTLE LOST/BIRCH CREEK  
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August 1985

Updated September 1987

*Brent Jensen*

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Decision  
Number

Decision

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- |    |  |   |
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| 1. | (A) Legalize the use of Clyde Cemetary   | No action. . . . .<br>Cemetary Act of March 1, 1907 repealed with FLPMA. The only alternative is to persuade the county or a non-profit organization to file an R&PP on it.   |
|    | (B) Locate and authorize a sanitary land fill site for the communities of Lone Pine and Blue Dome.   | A site authorized December 1981 and unauthorized site cleaned up and closed.  |
| 2. | Allow only DLE's which fall within areas where there are no restriction or conflicts which would make them unsuitable.<br><i>Wade Williams filed on Stucki's - Stucki's was rejected because of economics.</i> | Only 2 DLE's in area. One (Jensen) has been classified as partially suitable (1985). The other ( <del>Stucki</del> ) has been examined. Soils are suitable but there are some wildlife and cultural conflicts which are yet to be resolved. |
| 3. | Eliminate Agricultural Trespass  | No Action to date. Emphasis will be put into getting these identified and resolved in 3 years.  |
| 4. | Clean up existing unauthorized dumps.  | No Action.  |
| 5. | Fence and sign mine shafts and tunnels in Scott Butte area identified as potential safety hazards.   | No Action.<br><i>Nine mile shaft fenced August 1987</i>   |

**BIG BUTTE RESOURCE AREA**

**LITTLE LOST/BIRCH CREEK MANAGEMENT  
FRAMEWORK PLAN**

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A site authorized December 1981 and authorize site cleaned up and closed.

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Only 2 DLE's in the area. One (Jensen) has been classified as partially suitable. Jensen has not provided proof of water right. The other (Stucki) has been examined. Soils are suitable, there are some wildlife and cultural conflicts, economics questionable.

3.

Eliminate Agricultural Trespass.

One Trespass settled in 1987, two more discovered, Inventory needed.

4.

Clean up existing authorized dumps.

No Action.

5.

Fence and sign mine shafts and tunnels in Scott Butte area identified as potential safety hazards.

Nine mine shaft fenced August 1987.

*1988/89  
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*original  
7/9/88/89  
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<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
6.	Provide land for a diversion structure for Little Lost <del>Flume</del> <sup>Flume</sup> group to stop winter flooding.	R/W grant issued for 7/19/85 to Howe Flood Improvement District for 2 infiltration trenches and diversion structure. Project completed and working well.
7.	Mitigate human safety and wild-life mortality hazards of Dry Creek Flume	Dry Creek Flume will be closed in fall of 1987, and replaced by Dry Creek hydro penstock. The Flume will be put to bed and the site rehabilitated fall of 1988.
8.	Initiate an exchange program with the State of Idaho to acquire isolated State tracts which lie adjacent to public lands within in the planning unit.	Of the 8 1/2 Sections of State land in Birch Creek Valley, two are scheduled to be acquired in 1987 and 6 1/2 1988 as part of Twin Buttes state exchange. Of the 19 state sections in Little Lost Valley, four are scheduled to be acquired in the Twin Buttes exchange.

Flume put to bed 1988 CC

FORESTRY

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
1.	Offer for sale 60 MBF/yr 1. Donkey Hills, 2. Sand Canyon 3. Skull Canyon, 4. Goddard Canyon 5. Long Canyon	No Action taken.  1. Donkey hills differed from timber management due to steep slopes, marginal quality and economic infeasibility.  2. Sands Canyon timber is located on a state section 3, 4, 5 marginal quality. Not viable decision.
2.	Precommercially thin 40 acres in Sand Canyon.	No action. This timber is found on a state section.
3.	Precommercially thin 40 acres in Hawley Mountain.	No action. Located within a wilderness study area.
4.	Initiate prescribed burning on 2500-3000 acre in Bassinger Canyon and Taylor Mountain.	No action. Not a viable decision.
5.	Protect 3300 acres designated deferred management.	Not a viable decision. Policy statement.

