

KUNA MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

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September 1990

LANDS

Objective L-1: (Incorporated into Objective L-8.)

Objective L-2: Provide for military use of public lands in support of national defense efforts.

L-2.1 (a) Continue to allow military use of the existing 130,000-acre Idaho National Guard maneuver area as outlined in the 1979 MOU; however, the use must be in concert with WL-5.2.

(b) Reject all disposal applications within the National Guard MOU area.

(c) Withdraw the Impact Area from the 1872 Mining Laws, but not from the mineral leasing laws, provided that no surface occupancy is allowed.

Objective L-3: Review classifications and withdrawals. Restore lands to the operation of the public land laws and initiate transfer of jurisdiction where appropriate.

L-3.1 Conduct a comprehensive withdrawal review according the District's schedule. Where withdrawals overlap, retain only the underlying one that provides protection to meet existing and/or future needs.

Objective L-4: Establish and protect right-of-way corridors, reserve lands for identified R/W needs, establish or expand communication sites, and clear the records of any unnecessary R/Ws.

L-4.1 Confine major new utility R/Ws (i.e., 500 KV or larger or 24-inch pipeline) to existing corridors, as shown on Overlay L-4. The R/Ws will subject to reasonable stipulations to protect other resource uses.

Objective L-5, L-6, and L-7: (Incorporated into Objective L-8.)

Objective L-8: Determine through the land use planning process those public lands that are suitable for retention in federal ownership and those lands that are not needed to meet public land management objectives.

L-8.1 (a) Retain Category I lands (shown on Overlay D-1) except for: (1) isolated tracts of 160 acres or less that are found suitable for disposal through the land report/environmental procedures and do not conflict with specific listed criteria; (2) lands applied for under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act for unforeseen community expansion or other public purposes; and (3) exchanges that would result in a net benefit to BLM programs, are directed by specific legislation, or would aid in blocking State and federal management units.

(b) Depending on funding, staffing, and priorities, develop a comprehensive plan for exchange of private and State lands on an allotment-by-allotment basis. Area priorities and criteria for significance are provided.

(c) Within the boundaries of PLO 5777 (BOP) allow only those exchanges that specifically enhance the BOP management programs.

(d) Reject Carey Act and Desert Land Entry Act applications for lands in Category I. Priorities and further guidance are provided.

L-8.2 Category II lands (shown on Overlay D-1) are suitable for disposal, subject to detailed consideration including a land report and environmental assessment. Category III lands may become Category II after further study and public involvement.

L-8.3 Category III lands (shown on Overlay D-1) appear to be suitable for disposal but require further study in terms of site-specific analyses and public involvement. After further study, Category III lands that are found to have important public values will be changed to Category I and retained in federal ownership. Category III lands may be changed to Category II for sale if they are found to meet the sale criteria of Section 203 of FLPMA, and for agricultural development if they are found to have Class I, II, or III soils and do not have important public values. Disposal should be made in an orderly manner. Sale or exchange should be considered a priority, whenever possible, over disposal under the DLE or Carey acts. DLE or Carey act applications will be rejected in areas designated as water management areas by the Idaho Department of Water Resources unless a water permit is allowed in a reasonable time.

MINERALS

Objective M-1: Provide for maximum opportunities within the KPU for exploration and development of oil and gas and geothermal resources.

M-1.1 Allow oil and gas and geothermal leasing, except where lands are withdrawn, subject to stipulations to alleviate conflicts, as outlined in EA ID-01-246, ID-01-299, and ID-01-0-40. Allow no surface occupancy on any mineral leases within the following areas: (a) National Guard Impact area, (b) Oregon Trail and Kelton Road corridor, (c) Crater Rings, (d) Grand View Duck Ponds, (e) Essential nesting habitat in the BOP Area, (f) 1/4-mile buffer area around Lucky Peak Reservoir, (g) Tank/Cathedral and Higby caves, and (h) sites on or nominated to the National Register or Historic Places.

Objective M-2: (Combined with Objective M-1)

Objective M-3: Provide for exploration and development of locatable minerals.

M-3.1 Manage areas identified on Overlay D-4 primarily for their mineral values. Unless presently withdrawn or segregated to protect other resources or uses found to be more important, leave areas open to mineral entry, except withdraw: the Oregon Trail/Kelton Road corridor, Crater Rings, PLO 5777 (BOP Area), Grand View Duck Ponds, and the National Guard Impact Area.

