

JUN 21 1982

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)	Kuna
Activity	Wildlife (4350)
Objective Number	#1

Objective #1:

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

Rationale:

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

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

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

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

W/L-1.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage potential peregrine falcon habitat in as depicted on overlay t-9 and ass with any proposed reestablishment efforts of this endangered species.

Specifically:

- (1) Retain in public ownership those lands within Withdrawal Order #5777 and manage these lands consistent with the Snake River Birds of Prey Management Plan (SRBOPMP). Allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired within the boundary and such exchanges are in the best interests of the public.
- (2) Allow improvement of existing roads if consistent with Withdrawal Order #57 and the SRBOPMP.
- (3) Enhance potential prey populations.
- (4) Support reintroduction efforts of peregrine falcons at other locations with the BPU consistent with other resource uses and values.

Analysis:

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

Note. Attach additional sheets, if needed.

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

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/L-t9 Step 3 D-2

Decision:

Accept recommendation with the following modifications:

- (1) Retain in public ownership those lands within PLO 5777 and manage them consistent with Wildlife Decision 5.2. Allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired.
- (2) If consistent with Wildlife 5.2.
- (3) Accept as written.
- (4) Accept as written.
- (5) Retain these lands in public ownership; however, allow exchange if higher and better habitat can be acquired.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MPP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/L-t9 Step 3 D-2

W/L-1.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

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

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

Analysis:

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

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

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

Instructions on reverse

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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

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

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

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

Decision:

Accept general.

Accept with the following modification:

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

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife (4350)

Objective Number

#2

Objective #2:

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

Rationale:

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

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

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kana

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 W/L-r10 Step 3 p-2

W/L-2.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

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

Analysis:

This fox historically occupied the low desert area south of the Snake River. Because of the small size of this fox, it preys largely on small rodents and will not create any degradation problem to domestic animals or game species of wildlife.

Decision:

Modify the recommendation to: Identify the area as potential kit fox habitat. Coordinate with IDF&G to reestablish the sensitive species based on its merits of such reintroduction at the time contemplated.

Reason:

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

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 W/L-r10 Step 3 D-2

W/L-2.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

Improve or maintain 4.2 miles of river otter habitat in the Snake River. Specific management needed to obtain good ecological condition of riparian habitats and good stream habitat condition includes:

- (1) Develop livestock grazing systems which will result in improved riparian habitat conditions within all river otter habitat. Where implementation of such systems is not practical, limit livestock access to riparian habitats to those areas necessary for providing livestock water (water gaps).
- (2) Develop livestock grazing systems designed to improve riparian and stream habitat conditions in the headwater reaches of streams comprising river otter habitat (see riparian section).
- (3) Cooperate with other agencies to monitor and improve quality in the river.

Analysis:

River otters are only found along the Snake River in the KPU. Unstable stream banks and water pollution from agricultural, industrial and domestic sources have reduced the quality of river otter habitat. Increasing riparian vegetation will provide several benefits to river otter by improving cover, food supplies and lowering sediment yield.

Decision:

Accept as written.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (M/P):

Kuna

Activity:

Wildlife

Overlay Reference:

Step W/L-110 Step 1

W/L-2.3: Multiple Use Recommendation

Maintain known ferruginous hawk nest sites and provide additional nest sites on the Snake River Plains. Specifically:

- (1) Retain ferruginous hawk habitat in public ownership, but allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired within ferruginous hawk ranges and such exchanges are in the best interest of the public. This area extends approximately 1.5 miles from nest sites.
- (2) In unoccupied areas with abundant prey available provide artificial nesting platforms.
- (3) Where rangeland reseeding is conducted, provide for a mixture of shrubs, forbs and grasses to support prey populations for ferruginous hawks.
- (4) Provide for alternative road alignment if road construction is contemplated within 1/4 mile of nest sites to keep human disturbance problems minimized. Mitigate the loss, if the road alignment cannot be modified.
- (5) Where applications for organized ORV events are in the vicinity of nest sites during the nesting season (April 1 - June 30), realign courses to be at least 1/4 mile away from active nests.

Analysis:

Ferruginous hawks are uncommon in the KPU. To maintain these breeding birds it is necessary to manage their habitat and prey abundance; and minimize human disturbance of nest site.