Note: All forestry decisions have questionable viability due to steep slopes, marginal quality, lack of demand and unfavorable economics.



RECREATION

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
1.	Improve Visitor Safety By: 1. Place signs for visitors. 2. Develop District recreation brochure. 3. Eliminate open mine shaft hazards. 4. Develop potable water at camp-ground. 5. Sign safe water at recreation sites.	No action taken due to personnel and funding limitations as well as higher priority proposals and activities. Nine open mine shafts fenced 1987.
2.	Develop day use and overnight facilities at: 1. John Day Recreation Site 2. Clyde School 3. Big Springs Creek 4. Wet Creek/Dry Creek canal	Minimal facilities developed @ #1 & 2. No development at 3 & 4 due to lack of funding. All sites receive visitor use.
3.	Develop access through: 1. Easement acquisition 2. Road acquisition 3. Signing	Highest priority easements have been requested (Bell Mountain road). Road maintenance is limited to heaviest used roads. Signing is being done on a priority basis, these are low in priority.
4.	Develop ORV Plan. Encourage any Non-BLM recreational development proposal.	
5.	Manage Visual Resources in accordance with VRM Class designation.	VRM Class is considered in project proposals. However, projects BLM is involved in have little impact on this activity.
6.	Enhance Visual Intrusions by: 1. Reclaim two material sites along Birch Creek (Kaufman and Blue Dome). 2. Repaint microwave facility at Sec. 17, T. 8 N., R. 31 E. to reduce visual impact. 3. Remove or relocate INEL weather station at Sec. 35, T. 9 N. R. 30 E.	Sites are authorized to Idaho Highway Department will be restored when closed. No Action. Not practical No Action. Not practical

*Handwritten note:*  
Woods To (FY89)  
w/ Butte County

RECREATION (continued)

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
4.	Plant cottonwood, willows etc. between campsites on Birch Creek.	No action planned - plantings not necessary.
5.	Control mineral exploration along Highway 28 to be compatible with VRM Classification.	No action.
6.	Reclaim mining disturbance on Scott Butte Sec. 5, T. 8 N., R. 31 E.	No action.
7.	Reclaim mining disturbance in Sec. 21, T. 7 N., R. 28 E.	No action.
8.	Reclaim disturbed areas along Uncle Ike Road, Wet Creek Road, Pass Creek Road, Badger Creek Road, Birch Creek and Eight Mile Canyon Road.	Gravel pits and borrow pit areas reclaimed when use is completed and sites restored.
9.	Close and Reclaim four material sites in lower Little Lost Valley.	See 8 above
10.	Establish new riparian vegetation along Summit Creek, Wet Creek, and Sawmill Creek.	Wet Creek has been fenced to manage cattle. Sawmill Creek was fence in 1986. Summit Creek fenced in 1986 and 1988.
11.	Remove unused facilities at Howe Ski area.	No action. Authorized party no longer exists.
12.	Remove telephone line along Wet Creek, Hawley Mountain and along Little Lost Highway North of Howe.	Completed about 1982.
7.	Protect Visual Resources of back-country and environmentally sensitive areas as follows:	
1.	In Lemhi Foothills Scenery unit assure that major cultural modifications conform to VRM contrast ratings.	Visual Impact of BLM proposals have minor impact.

*acting as  
Wet Creek area of Sawmill  
Creek  
FY 87 add'l wet creek  
Fence  
cc*

RECREATION (continued)

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
2.	Develop visually acceptable approach to fire suppression.	Degree of suppression effort needed determines approach.
3.	Retain all public lands.	Isolated tracts considered for disposal.



CULTURAL

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
1.	Allocate 36 surface lithic scatters to study of livestock trampling impacts.	No action taken.
2.	Allocate 13 rock shelters for long term preservation and protection.	No action taken.
3.	Allocate 42 prehistoric cultural sites for potential scientific use.	No action taken.
4.	Protect, preserve, stabilize Clyde Cabin and Warm Springs Creek Tipi rings.	Fencing proposed of Warm Spring Creek tipi rings in 1988.
5.	Evaluate 13 cultural sites to determine scientific value and appropriate use.	No action taken.