Objective M-4: Provide salable minerals to meet local demands.

M-4.1 Designate FUPs up to 20 acres on 12 listed sites. Rely on existing sources where feasible. Allow private use of the FUP areas after consultation with and acceptance by permit holders.

RANGE MANAGEMENT

Objective RM-1: Increase forage vigor, density, and production. Increase total production from 61,640 AUMs to 66,732 AUMs and increase livestock use from 61,247 AUMs to 66,339 AUMs within 20 years.

RM1.1 Implement AMPs on 7 allotments and less-intensive management on 19 allotments (Overlay RM-4). Allotments are listed in priority order. Adjust management or exclude grazing on sage grouse brood-rearing areas to improve habitat. Design grazing management to improve crucial antelope winter/early spring ranges.

RM-1.2 Consider easement acquisition when physical access is blocked and cannot be maintained over existing public land.

RM-1.3 Continue to allow motorcycle races on a case-by-case basis until the ORV demand becomes a problem.

RM-1.4 Develop livestock management facilities needed to implement AMPs or grazing systems that are designed to meet all MFP objectives. Constraints include, but are not limited to:

- a. Do not develop springs that will not reasonably provide water for both livestock and wildlife. Springs developed in riparian zones will be fenced and water piped, where reasonable and economical.
- b. Prepare EAs and B/C analyses for projects on an allotment-by-allotment basis as AMPs are developed and approved.
- c. Allow no water developments within the Oregon Trail corridor unless mitigated to an acceptable level.
- d. Visual contrast ratings will be made on all improvements in VRM Class I, II, and III areas.
- e. Provide water for wildlife in pastures not being used by livestock, or provide a guzzler.
- f. Livestock management facilities in an ACEC will be compatible with the intent of the ACEC.

RM-1.5 Adjust Livestock season of use and/or implement grazing systems on spring and summer ranges to meet minimum growth needs of preferred plant species.

RM-1.6 (Rejected.)

RM-1.7 (Decision not documented.)

RM-1.8 Treat an estimated 4,600 acres (2,900 acres brush control and 1,700 acres brush control and reseeding) to reduce invasion of less desirable species, improve range condition, and increase grazing capacity, subject to the following conditions:

- a. If sprays are used, maintain a buffer of 150 feet around perennial streams and riparian habitat.
- b. Allow for a sufficient forage-to-cover ratio to meet wildlife needs in winter ranges for mule deer, antelope, and sage grouse.
- c. Design projects with irregular control lines, feathered edges, and natural contours. On sites treated by mechanical means, drainages and occasional brush islands will be left untreated.

Objective RM-2: Allocate livestock forage in each allotment in the Kuna Planning Unit so as to maintain or enhance the range and soil resources.

RM-2.1 Initial livestock use levels will be established by allotment at the five-year licensed active use levels for the years 1976-1980, or by mutual agreement. Any subsequent adjustments in AUMs through the five-year implementation schedule will be based on monitoring and will provide sufficient food and habitat for big game. An implementation schedule by allotment is recommended.

Objective RM-3: Develop a Minimal Fire Suppression Plan within the impact zone of the National Guard Maneuver Area.

RM-3.1 Continue fire suppression activities in accordance with the MOU with the Idaho National Guard until/unless modified or rescinded.

WATERSHED

Objective WS-1: Maintain stability of 251,700 acres classified as moderate, high, and critical erosion hazard by reducing or minimizing wind and water erosion.

WS-1.1 Manage all watersheds to achieve stable or moderate soil surface factor conditions and, where feasible/economical, strive for maintaining or establishing good perennial vegetation cover.

WS-1.2 Minimize soil erosion from all surface-disturbing activities through proper timing with regard to soil moisture content. Design all surface-disturbing activities to limit both on- and off-site soil erosion to a reasonable, acceptable level.

WILDLIFE (TERRESTRIAL)

Objective WL-1: Protect and/or improve endangered species habitat within the Kuna Planning Unit.

WL-1.1 Manage potential peregrine habitat consistent with the Endangered Species Act (see Overlay WL-t9).

- a. Manage the lands within Withdrawal Order 5777 consistent with the Snake River Birds of Prey Management Plan. Allow exchanges that would result in acquisition of higher-quality habitat.
- b. Allow road improvement and construction if consistent with WL-5.2 (management of the Birds of Prey Area).
- c. Enhance potential prey populations.
- d. Support reintroduction of peregrines at additional locations within the Kuna Planning Unit, consistent with other resource uses and values.