Decision:

Accept as written. Also see 4-1-1, 5-1, 6-1 and W/L-5.2.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MPP)	
Kona	
Activity	
Wildlife	
Overlay Reference	
Step 1	Step 2

W/L-2.4: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage burrowing owl habitat on the Snake River Plains to maintain existing populations of these birds. Specifically:

- (1) Maintain existing nest sites, whenever possible. Mitigate losses if other uses are deemed more appropriate.
- (2) If major land disposals are undertaken, maintain "isolated tracts" of public land suitable for burrowing owl nesting.

Analysis:

Burrowing owls are quite adaptable to many land uses (grazing, agriculture, mining, ORV's, etc.) providing a suitable burrow is available for nesting. The species will also readily adapt to "new" habitat when it is made available.

Decision:

Accept as written.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1a/1.-r9 Step 3

W/L-2.5: Multiple Use Recommendation

Implement intensive livestock management or protective riparian habitat by fence to improve mountain quail habitat in the following areas:

- (1) Syrup Creek and its tributaries
- (2) Long Tom Creek and its tributaries
- (3) Bennett Creek

Analysis:

Mountain quail historically provided a great deal of hunter recreation. Present populations are so small that seeing mountain quail is a rarity.

These birds are closely associated with dense riparian habitats. Most of this type of riparian habitat in the KPU is in fair or poor condition due to the concentration of livestock. Changes in stocking rates, seasons of use, grazing systems, and management practices such as salting are needed to improve these habitats.

Decision:

Accept as written.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (M/P)	
Kuna	
Activity	
Wildlife	
Overlay Reference	
Step 1	Step 3D-2

W/L-2.6: Multiple Use Recommendation

Maintain the Sand Creek long-billed curlew nesting habitat south of Boise as a shortgrass habitat. Specifically:

- (1) Retain the area in public ownership but allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be aquired.
- (2) Provide for winter grazing by livestock (preferably sheep) to reduce the average vegetative height to 2-4 inches before curlews arrive in the spring.
- (3) Limit vehicular use to existing roads and trails from March 1 to June 15.

Analysis:

Long-billed curlew habitat is significantly diminished throughout most of this species' range. Maintenance of the remaining habitats is important to the conservation of these birds.

Decision:

Retain the area in public ownership but allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired. Further that portion within PLO #5777 will override (see W/L-5.2 also 5.1 and 6.10.

Monitor and establish this areas significance and required actions necessary for improving it as curlew habitat.

The decision for limiting vehicular use and grazing prior to 3/1 will be deferred.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN

TO: COMBINATION - AGAL USE - DECP40M W/L-2.6

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1

Step 1

Reason:

There is a population of long-billed curlew nesting in the area. This area is also very close to Boise and is used extensively by varmit and rodent hunters. The area is primarily cheatgrass and its significance has not been established. This decision allows for retention and determining significance.

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ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)	Kuna
Activity	Wildlife (4350)
Objective Number	#3

Objective #3:

Manage 207,680 acres of big game habitat in the KPU (see overlays WL-t11 and 12) to obtain good ecological condition.

Rationale:

Elk, mule deer and antelope are the big game species in the KPU. Presently deer and antelope numbers are low compared to historical peaks. The IDFG goals are to increase the population of deer and antelope approximately 20% by 1985 in the KPU. Presently mule deer populations are increasing; antelope populations are stable. Elk occur primarily in winter in the KPU and in limited numbers.

Currently 50% of elk habitat, 88% of mule deer habitat, and 100% of the antelope habitat are in poor or fair ecological condition. Habitats in these condition classes do not supply the forage diversity necessary to provide these animals with quality diets. Improvement to good ecological condition would result in a variety of perennial forbs, grasses and palatable browse becoming available to these big game species.