Note: Fencing of Birch Creek pictograph rock shelters proposed for 1988.

*Not Fenced - Management of site  
needed along w/ protection of  
site by fence, consider other  
ie. land exchange / access  
4/88 LC*

WILDERNESS

Decision  
Number

Decision

Status

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Grant WSA status to Hawley Mountain, Black Canyon and Pass Creek. Manage under Interim Management guidelines. | Final EIS completed in 1986. All WSA's recommended non wilderness. Areas are managed under IMP guidelines and receive monthly inspections. |
|----|---|--|

WATERSHED

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
1.	Rotobeat and reseed 2,000 acres of Birch Creek secondary flood plain.	1,000 acres rotobeat in 1982 by permittee.  Economics questionable, remaining 1,000 acres deferred indefinitely.
2.	Perform land treatment (interseed spray, rotobeat or burn) 216,783 acres under one or more conditions. a. SSF could be improved 10 pt. b. Less than 15% perennial. c. 30% or more small rock density. d. 40% crown density sagebrush. e. 50% bare ground	Howe Peak burn of 1,500 acres done in 1982. Squaw Spring allotment burn of 3,800 acres done in 1983.
3.	Remove sagebrush cover on 50 acres at Squaw Springs.	Sagebrush burned in 1982 also fenced.
4.	Control erosion in Hurst Creek with rock dams in gully.	No dams built, erosion not active. Dams unnecessary.

WILDLIFE (TERRESTIAL)

*FY87  
 development  
 on public lands  
 need to be covered about  
 500,000 acres us  
 Range Needs  
 and wildlife*

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
1.	Maintain 366,000 acres of antelope habitat by:	
a.	Retaining in federal ownership: 120,000 acres fawning habitat  170,000 acres winter habitat. All permanent water sources and riparian habitat.	- Ongoing - One sale involved riparian zone - Robison Unintentional Trespass Act (UTA) 40 acres.
b.	Maintain existing shrubs on 9,868 acres of winter range in Jumpoff allotment. Treat 800 acres.	Ongoing  Accomplished FY80 sagebrush chained and/or plowed and seeded.
c.	Devise AMP's to consider antelope habitat requirements.	AMP grazing systems and range improvements developed considering antelope habitat requirements.
d.	Allocate 6,882 AUM's to antelope.	Done 1982.
e.	Include seeds for forbs, grass and shrubs on reseeding projects.	Ongoing. Examples of compliance: Warm Springs seeding, Jumpoff seeding, and Williams Creek seeding.
f.	Maintain 35-40% native shrub composition on 191,000 acres spring-summer range.	Ongoing
2.	Enhance antelope habitat by:	Ongoing-Examples: Red Hills pipeline Lower Flume pipeline, Pass Creek Ext. pipeline, Cedar-pipeline, Burnt Canyon pipeline Kaufman pipeline, Deer Pass pipeline and Fowler pipeline.
a.	Maintaining livestock pipelines to provide water through October 1. Note: Additional antelope water developments are needed on some existing pipelines to assure full time supply.	
b.	Construct 7 catchments Bird Canyon, Sands Canyon, Fallert, 8-mile Canyon, O'Brien Canyon, Rattlesnake Gulch, Cedar Canyon. Note: Cedar Canyon and Rattlesnake are near Deer Canyon and Reno Gulch.	Ongoing. Catchments presently built: Reno Gulch-3, O'Brien Canyon - 1. Deer Canyon pipeline extends to Sands Canyon.