WL-1.2 Manage bald eagle habitat in the vicinity of C.J. Strike Reservoir (Overlay W/L-t9) to encourage additional use by these birds.

- a. Retain lands within PLO 5777 and manage them consistent with MFP decision WL-5.2. Allow exchanges in the public interest that would acquire higher-quality habitat within the BOP boundary.
- b. Allow road improvement and construction if consistent with the general decision above.
- c. Plant rapidly growing trees adjacent to the Reservoir to provide secure perch and roost sites.

Objective WL-2: Manage sensitive species habitat in the KPU to maintain or increase existing and potential populations.

WL-2.1 Identify the shadscale desert north of the Snake River as potential kit fox habitat. Coordinate with IDF&G to re-establish this sensitive species based on the merits of reintroduction at the time contemplated.

WL-2.2 Improve or maintain 4.2 miles of river otter habitat in the Snake River, Owyhee, and Bruneau rivers and other major creeks shown on Overlay W/L-t9.

- a. Within river otter habitat develop grazing systems/improvements that will improve riparian habitat or limit livestock access to water gaps.

- b. Develop grazing systems to improve riparian and stream habitat conditions in the headwater reaches of streams comprising river otter habitat.
- c. Cooperate with other agencies to monitor and improve the quality of river otter habitat.

WL-2.3 Maintain known ferruginous hawk nest sites and provide additional nest sites on the Snake River Plains.

- a. Retain ferruginous hawk habitat (within about 1.5 miles from nest sites) unless higher quality habitat can be acquired by exchange.
- b. Provide artificial nesting platforms in unoccupied areas with abundant prey available.
- c. Where rangelands are reseeded, include a mixture of shrubs, forbs, and grasses to support prey populations.
- d. When possible, avoid locating any new roads within 1/4 mile of nest sites. Mitigate the loss if avoidance is not possible.
- e. Avoid alignment of courses for organized ORV events within 1/4 mile of active nest sites between April 1 and June 30.

WL-2.4 Manage burrowing owl habitat on the Snake River Plains to maintain existing populations.

- a. Maintain existing nest sites whenever possible. Mitigate losses if other uses are deemed more appropriate.
- b. If major land disposals are undertaken, retain tracts of sufficient size and suitability for burrowing owl nest sites.

WL-2.5 Implement intensive livestock management or protective riparian habitat fencing to improve mountain quail habitat in Syrup Creek and its tributaries, Long Tom Creek and its tributaries, and Bennett Creek.

WL-2.6 Maintain the Sand Creek long-billed curlew nesting habitat south of Boise, allow exchanges only if higher-quality habitat can be acquired, monitor and determine this area's significance as curlew habitat, and determine what actions are necessary to improve the habitat. MFP decision WL-5.2 (BOP management) will override this decision.

Objective WL-3: Manage 207,680 acres of big game habitat in the KPU to obtain good ecological condition.

WL-3.1 Manage 2,880 acres of elk winter and spring range in the KPU to provide adequate food, cover, and water for 50 elk by 1990. The population goal is subject to review and change in consultation with the IDF&G.

- a. Monitor elk habitat to adjust livestock use to provide for 50 elk by 1990.
- b. Implement livestock grazing systems and practices to improve palatable shrub composition, reproduction, and forage availability. Adjust livestock utilization as necessary for plant production and elk food.
- c. Provide a mosaic of openings, generally no wider than 1/4 mile, in over-mature dense sagebrush communities and reseed them with grasses, forbs, and palatable shrubs, if sufficient natural regeneration is not expected.
- d. Limit vehicular travel in elk winter ranges to existing roads from 12/15 to 4/15, or close the areas if necessary.
- e. Avoid new road construction in crucial elk winter range or, if a new road is necessary, permanently close and rehabilitate at least an equivalent amount of roads in the same vicinity.
- f. Allow exchanges in elk winter range only if they would result in acquisition of higher-quality habitat. (Kelton Road has priority as stated in MFP decision R-1.1.)

WL-3.2 Manage 114,880 acres of mule deer winter and early spring range in the KPU so there is adequate food, cover, and water for 2,305 animals by 1990. The population goal is subject to review and change in consultation with the IDF&G.