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RECOMMENDATION - ANALYSIS - DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 WL-t12 Step 3 D-2

W/L-3.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage 2,880 acres of elk winter and early spring range in the KPU so there is adequate food, cover and water for 50 animals by 1990. Specifically:

- (1) In order to provide sufficient forage for elk in the KPU, allocate forage by allotment and pasture as shown in Table 1, which reflects the AUM's that are competitive with livestock.
- (2) Implement livestock grazing systems and practices that recognize the physiological requirements of shrubs. Design all systems to improve palatable shrub composition, reproduction and forage availability. Allow livestock to consume no more than 30% of the current annual production of key shrub species such as bitterbrush.
- (3) In over mature dense sagebrush shrub communities, use prescribed burning or other suitable treatment to provide a mosaic of small openings of herbaceous vegetation. These openings should be no wider than 1/4 mile and interspersed with shrub communities. Reseed with grasses, forbs and palatable shrubs, if natural regeneration is not expected.
- (4) On elk winter ranges limit vehicular travel to existing roads December 15 through April 15.
- (5) Avoid new road construction within elk winter ranges. If new roads are necessary, permanently close and rehabilitate at least an equivalent amount of existing road in the same vicinity.
- (6) On elk winter ranges retain public lands, but allow land exchanges for state and private lands if such exchanges will result in acquisition of higher quality habitat.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-3.1

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 W/L-112 Step 3 D-2

Analysis:

The maintenance of productive elk populations is dependent upon managing for nutritionally healthy animals. With the assistance of IDF&G information was obtained on seasonal diets, average weights, and consumption rates of healthy elk. This information was used to estimate forage demand by plant class. When combined with IDF&G's projected population; the total forage demand for each seasonal use area was calculated and is shown in Table 1.

Currently 50% of the elk winter range in the KPU is in poor or fair ecological condition. It does not supply the forage diversity to provide the elk with a nutritious diet. Winter ranges in good ecological condition would support a greater variety of palatable shrub species. This is very important considering that shrubs provide 51% of the total elk diet in winter.

Decision:

Manage 2,880 acres of elk winter and spring range to provide adequate food, cover and water for 50 animals by 1990.

- (1) Reject in preference to RM-2.1. The habitat will be monitored to adjust livestock use to provide for 50 elk by 1990.
- (2) Accept with following: Adjust livestock utilization as necessary for plant production and elk food.
- (3) Accept by changing: "No wider than 1/4 mile" to "generally no wider than 1/4 mile".

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-3.1

Name (MFP)

Kuta

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1W/L-t12 Step 3 D-2

- (4) On elk winter ranges limit vehicular travel to existing roads during critical periods (usually 12/15 - 4/15) and/or close if necessary.
- (5) Accept as written.
- (6) Accept (R-1.1 Kelton Road for priority).
- (7) The population goal of 50 elk by 1990 is subject to review and change in consultation with the Idaho Fish and Game goals.

ore. Attach additional sheets, if needed

Instructions on reverse

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MPP)	Kuna
Activity	Wildlife
Overlay Reference	Step 1 WL-t11 Step 3 D-2

W/L-3.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

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.

Specifically:

- (1) In order to provide sufficient forage for mule deer in the KPU, allocate forage by allotment and pasture as shown in Table 1, which reflects the AUM's that are competitive with livestock.
- (2) Implement livestock grazing systems and practices that recognize the physiological requirements of shrubs. Design all systems to improve palatable shrub composition, reproduction and forage availability. Allow livestock to consume no more than 30% of the current annual production of key shrub species such as bitterbrush.
- (3) On unspecified suitable sites within crucial mule deer range that presently have less than 10% palatable shrub composition by weight of the shrub component, improve forage condition by establishing seedings or plantings of bitterbrush, four-wing salthush or other palatable shrub species.
- (4) On crucial mule deer winter ranges that do not have an adequate composition of early maturing grass, develop small seedings (not exceeding a width of 1/4 mile) of Siberian wheatgrass and Russian wildrye to improve deer nutrition in the early spring period. Do not allow livestock turnout in these areas earlier than the surrounding native range is capable of withstanding. Design vegetation manipulation projects to maintain or achieve in the vegetative community to below a 60/40 cover ratio (a patchwork of vegetation, not canopy coverage within cover stands).
- (5) Use prescribed burning or other suitable treatment to achieve a 60/40 forage to cover ratio on winter use areas dominated by tall old stands of big

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-3.2

Name (MP#)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Deerby Reference

Step 1 WL-t11 Step 1

sagebrush. Reseed with seeding a mixture of grasses, forbs, and shrubs if a diversity of natural regeneration is not expected.