WILDLIFE (TERRESTIAL) continued

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
	c. Restrict livestock trailing during fawning (May 25 - June 21). Note: Should modify to include allotments w/crucial fawning habitat i.e. Summit, Bear Canyon, Hawley Mountain, Warm Springs, Pass Creek etc.)	Ongoing referred to in AMPs and Antelope HMP 1982.
	d. Maintain antelope migration routes free of livestock concentrations during spring (March 30 to May 30) and fall (October 1 to November 30) migrations.	Ongoing addressed in Antelope HMP 1982 and Howe Peak AMP 1980.
3.	Maintain 91,661 acres of mule deer habitat by:	
	a. Design AMPs to minimize dietary overlap between livestock and deer.	Ongoing - Bell Mountain AMP, Hawley Mountain AMP, Williams Creek AMP, address this.
	b. Allocate 2,490 AUMs to deer.	Done 1982.
	c. Retain winter range in BLM ownership.	Ongoing - No winter range disposal.
	d. Exclude deer winter range from brush control projects.	Ongoing - None treated.
4.	Improve 5,000 acres of deer winter range by:	
	a. Design AMPs to increase vegetative composition of important deer forage.	Ongoing - Bell Mountain AMP addressed this.
	b. Thin or prune mountain mahogany to stimulate growth within reach of deer. Note: About 500 acres feasible for pruning.	160 acres thinned FY1981 40 acres pruned FY 79 and 80 300 acres still pending WSA outcome. Note: Has not been shown to be a beneficial practice.

WILDLIFE (TERRESTIAL) continued

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
5.	Maintain 8,254 acres of elk habitat by:	
a.	Removing all livestock on elk winter range by October 1st. Note: Elk population has expanded considerably since 1982 and now occupies some 8,254 acres in Bassinger Canyon, Hawley Mountain, Squaw Creek, Jumpoff and Briggs Canyon.	Ongoing. Hawley Mountain AMP addresses this. Other allotments with elk winter range cows are off by October 1.
b.	Allowing brush control only if it is beneficial to elk. Note: Fecal Analysis indicated major browse use was on mountain mahogany and winter fat. Grass and forbs were eaten throughout the winter. A diversity of shrubs, grasses and forbs provided by good-excellent condition range appears the most desirable for elk.	Ongoing. The only brush control project on elk range was the Squaw Springs burn which shall benefit elk due to design and prescription. FY83 & 85. Observation in 1987 show considerable elk winter usage of burned area.
c.	Prune 595 acres of mountain mahogany. Note: 160 acres were economically feasible to prune.	160 acres thinned in FY81. Has not been shown to be a beneficial practice. No more pruning or thinning planned.
d.	Allocate 1,777 AUMs to elk.  Note: Populations have increased and range expanded. Should consider more forage required in Hawley Mountain, Mays & Pass Creek Allotments or limit elk numbers.	Done 1982.  Elk numbers continue to increase placing more demand on forage resource needs close monitoring.
e.	Retain elk range in federal ownership.	Ongoing. No disposals.

WILDLIFE (TERRESTRIAL) continued

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
6.	Maintain 375,243 acres of raptor nesting and hunting habitat by:	
	a. Maintaining current diversity and aspect of vegetation.	Ongoing.
	b. Minimizing human disturbance within 1 mile of nest sites for prairie falcons, ferruginous hawks and golden eagles.	Ongoing.
	c. Retaining these lands in federal ownership.	Ongoing - No disposals.
7.	Maintain 375,000 acres of upland game and non-game habitat by:	
	a. Use "The Guidelines for Maintenance of Sage Grouse Habitats" from the western States Sage Committee vegetation manipulation projects.	Ongoing - all brush control projects to date have adhered to the guidelines.
	b. Retaining 250,000 acres of sage grouse nesting, brood rearing and winter habitat in federal ownership.	Ongoing- No disposals
	c. Maintain vegetative diversity except on existing crested wheat-grass seedings.	Ongoing.
	d. Reserving about one-half production of livestock forage of food and cover.	Ongoing. Actually 89% of vegetative production allocated for wildlife and watershed needs.
8.	Improve upland game and non-game habitat by:	
	a. Providing water for sage grouse and small mammals etc.	Ongoing. Refer to wildlife decision #2a & 2b.
	b. Designing AMP's to consider sage grouse nesting and brood rearing habitat on 250,500 acres.	Ongoing. AMPs designed to accommodate this habitat need.

WILDLIFE (AQUATIC)

Decision  
Number

Decision

Status

1. Modify existing irrigation diversion structures to allow fish passage and reduce erosion and siltation:

a. Divert Warm Creek back to its original channel to eliminate vertical drops.