- a. Habitat will be monitored to adjust livestock use to provide for 2,305 mule deer by 1990.
- b. Implement livestock grazing systems and practices to improve palatable shrub composition, reproduction, and forage availability. Adjust livestock utilization of annual production on key shrub species to provide for plant health and mule deer needs.
- c. Establish seedings or plantings of preferred species if reasonably necessary to improve forage condition on suitable sites of crucial deer winter range that presently have less than 10 per cent palatable shrub composition by weight.
- d. On crucial deer winter ranges that do not have an adequate composition of early-maturing grasses, develop small seedings of suitable grasses, generally not exceeding 1/4 mile in width. Do not allow livestock turnout in these areas earlier than the surrounding native vegetation is capable of withstanding. Design and manage vegetation manipulation projects to achieve a 60/40 ratio of forage to cover.

- e. Use prescribed burning or other suitable treatment (followed by seeding a mixture of grasses, forbs, and shrubs if necessary) to achieve a 60/40 ratio of forage to cover on winter areas dominated by tall old stands of sagebrush.
- f. Restrict/close critical deer winter ranges to vehicular travel if necessary during critical time periods, generally 11/15-4/15.
- g. Avoid new road construction in crucial deer winter range or, if a new road is necessary, permanently close and rehabilitate at least an equivalent amount of roads in the same vicinity.
- h. Retain public lands within crucial deer winter range unless exchanges would result in acquisition of higher-quality habitat. MFP decision R-1.1 (Kelton Road) has priority.
- i. Designate deer winter ranges as high priority for fire suppression, unless the area is designated for prescribed burning and the wildfire occurs under conditions similar to prescription.
- j. Consider a coordinated management plan with IDF&G, IDL, and the permittee on allotment 0823 for enhancement of mule deer range.

WL-3.3 Manage 114,880 acres of mule deer spring, summer, and fall range so there is adequate food, cover, and water for 570 deer by 1990. The population goal is subject to review and change in consultation with IDF&G.

- a. Monitor habitat to adjust livestock use to provide for 570 mule deer by 1990.
- b. On juniper and big sage sites where forage areas are inadequate, manipulate vegetation in areas generally not exceeding 1/4 mile in width, using fire as the primary tool, to achieve a 60/40 ratio of forage to cover, making use of good soils, retaining interconnecting cover to provide for adequate hiding and thermal cover, and including a mixture of palatable shrubs, forbs, and grasses in any revegetation projects.
- c. Implement livestock grazing systems and practices that will improve composition, reproduction, and forage availability of palatable forbs and shrubs in both upland and riparian habitats. Limit utilization of key shrub species by all classes of animals combined to 50 per cent of current annual growth.
- d. Avoid construction of roads within or closely adjacent to riparian habitats.
- e. Maintain water in all developed catchments, pipelines, troughs, and springs from July 15 until October 31, or where this is not feasible, consider development of wildlife guzzlers.
- f. Retain public lands within or closely adjacent to deer migration routes unless

higher-quality habitat can be acquired by exchange.

WL-3.4 Manage 109,120 acres of pronghorn habitat to provide sufficient forage, water, cover, and space for 55 animals by 1990. The population goal is subject to review and change in consultation with IDF&G.

- a. Monitor the habitat to adjust livestock use to provide for 55 pronghorns by 1990.
- b. Refer to and address the "Guidelines for the Management of Pronghorn Antelope" when making decisions that may affect antelope.
- c. Roads may be closed if necessary to protect pronghorn habitat.
- d. Manage habitat for good ecological condition where feasible/economical.

Objective WL-4: Manage upland game and waterfowl habitats in the KPU to increase populations of these highly desirable species.

WL-4.1 Improve the distribution of chukar and Hungarian partridge along the foothill areas north of the Snake River by providing more sources of water. The optimum spacing for water sources is one mile apart.

WL-4.2 Manage public lands in the vicinity of irrigated agricultural areas to maintain or improve the habitat for pheasants, Hungarian partridge, valley quail, and cottontails. Retain lands adjacent to agricultural development if significant wildlife habitat values are present or developable. Retain for wildlife habitat approximately 15 percent of blocks exceeding 160 acres being considered for DLE or Carey Act development. If necessary, enhance food and cover for upland game on isolated tracts and agricultural fringe lands. Permit other uses consistent with wildlife management objectives, retain public access to these tracts, and develop HMPs for intensive management.