- (6) On crucial deer winter ranges restrict vehicular travel to existing roads from December 15 through April 15.
- (7) Avoid new road construction or upgrading of existing roads in areas identified as mule deer crucial winter range. If new road construction is absolutely necessary, permanently close and rehabilitate at least an equivalent amount of roads in the same vicinity.
- (8) Within mule deer crucial winter range, retain existing public land. Allow exchanges for State and/or private lands if such exchanges will result in acquisition of higher quality habitat.
- (9) Designate deer winter ranges as high priority fire suppression areas, unless the area is designated for prescribed burning and the wildfire occurs under similar conditions for such a burn.

Analysis:

The maintenance of productive mule deer populations is dependent upon managing for nutritionally healthy animals. With the assistance of IDFG information was obtained on seasonal diets, average weights, and consumption rates of healthy mule deer populations. This information was used to estimate forage demand by plant class. When combined with the projected population, the total forage demand for each seasonal use area was calculated and is shown in Table 1.

Allowing livestock use of up to 30% of current annual growth of bitterbrush leaves 20% of the annual production for wintering deer without damage to the plants. The 20% is considered adequate to meet deer needs.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

W/1-3.2

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/1-t11 Step 3D-2

A 60/40 forage to cover ratio is considered optimum on deer winter range, and nutrients locked up in unnecessary sagebrush cover will better serve both livestock and big game if recycled into more desirable forage plants. Forage improvement should be reflected as improved adult survival and fawn production.

Open roads and ORV access to crucial winter ranges encourages use by 4x4 vehicles and snow machines. Such use, coupled with cold temperatures and the high energy demand placed on the deer in a winter situation, results in stress that can lead to death and the loss of subsequent production.

Decision:

Manage 114,880 acres of mule deer winter and early spring range so there is adequate food, cover and water for 2,305 animals by 1990.

(1) Reject in preference to RM-2.1. The habitat will be monitored to adjust livestock use to provide for 2305 mule deer by 1990.

(2) Accept with the following:

 % utilization can be adjusted to provide for plant health and mule deer needs as necessary.

(3) If reasonably necessary improve forage condition on sites with less than 10% palatable shrubs by seeding/plantings of preferred species.

(4) Accept with the following:

 a. Change "not exceeding" to "generally not exceeding".

 b. Change "Siberian wheatgrass and Russian wildrye" to "Siberian wheatgrass, Russian wildrye or other suitable grasses".

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1670-21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-3.2

Name (MFP)
Kuna
Activity
Wildlife
Overlay Reference
Step 1 W/L-E11 Step 3 D-2

- (5) Accept as written.
- (6) On crucial deer winter ranges restrict vehicular travel/close roads if necessary during critical time periods (generally 11/15-4/15).
- (7) Accept as written.
- (8) Accept (Kelton Road has priority). See R-1.1.
- (9) Accept as written.
- (10) Consider a coordinated management plan with Idaho Department of Fish and Game, State Lands and permittee on allotment 0823 for enhancement of mule deer range.
- (11) The population goals of 2305 mule deer by 1990 is subject to review and change in consultation with the Idaho Fish and Game goals.

Reasons:

- (10) The Fish and Game Department now owns a large block of land in the allotment and has contacted us about potential grazing problems in area.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (NPL)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/L-r11 Step 3

W/L-3.3: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage 114,880 acres of mule deer spring, summer and fall range so there is adequate food, cover and water for 570 animals by 1990. Specifically:

- (1) In order to provide sufficient forage for mule deer in the KPU, allocate forage as shown in Table 1, which reflects the ADM's that are competitive with livestock.
- (2) On juniper and big sage sites where forage areas are inadequate manipulate the vegetation to achieve 60/40 forage to cover ratio. Manipulations will be designed so that forage improvements make use of areas with good soil development and do not exceed one-fourth mile in width. Optimum design would retain continuous zones of interconnecting cover (600-1200 feet wide) as well as associated cover patches (6-26 acres). These cover areas should make use of existing vegetative cover, rims, canyons and riparian zones.

All range revegetation projects proposed in deer use areas, including fire rehabilitation, will include a variety of palatable shrubs, forbs and grasses. Any vegetation manipulations along migration routes will retain adequate hiding and thermal cover.

- (3) Implement livestock grazing systems and practices that recognize the physiological requirements of forbs and shrubs. Design all systems to improve composition, reproduction and forage availability of palatable forbs and shrubs in both upland and riparian habitats. Allow no more than 50% total utilization of the current annual production of key shrub species by all classes of animals combined.
- (4) To minimize human disturbance to mule deer, avoid constructing roads within or closely adjacent to riparian habitats.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-3.3

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

- (5) Maintain water in all developed catchments, pipelines, troughs and springs to meet big game needs from July 15 until October 31 of each year.
- (6) Retain all public lands within and closely adjacent to migration routes for mule deer, but allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired.