Not viable. This would result in a loss of established stream channel.

b. Develop to by-pass flow at the Williams Creek diversion or a series of shallow sloped drops.

Not viable. Water only flows past the diversion during spring runoff, spreading out over the fan before reaching LL river.

c. Encourage development of a drop structure at the junction of Williams Creek and the Cedar Run ditch.

There is no erosion problem here at present time.

d. Remove barriers to fish passage (vegetation jams, rock drops, culvert) on the Badger Creek and Horse Creek.

There is no erosion problem here at present.

2. Replace the bridge over the Little Lost River at Clyde to reduce erosion and siltation.

Bridge upgraded and strengthened at present location August 1986. Channel erosion has not programs No threat to road or budge.

3. Reduct siltation and degradation of stream and riparian areas through protective fencing to exclude live-stock from concentrated use areas:

a. Fence 7 miles of Wet Creek (in conjunction with recreation site development) to prevent further degradation of steam quality. Water gaps will be used to provide livestock water. (AQ. 3.1).

7 miles fenced FY81. Cattle excluded on 4 miles, 3 miles under management system.

b. Fence the upper 1/2 mile of Summit Creek to prevent damage to riparian vegetation and streambanks by livestock, if this practice is shown effectively in adjacent areas. (AQ. 3.2)

Completed in 1986.

c. Fence Squaw Springs to prevent continued erosion and siltation (in conjunction with Watershed) (AQ 3.3 and 2.1)

Done 1980. Also burned to improve vegetative species diversity. Substantial improvement now evident.

*Proposed  
FY/1980  
\$125,000  
Warm Creek -  
fish ladder needed*

*bridge replaced  
FY/84*

*need dam (in)  
lower wet creek  
FY/89*



WILDLIFE (AQUATIC) continued

Decision  
Number

Decision

Status

d. Fence about 3 miles along Birch Creek; Sec. 5, 9, 16; T. 9 N., R. 30 E. 2 miles fenced FY76 and FY80 Section 16 still not fenced.

4. Restore the Little Lost River to its original channel to reduce erosion and improve stream quality. (AQ 4.1) No action will be taken. New channel cut is now stabilized. Old channel vegetated and filled in. This action would not be beneficial.

5. Obtain a water right on Birch Creek. A 5 cfs instream flow was secured through completion of Birch hydro project.

6. Continue top use water gaps on both Big Spring Creek and Birch Creek. Refer to Decision #3-d on Birch Creek. Fence on Big Spring Creek and Little Lost built FY83. to exclude livestock grazing. Provide adequate water gaps for livestock grazing. Provide adequate water gaps for livestock. Construct 3 1/2 miles of fence along LL road to exclude livestock from 4 1/2 miles of Big Spring Creek and 1/2 mile of the Little Lost River.

*Proposed  
5-1-90*

*with 10 cfs would  
increase instream flow  
5-1-90*

FIRE

<u>Decision Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Status</u>
1.	Keep fire lookout Big Southern Butte.	Lookout continues to be necessary to fire management program.
2.	Prepare limited suppression plans for Hawley Mountain and Donkey Hill.	Formal plans not developed. District policy calls for only limited suppression.
3.	Begin prescribed burning by 1981.	Prescribed burning done as follows:  Squaw Spring 50 acres 1983. Squaw Spring Allotment 3,800 acres 1985. Howe Peak 1,500 acres 1982.

LITTLE LOST-BIRCH CREEK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN

The Little Lost-Birch Creek Management Framework Plan has been prepared following the principles of multiple use, sustained yield, public participation, and intergovernmental coordination. This plan complies with the standards prescribed in 43 CFR 1608 and 43 CFR 1601.8 (b) (1), and is a valid land use plan.

Multiple Use  
Recommendations

Date 9-29-78

Signature Brent D Jensen  
Area Manager

Decisions

Date 1/21/81

Signature Ed A. Thompson  
District Manager

Approval

Date 6-3-81

Signature B. Buffington  
State Director