WL-4.3 Manage springs, seeps, meadows, and adjacent upland areas as key wildlife habitats for upland game by controlling livestock grazing, protecting springheads and wet areas, and developing only those springs that are capable of providing adequate for both wildlife and livestock.

WL-4.4 Manage 83,600 acres of sage grouse range to improve nesting, brood rearing, and winter habitats by: (1) improving all poor and fair big sagebrush, meadow, and riparian ecological sites to good ecological condition, and (2) referring to and addressing the "Guidelines for Habitat Protection in Sage Grouse Range" as published by the Western States Sage Grouse Committee, June 1974, when making management decisions affecting areas used by sage grouse in the KPU.

WL-4.5 Provide reasonable nesting and brood-rearing habitat for waterfowl along 94 miles of rivers, streams, and reservoirs within the KPU (specific measures are listed).

- a. Manage the Grand View Duck Pond area specifically as waterfowl and upland game habitat, allowing a reasonable acreage for the Grand View Cemetery. Retain the lands in public ownership, withdraw them from mineral entry, and allow no surface occupancy for leasable minerals.
- b. On reservoir developments exceeding one surface acre, fence and pipe water if technically/economically feasible. Reservoirs may be gap fenced for access without piping.
- c. Geese nesting platforms constructed within the Birds of Prey Area must be in concert with MFP decision WL-5.2.

Objective WL-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 nongame wildlife with high public and/or biological interest.

WL-5.1 Protect known and suspected nests of birds of prey in the KPU. Manage the adjacent vegetative cover to provide adequate food and cover for the birds' major prey species (specific measures are discussed).

WL-5.2 Manage the Snake River Birds of Prey Area as outlined by PLO 577 for the well-being of raptors and for other compatible uses, with the following goals:

- a. Perpetuate the nesting raptor population at the minimum population levels determined for each species between 1975 and 1981.
- b. Provide for other compatible uses in the Area.
- c. Coordinate and conduct studies to support management needs.
- d. Make knowledge gained from management and research activities available to the public, other agencies, and to the scientific community.

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, incorporating the above mission and goals.

Retain all federal lands within this area unless higher quality habitat can be acquired within the boundary by exchange that is 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 of essential nesting habitat from all forms of mineral entry.

Allow no surface occupancy for leaseable minerals within the essential nesting habitat of

the Birds of Prey Area, as shown of Overlay D-4.

WL-5.3 Manage "stork island" on the Snake River near Grand View to retain its value as a great blue heron rookery.

- a. Discourage all public presence on the island except during the hunting season.
- b. Allow no trees to be cut on the island.

WL-5.4 Manage riparian and meadow habitats to attain and/or maintain a good ecological condition class or reasonable equivalent.

- a. Employ livestock management systems/practices/improvements including exclusion of grazing where necessary.
- b. Restore dessicated and former meadows where technically/economically feasible.
- c. Revegetate highly disturbed riparian overstory vegetation where technically/economically feasible.
- d. Designate Mapping Unit 7 (canyonlands) as unsuitable for livestock grazing except for those segments that constitute a major portion of the pasture in which they are located. If necessary, fence these areas to exclude livestock and provide water gaps only where necessary.

WILDLIFE (AQUATIC)

Objective WL(aq)-1: Improve fisheries habitat to fair and good condition by 1989 in 18 stream miles listed in Table 13. Improve water quality in stream sites to within proper tolerance levels for trout. 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 listed.)

WL(aq)-1.1 The primary management object on listed segments of Cottonwood, Syrup, and Long Tom creeks will be to upgrade the fisheries habitat condition for red-band trout and the associated riparian habitat. The specific management proposals to meet the 1990 land use plan objectives will determines as AMPs of HMPs are developed. (Potential management practices are listed.)

WL(aq)-1.2 Improve fisheries habitat condition from poor and fair to good through intensive livestock management on riparian areas of 5.5 miles of stream on public land. Goals should be directed at limiting livestock use to only light to moderate on riparian areas. (Recommended management practices and stream segments to initially consider for intensive livestock management are listed.)

WL(aq)-1.3 Work with IDF&G and IDWR to establish a conservation pool in the Mountain Home, Indian Creek, and Blacks Creek reservoirs.