Analysis:

See W/L-3.3 Analysis and W/L-3.3, MFP I and II.

Decision:

Accept/modify/reject as follows:

Accept general as written.

- (1) Reject in preference to RM-2.1. The habitat will be monitored to adjust livestock use to provide for 570 mule deer by 1990.
- (2) Accept with following modification:
Change - "do not exceed 1/4 mile in width" to "generally not exceed 1/4 mile in width".
Add - Prescribed burn should be the primary tool.
- (3) Accept as written.
- (4) Accept as written.
- (5) Accept with the following, where this is not feasible consider wildlife guzzlers.
- (6) Accept as written.
- (7) The population goals of 570 mule deer by 1990 is subject to review and change in consultation with the Idaho Fish and Game goals.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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Name (NIPP)	Kuna
Activity	Wildlife
Overlay Reference	Step 1 W/L-r12 Step 1 D-2

W/L-3.4: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage 109,120 acres as pronghorn habitat to provide sufficient forage, water, cover, and space for 55 animals by 1990. Specifically:

- (1) To provide sufficient forage for pronghorn antelope in the BPU, allocate forage by allotment and pasture as shown in Table 1, which reflects the AUM's that are competitive with livestock.
- (2) Refer to and address the "Guidelines for the Management of Pronghorn Antelope" when making management decisions which may affect antelope. Significant among these are:
 - a. If off-road vehicular traffic causes harrassment of wintering pronghorn, restrict wintering area vehicular use to existing roads annually from December 15 through March 1. Minimize off-road travel on antelope spring ranges from March 1 to June 15.
 - b. Maintain sufficient water in all artificial catchments, pipelines, troughs and spring developments to meet antelope needs from July 15 until October 31 of each year. Where it is necessary to shut down livestock water facilities prior to this date, provide big game guzzlers and/or other water storage/ supply facilities to meet antelope needs.
 - c. Provide additional watering catchments, guzzlers, etc. in allotments and pastures on warm season use areas (summer, fall) such that the distance between them throughout these areas is no more than three miles.
 - d. Large expanses of big sagebrush with a shrub canopy exceeding 30 percent and an average height exceeding 30 inches may be manipulated to improve the vegetative structure and forb composition for antelope. Prescribed burning is the preferred method but improvements may be possible with mechanical or chemical treatment. Such manipulations will be limited to

Note: Attach additional sheets if needed.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN

RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-3.4

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/L-t12 Step 3D-2

areas less than 1000 acres and will maintain five to 20 percent shrub canopy cover. Canopy cover should not be confused with hiding cover (reference W/L-3.1(4) mule deer).

Habitat manipulations may exceed 1,000 acres per project if, through the EA process, the particular project will not adversely impact pronghorns, and the design of the project is compatible with pronghorn needs.

- e. All range revegetation projects proposed in antelope use areas, including fire rehabilitation, will include a variety of shrubs, forbs, and grasses.

- (3) Manage all pronghorn habitat for good ecological condition.

Analysis:

See W/L-3.3, MFP I and II.

Decision:

Accept/modify/reject as follows:

Accept general as written.

- (1) Reject in preference to RM-2.1. The habitat will be monitored to adjust livestock use to provide for 55 pronghorns by 1990.
- (2) Accept with the following addition:
 - a. Roads may also be closed if necessary.
- (3) Modify to read:

Manage habitat for good ecological condition where feasible/economical.
- (4) The population goals of 55 pronghorn by 1990 is subject to review and change in consultation with the Idaho Fish & Game goals.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1000-21 (April 1975)

JUN 21 1982

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)	Kuna
Activity	Wildlife (4350)
Objective Number	#4

Objective #4:

Manage upland game and waterfowl habitats in the KPU to increase populations of these highly desired species.

