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PRODUCTS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)
Big Desert
Activity
Forestry
Objective Number
F-1

Objective

Manage the productive forest land in a healthy, vigorous condition in order to meet market demands for today and for the future. Harvest timber and implement intensive forest management practices as economics dictate. In situations where these practices cannot be justified, over-all condition and well-being of the stand should have first priority, such as areas where insect and disease problems are developing.

Rationale

This objective is supported by policy statements within Bureau Manual 5000.06 and basic and supplemental guidance sections of 1602 and 1603. The fiscal year 1979 Washington Office directions also give direction to the forestry program in this regard. Additional support is given by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, and the Forest Practices Act.

The forest land along the Snake River is some of the most productive forest land within the Big Butte Resource Area. Based on the existing stands of black cottonwood, Site Index is approximately 55 on a 50-year basis with a yield capacity of over 40 cubic feet/acre/year.

Other states including Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado have developed extensive markets along primary rivers. Cottonwood is being utilized for pallet material and for excelsior. Utilization of cottonwood along the South Platte River in Eastern Colorado has grown from very little to over 8MMBF in five years, with a stumpage value of approximately \$200,000 per year.

Hardwoods are being planted along the river bottoms in the above mentioned states, with the anticipation of future markets for hardwood lumber and veneer.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Prepare a separate form for each Activity Objective.
2. Under a heading "Objective," enter a concise quantified statement of the specific activity objective.
3. Under a heading "Rationale," enter a detailed statement fully covering all the reasons necessary to justify the proposed action in the objective. Also describe all anticipated positive and negative impacts. (See BLM Manual section 1608 for additional instructions)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Big Desert
Activity	Forestry
Overlay Reference	Step 1 F-1.1 Step 3

Recommendation

Introduce a variety of hardwood tree species, such as Burr oak, Sycamore, or Green ash, along with the existing Cottonwood on Public Lands along the Snake River.

This project is to start in FY-1982 on the forest lands in T. 3 S., R. 34 E., Sections 21 and 22 (approximately 800 acres), Approximately 1400 acres are to be converted to a mixed forest stand by 1987.

Refer to Step 1, MFP Overlay.

Support Needs

1. At least four access easements will be required by FY-1984. The following list shows initial access needs, listed in priority order:

T. 3 S., R. 34 E., Section 21, S $\frac{1}{2}$ - permanent non-exclusive easement across one mile of private land.

T. 3 S., R. 34 E., Section 14, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - permanent non-exclusive easement across one-quarter mile of private land.

T. 3 S., R. 34 E., Section 14, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - permanent non-exclusive easement across one-eighth mile of private land.

T. 3 S., R. 35 E., Section 7, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - permanent non-exclusive easement across one half mile of private land. Additional access easement may be identified at a later date.

2. Road construction/maintenance will be required on all access roads listed above.

3. Cadastral surveys must be required to re-establish monuments lost since the omitted lands survey. No additional information is available.

4. Engineering estimates and surveys will be required for all road construction.

5. An archaeological investigation will be required before any surface disturbance occurs.

(continued next page)

INSTRUCTIONS

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3. Entries are made as described in BLM Manual Sections 1608.3 and 1608.4. See BLM Manual section 1608, Illustration 2 for a sample format of the headings and additional instructions.
4. Use additional sheets for each recommendation as necessary.
5. File recommendation sheets behind the sheet for the objective they are supporting (Form 1600-20) *Management Framework Plan - Step 1* in the MFP narrative.

GPO 836-084

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Big Desert
Activity	Forestry
Overlay Reference	Step 1 F-1.1 Step 3

Rationale

Introduction of hardwoods within the existing stands of cottonwood would increase the commercial value of the forest resource. Markets for hardwoods and cottonwoods are expanding in Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado.

A variety of tree species within a forest land allows for greater resistance of the stand to insect and disease infection.

Greater varieties of wildlife are often found in mixed forest stands, rather than the monoculture which currently exist along the Snake River. Along with commercial tree species, valuable wildlife species such as Russian olive, Siberian pea, or common Lilac could be planted to contribute to a more favorable habitat.

This type of project would be an ideal work project for the YACC program, and could be accomplished during late fall or late winter. This project could be expanded over the next few years to encompass the 8,000 acres of similar forest land throughout the district.

INSTRUCTIONS

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Big Desert
Activity	Forestry
Overlay Reference	Step 1 F 1.1 Step 3

Multiple Use Analysis:

This recommendation conflicts with wildlife recommendation 10.4 and wildlife aquatics objective 3 which state that the Snake River Omitted lands highest value is for wildlife habitat.