WL(aq)-1.4 In cooperation with IDF&G, improve fisheries habitat on 5.3 miles of Crown and Syrup creeks (segements are specifically identified) by increasing in-stream cover by at least 50 percent.

WL(aq)-1.5 Improve fisheries habitat on 3.95 miles of West Fork of Long Tom Creek and Bennett Creek and on 158 acres of Long Tom Reservoir through cooperative management programs with the private landowners. If private lands become available, support public acquisition by exchange.

WL(aq)-1.6 Designate watershed areas draining into major or perennial streams (priority stream headwaters are listed) as special management areas for watershed stabilization. Provide adequate cover on granitic soil slopes exceeding 25 percent and on volcanic slopes exceeding 35 percent. Adjust livestock use and remove or minimize other activities to reduce soil movement to natural runoff amounts.

Objective WL(aq)-2: Protect and manage seasonal flows in perennial and intermittent streams to maintain aquatic/riparian habitat condition on 5 miles of stream in good condition. Give priority to habitat maintenance for red-band trout.

WL(aq)-2.1 Work with IDF&G and provide in-stream flow recommendations as information becomes available. Manage flows for good water quality. Do not cause any reduction in water quality or in legally established minimum flows.

WL(aq)-2.2 Work with IDF&G and provide recommendations on introduction of other

fish and/or eradication programs that might affect red-band trout populations on federal lands.

WL(aq)-2.3 Retain 36 stream miles of red-band habitat in federal ownership and pursue land exchange opportunities for blocking up valuable riparian habitat. Establish a cooperative management program with IDL, IDF&G, and the lessee on State lands to provide maintenance of listed contiguous units of riparian habitat.

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Objective CRM-1: Protect and interpret for the public all sites listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

CRM-1.1 Manage the Black Butte/Guffey Butte Archaeological District for protection of cultural resource values. (Several specific recommendations are listed, including designation of the District as an ACEC.)

CRM-1.2 (Rejected.)

Objective CRM-2: Protect and preserve historic ruins, structures, and sites for future scientific use and public enjoyment.

CRM-2.1 Manage parcels containing historic site 10-AA-155 and a 1/4-mile-wide corridor on either side of the Union Pacific (Oregon Short Line) Railroad for the protection of cultural resource values. Nominate these sites to the National Register of Historic Places, but do not designate them as ACECs. (Other recommended management is listed.)

Objective CRM-3: Achieve the best use of lava tube caves known to have been inhabited prehistorically.

CRM-3.1 Manage parcels containing lava tube caves (including Tank/Cathedral, Higby, and Kuna caves) for protection and public interpretation of the associated cultural resources. Recommended management includes: (a) Place warning signs on all caves and interpretive signs on Kuna Cave, salvage scientific information in imminent danger of destruction, and fence cave openings for protection of site, visitors, and livestock. (b) If the caves cannot be protected, consider excavation and interpretation. (c) Provide systematic patrol and surveillance, retain all lands containing lava tube caves, and nominate the caves to the National Register of Historic Places where appropriate, but do not designate them as ACECs. (d) Allow no surface occupancy for mineral leasing within 1/4 mile of Tank/Cathedral or Higby caves, or within 1/4 mile of other cave sites listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Objective CRM-4: Protect representative prehistoric sites from further deterioration.

CRM-4.1 Manage the 40-acre parcels containing listed prehistoric sites, shown on Overlay CRM-7, for the protection and preservation of their cultural values unless it is deemed necessary to interpret and/or excavate due to higher public needs/values. (Some potential management actions are listed.)

RECREATION

Objective R-1: Provide high-quality, varied recreation opportunities commensurate with public demand, placing emphasis on managing dispersed-type opportunities. Develop facilities as needed to control visitors, protect resources, and accommodate public use. Manage recreation sites to maximize benefits to the users and to ensure availability for future development.

R-1.1(1) Take the following actions on the Oregon National Historic Trail:

- a. Designate a 1/2-mile-wide corridor (depending on topography, developed private land, and location of improved roads) as a Special Recreation Management Area guided by the NPS management Plan. Preserve remnants of the Oregon Trail, maintain scenic values, and include associated cultural and historical sites. Do the same for the Kelton Road and the Goodale Cut-off.
- b. Segregate the public lands within the corridor from all forms of disposal and from the 1872 Mining Laws; allow no surface occupancy for leaseable minerals.
- c. Develop cooperative agreements with private landowners and support acquisition of easements across private and State lands.
- d. Develop public recreational facilities such as trail heads, interpretive sites, signs, and drinking water.
- e. Designate the corridor as "Limited" for ORV use, allowing motor vehicles only on designated roads and trails.
- f. Develop a cooperative agreement with Ada and Elmore counties for improvement and maintenance of the foothill road to encourage its use as an Oregon Trail Scenic Route.