Rationale:

The upland game resources of southwestern Idaho are famous throughout the United States. An estimated 24,000 hunter-days are expended pursuing pheasants, chukar, valley quail, mountain quail, Hungarian partridge, sage grouse, mountain grouse, and cottontails each year in the Bruneau Resource Area. The demand for this type of recreation is increasing steadily, especially in areas of rapid population growth such as Ada and Canyon counties, therefore priority should be given to habitat improvement in KPU to accomodate this recreation.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (M/F):

Kenn

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 W/L-t13^{Step 3}

W/L-4.1: Multiple Use Recommendation:

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.

Rationale:

Presently chukar and hun hunting is quite popular in the Bureau Resource Area with over 24,000 hunter-days occurring annually. Since the KPU is the closest unit to population centers, priority should be given to upland game habitat in KPU in order to accomodate this recreation, especially since demand for this type of recreation is expected to increase. Water developments such as gallinaceous gozziers are an inexpensive and easy mechanism for increasing populations to help meet this projected demand.

Multiple Use Analysis:

This recommendation is supported by recreation recommendations for maintenance or improvement of hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities [R-1.2(12)(13)]. There are no conflicting recommendations.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Accept the recommendation as written.

Decision:

Accept as written.

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1

Step 1

W/L-4.2: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage public lands surrounded by and in the vicinity of irrigated agricultural areas and other isolated public land tracts to maintain or improve the habitat for pheasants, hungarian partridge, valley quail and cottontails. Specifically:

- (1) Evaluate the existing or potential upland game habitat values of any public land being reviewed for disposal that are adjacent to or surrounded by agriculture. Retain these lands if significant wildlife habitat values are present or developable. Insure that approximately 15% of the area is retained in public ownership and is managed for wildlife populations for blocks of land larger than 160 acres being considered for Desert Land Entry and/or Carey Act development. If necessary, improve the composition of shrubs, forbs and grasses on isolated tracts and agricultural fringe lands to enhance food and cover for upland game. Permit other resource uses as long as consistent with wildlife management objectives. Retain public access to these tracts. Develop habitat management plans for intensive management of these tracts.

Analysis:

Intensive farming practices in use today reduce wildlife habitat values on much farmland during the winter. Unfarmed or public lands adjacent to agriculture are "havens" for wildlife during this time. In many areas these parcels are essential to maintaining abundant upland game populations. These parcels also provide hunters with open areas to hunt.

Decision:

Accept as written - see 1-1.1.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (M/F):
Kana
Activity:
Wildlife
Overlay Reference:
Step 1 W/L-114 Step 2

W/L-4.3: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage springs, seeps and meadows and adjacent upland areas as key wildlife habitats for upland game. Specifically:

- (1) Control livestock grazing on these habitats by the implementation of grazing systems, season of use and other management practices such as salting away from water sources.
- (2) If livestock overuse cannot be avoided, physically protect springheads and wet areas.
- (3) Develop only those springs which are capable of providing adequate water for wildlife and livestock.

Analysis:

Water and diverse abundant plant cover are the real keys to upland game habitat and abundance. Unrestricted livestock access to springs, meadows, and seeps leads to the denuding of these areas resulting in their becoming valueless to wildlife. Management of these areas on a case by case basis will show that some seeps are unsuitable for development as stockwater sources and should therefore be fenced off. Structured grazing systems on upland game areas around such springs and seeps should be able to result in some cover improvement for wildlife.

Decision:

Accept as written.

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (N/P)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/L-t13 Step 3 D-2

W/L-4.4: Multiple Use Recommendation

Manage 83,600 acres of sage grouse range to improve nesting, brood rearing and winter habitats. Specifically:

- (1) To improve the quality of sage grouse nesting and brood rearing habitats, a poor and fair big sagebrush, meadow, and riparian ecological sites should be improved and managed for good ecological condition, based on the SCS ecological site classification system.
- (2) When making management decisions affecting areas used by sage grouse in the KPU, refer to and address to the "Guidelines for Habitat Protection in Sage Grouse Range" as published by the Western States Sage Grouse Committee, June 1974. Significant among these are:
 - a. Manage sage grouse habitat by maintaining the density of sagebrush canopy cover at 20-30% within nesting habitats and at least 20% in present wintering habitats and in areas known to have supported wintering concentrations within the previous ten years. Canopy cover should not be confused with hiding cover (reference W/L-3.1(4) mule deer).
 - b. Designate sage grouse nesting and wintering habitat as "active" wildfire suppression areas wherein fire suppression activities are geared to fire behavior and the potential resource threat from any fire after it has been initially evaluated. If significant sage grouse cover is destroyed by a fire, sagebrush seed will be included in any mixture used in fire rehabilitation projects, seeded at a rate sufficient to reestablish suitable cover for sage grouse.
 - c. In brood rearing areas where the big sagebrush canopy cover is 20% or greater improve herbaceous vegetation by sagebrush manipulation and seeding of small irregular areas. These manipulations must not however, reduce the existing sagebrush canopy below 10%. Carefully evaluate the