R-1.1(2) Manage the Snake River Birds of Prey Natural Area as an SRMA to optimize public recreational enjoyment while protecting the habitat for the birds of prey (see WL-5.2).

- a. Provide recreational management, supervision, and facilities needed to control use, provide for public safety, inform visitors, and minimize disturbance to natural and cultural values. Protect and interpret historical, archaeological, scenic, educational, and other recreational values.
- b. Remove unnecessary man-made intrusions that have no historic value. Landscape the existing irrigation pumping sites.
- c. De-emphasize motor vehicle travel and encourage travel by foot, horseback, and float boat. Motor vehicle routes should be dead ends rather than circular.
- d. Restrict farm-related and other developments with adverse visual impacts.

Utilize the Natural Area as an environmental education area.

R-1.1(3) Withdraw the Crater Rings National Natural Landmark from all forms of disposition, including appropriation under the mining laws. Do not allow surface occupancy for oil and gas leasing, and do not designate the area as an SRMA.

R-1.2 Manage lands outside SRMAs as extensive recreation use areas, with minimal recreation management to meet BLM's basic stewardship responsibilities and to provide reasonable recreation opportunities. Do not prepare recreation management plans for these areas.

- a. Retain most of these lands in public ownership and acquire easements across private lands where needed for recreation access.
- b. Make public lands near communities available for recreation development under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.
- c. Maintain a system of well-signed roads and provide reasonable trails for non-motorized use.
- d. Consider an ORV trail network, comprised mostly of existing primitive roads, to span the entire Boise District. Provide parking areas, loading ramps, and rest stops along the trails.
- e. Provide a multiple-use (motorized and non-motorized) trail system in the foothills from Lucky Peak Reservoir to Bennett Creek, using existing primitive roads where available.
- f. Clean up unauthorized dumps on public land and prevent further dumping.
- g. Intensively manage streams with game fish populations. Provide good public access by road or foot trail to the better fisheries.
- h. Improve hunting opportunities by intensively managing livestock grazing; changing vegetative composition to improve habitat; fencing, planting, and constructing new water development near reservoirs; and working with landowners to allow public hunting on private lands in the Bennett Foothills.
- i. Optimize the viewing enjoyment of wildlife by properly managing wildlife habitat, fencing certain springs to exclude livestock, and providing hunting habitat for raptors on the plateaus adjacent to the Snake River.
- j. Allow no surface occupancy for mineral leasing within 1/4 mile of Lucky Peak Reservoir.

VISUAL RESOURCES

Objective VRM-1: Manage all public lands to protect visual qualities, provide for enhancement consistent with management policies, and rehabilitate lands which presently do not meet the visual quality standards of surrounding lands.

VRM-1.1 Do not designate any VRM Classes within the SRBOP Natural Area until after the SRMA Plan has been completed. In the interim, allow all proposed uses that would maintain or improve existing visual qualities and comply with BOP management objectives (see MFP decision WL-5.2).

VRM-1.2 Designate 77,750 acres as VRM Class II.

VRM-1.3 Designate 380,500 acres as VRM Class III.

VRM-1.4 Designate 470,700 acres as VRM Class IV.

VRM-1.5 Designate a 1/2-mile corridor on each side of U.S. Highway 68 and Swan Falls Road as a travel influence zone to preserve or enhance the scenic quality.

TRANSPORTATION/SUPPORT

Objective T-1: Provide legal access on 10 miles of existing roads across State lands in support of the recreation, wildlife , and range programs and to meet the requirements of transportation planning as soon as possible.

T-1.1 Evaluate, prioritize, and coordinate road access needs with respect to resource management needs, engineering feabilities, administrative and public demands, and type of easement, permit, or agreement needed.

T-1.2 On a priority basis immediately commence to survey existing and/or proposed road locations needed for BLM administration and public access and prepare survey plats in accordance with BLM Manual 2130 requirements.

T-1.3 Appraise and purchase easements as surveys are completed and funds become available.