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN

RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-4,4

Name (M/P)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Display Reference

Step 1 W/L-t13 Step 2

sage grouse response of these habitat manipulations before expanding the program to a large scale. Prescribed burning in most cases will be used for the cover alteration.

- d. No rehab projects will be implemented where live sagebrush crown cover is less than 20%, or on steep upper slopes (20% + gradient) where big sagebrush is 12 inches or less in height.
- e. Range vegetal control/rehab projects within two miles of known strutting grounds will be limited to practices which also enhance sage grouse habitat since this area constitutes the breeding complex for sage grouse.
- f. No vegetatal control using herbicides will be conducted along streams, meadows or secondary dry/intermittent drainages. A minimum of a 100 yard strip of living sage will be retained on each edge of meadows and drainages.
- g. Restrict during March-May any intensive disturbance activities such as gravel pit operation or ORV races within 2 miles of sage grouse strutting grounds and avoid the establishment of major roads within 1/2 mile.
- h. Restrict vehicular traffic to existing roads from November 1 to February 28 in sage grouse wintering habitats.
- i. Retain in public ownership all tracts of land on which strutting grounds are located and all lands within a two-mile radius of those strutting grounds, but allow exchanges if higher quality habitat can be acquired and such exchanges are in the public interest.
- j. Prescribed burning shall be the primary tool for habitat improvement.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

8/1-4,4

Name (RFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 W/L-t13^{rev 3}

Analysis:

The Sage Grouse guidelines were developed by professionals from State and Federal Wildlife agencies throughout sage grouse ranges in the west. Because of the amount of habitat conversions occurring on native rangelands, grouse populations were being impacted dramatically. Game and Land managers needed a comprehensive framework within which management for other resources could be conducted while either minimizing damage to or actually improving sage grouse habitat, and the "Guidelines" resulted.

Sage grouse ranges must provide adequate forage and cover at all times of year, and ecological sites in good condition generally satisfy these requirements. The birds also need protection from ORV and other types of harassment at critical times of year such as during winter or breeding seasons, or they will abandon traditional use areas for unsuitable habitats and subsequent demise. Any disturbance in the breeding complex adversely affects reproduction. Riparian and meadow vegetation are important brooding areas if suitable adjacent protective cover is present. Without such cover, total habitat and thus the potential population is adversely affected. Wildfires also contribute to habitat loss.

Decision:

Accept as written.

MAR 21 1983

UNITED STATES
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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/L-113 Step 3 D-2

W/L-4.5: Multiple Use Recommendation

Provide reasonable nesting and brood rearing habitat for waterfowl along 94 miles of river and streams and reservoirs within the KPU. Specifically:

- (1) Manage the Grand View Duck Pond area specifically as waterfowl and upland game habitat and retain in public ownership (see L-6.1).
- (2) Insure that waterfowl benefits are incorporated in all reservoir developments exceeding one surface-acre. Specifically, fence these areas, develop nest islands and/or structures, and pipe water away from the reservoir for livestock use. Implement livestock grazing systems and practices and/or improvements that will improve upland and riparian cover to form around all potential and existing waterfowl nesting areas. On key reservoirs, streams and canals that have been heavily disturbed and where there is a lack of vegetation, protect and re-establish vegetation such as bullrush and pondweed, and an upland mix of grasses, forbs and shrubs that provides good waterfowl nesting cover and food. In some instances, and on a case by case basis, it may be desirable to introduce native aquatic and terrestrial plants in an effort to accelerate succession toward quality waterfowl habitat.
- (3) Construct nesting platforms for canada geese at suitable sites along the Snake River to increase nesting opportunities and improve nest security.

Analysis:

Reservoirs exceeding one surface-acre offer excellent waterfowl nesting and brood habitat provided certain characteristics exist. The value of dense vegetation adjacent to aquatic habitats has been pointed out in the URA, as has the conflict with livestock overutilization (resulting in a much reduced vegetative cover) in these areas. Fencing areas and piping water to alternate sites for

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed.

(Continuation on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-4.5

Name (N/P)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1 W/L-t13 Step 3

livestock use will alleviate this problem. In some cases construction of islands may be accomplished with a minimum of additional cost. These islands provide high security nesting habitat for many species of waterfowl (including Canada geese). The Grand View Duck Ponds is currently managed as a waterfowl area and provides substantial recreation opportunities for the public.

Decision:

Accept/modify as follows:

Accept general.

(1) Modified by allowing a reasonable amount of acreage for Grand View Cemetery (L-6.1). Withdraw the land from mineral entry and allow no surface occupancy for leasable minerals (see M-1.1, 3.11).

(2) Accept with the following addition:

On those reservoirs exceeding one-surface acre fence and pipe water if technically/economically feasible. Reservoirs may be gap fenced for access without piping.

(3) Accept with following:

In Birds of Prey Area they must be in concert with W/L-5.2.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

JUN 21 1982

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife (4350)

Objective Number

#5

Objective #5:

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

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (BPP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1

Step 3

W/L-5.1: Multiple Use Recommendation

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

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

Analysis:

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

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

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/1-5.1

Name (NFP)	
Kuna	
Activity	
Wildlife	
Overlay Reference	
Step 1	Step 2

- (2) Raptor species are dependent upon the existing vegetative habitat to produce the small mammals they feed upon. Research biologists calculate 27 square miles are utilized by prairie falcons and golden eagles for foraging. These areas can be various shapes but for descriptive purposes and because of a lack of specific research, known areas are shown as circles on all overlays.
- (3) Certain species of owls and accipiter hawks are totally dependent upon riparian habitats for nesting, roosting and food production. Presently many riparian habitats are in poor condition and do not provide adequate resources for these birds. Recommendations for riparian habitat management will significantly improve the habitat for these species.

Decision:

Accept as written.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-5.2

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step W/L-t10 Step 3 D-2

- (4) Make available to the public, other agencies, and the scientific community knowledge gained from management and research activities.

Prepare and coordinate through public involvement a revised management plan incorporating the above Mission and Goals.

Designate the Snake River through the Area as a SRMA also incorporating the above Mission and Goals.

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

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

In order to protect the raptor prey base, seek a permanent withdrawal of the BOP area from agricultural entry and all forms of mineral entry on essential nesting areas (also see M-3.1, L-8.1).

No surface occupancy for leaseable minerals will be permitted within the essential nesting habitat of the Birds of Prey Area as identified in D-4 Decision Composite overlay.

Reason:

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

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

Note: Attach additional sheets if needed.
Instructions on reverse

MAR 21 1983

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1

Step 3

W/L-5.3: Multiple Use Recommendation

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

- (1) Except during the hunting season, discourage all public presence on the island.
- (2) Allow no trees to be cut on the island.

Rationale:

A large nesting colony of great blue herons is dependent upon the trees on stork island. These birds have a high public viewing value. Conserving their nesting habitat is essential to their continued abundant presence along the Snake River for many miles upstream and downstream from the rookery. One duck-hunting blind is presently on the downstream end of the island and valid hunting has not effect on heron reproduction.

Analysis:

This recommendation is supported by recreation [R-1.2(13)] to optimize the public's opportunity for viewing enjoyment of wildlife. There are no conflicting recommendations.

Decision:

Accept as written.

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Kuna

Activity

Wildlife

Overlay Reference

Step 1

Step 3

W/L-5.4: Multiple Use Recommendation

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

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

Analysis:

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

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION W/L-5.4

Name (MFP)	
Kuna	
Activity	
Wildlife	
Overlay Reference	
Step 1	Step 2

Decision:

Accept/modify as follows:

Modify to read:

- To enhance wildlife diversity and abundance, riparian and meadow habitats will be managed to attain and/or maintain a good ecological condition class (SCS Site System) or reasonable equivalent.
- (1) Employ livestock management systems/practices/improvements including exclusion of grazing where necessary.
 - (2) Restore desiccated and former meadows where technically/economically feasible.
 - (3) Revegetate highly disturbed riparian overstory vegetation where technically/economically feasible.
 - (4) Accept as written.

Reasons:

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