Minerals objective 3, and wildlife aquatics 3.2 support development of access into the omitted lands.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Reject recommendation 1.1

Reasons:

The highest value of the omitted lands along^g the Snake River is for wildlife habitat. Development of access and intensive forestry programs would be detrimental to this value. The rejection of this recommendation is supported by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bingham County Commissioners.

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept multiple use recommendation.

INSTRUCTIONS

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Big Desert
Activity	Forestry
Overlay Reference	Step 1 F-1.2 Step 3

Recommendation

Harvest over-mature, diseased or bug infested timber where possible, on the non-productive forest lands, and the productive forest land along the Snake River. Utilize local requests from private individuals as much as possible. Where a market does not exist, this harvest will be done with YACC, YCC, force account crews or summer temporary help, and stockpiled for no more than two years. Use of this material could be for firewood, if no other product can be obtained from it.

All harvest will be done under a silviculturally sound system, preferably a form of shelterwood or selection cutting.

Refer to Step 1, MFP Overlay.

Support Needs

Refer to Recommendation F-1.1 for support needs.

Rationale

Cottonwood is a relatively short-lived tree species, and is highly susceptible to a wide variety of insects and diseases. Pockets of insect and disease infected trees could be removed, perhaps extending the productive life span of the surrounding trees. A small market does exist in this area for Cottonwood and Juniper firewood. The material removed could be used to help sustain this market.

Juniper is relatively long-lived, slow growing and relatively insect and disease resistant. Occasional fires do occur in the Juniper woodlands. Material harvested from the occasional disease centers or burned areas could be used to supply the small market that does exist for the Juniper posts or Juniper firewood.

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)
Big Desert
Activity
Forestry
Overlay Reference
Step 1 F 1.2 Step 3

Multiple Use Analysis:

This recommendation conflicts with wildlife recommendation 10.4 and wildlife aquatics objective 3 which state that the Snake River Omitted lands highest value is for wildlife habitat.

Minerals objective 3, recommendation on wildlife aquatics 3.2 support development of access into the omitted lands.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Reject recommendation 1.2

Reasons:

The highest value of the omitted lands along the Snake River is for wildlife habitat. Development of access and intensive forestry programs would be detrimental to this value. The rejection of this recommendation is supported by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bingham County Commissioners.

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use recommendation.

INSTRUCTIONS

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN - STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name (MFP)	Big Desert
Activity	Forestry
Objective Number	F-2

Objective

Reforest (or bring up to full stocking levels) all productive forest lands within the planning area that have become non-stocked or partially stocked through past man-made or natural disturbances. Attain satisfactory regeneration within 5 years following future disturbances and attain full stocking levels 15 years following a disturbance.

Rationale

Timely reforestation is required to maintain the site productivity of the forest land and to achieve the maximum growth potential possible from these lands. Reforestation will help to maintain or increase merchantability potential of the forest lands.

Watershed values can be significantly increased by maintaining deep-rooted tree species along with the shallow-rooted brush species already in existence in some areas. Streambank stability is increased by deeprooted species.

Reforestation maintains a forest canopy, helping to create and maintain desirable habitat for a variety of wildlife.

Refer to Objective Rationale F-1 for additional support.

INSTRUCTIONS

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Big Desert

Activity

Forestry

Overlay Reference

Step 1 F-2.1 Step 3

Recommendation

Reforest approximately 810 acres of productive forest lands along the Snake River by the end of FY-1985. These 810 acres of non-stocked forest land are scattered along the river in patches averaging 20 acres in size.

Tree species to be considered are various hardwoods such as: Burr oak, Sycamore, Ash, Russian olive, Black cottonwood and Willow and various conifers.

Refer to Step 1, MFP Overlay.

Support Required

Refer to Recommendation F-1.1 for support needs 1-5.

6. Livestock exclusion will be required for a period of approximately 10 years following planting to avoid trampling or browsing of the seedlings and to ensure the success of these reforestation efforts.

7. Contracted nursery space will be required indefinitely.

Rationale

Non-stocked forest land is not maintaining the ultimate productive capacity of the land. Wood fiber will become increasingly important as future demand for all forest products increases.

Wildlife habitat can be greatly enhanced under forest conditions, depending upon wildlife species and diversity for which wildlife is managed.

The project would be ideal for the YACC program, and could be accomplished during late fall or late winter. This type of project could be expanded over the next few years to include similar forest lands throughout the district.

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GPO 836-084

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Big Desert
Activity	Forestry
Overlay Reference	Step 1 F 2.1 Step 3

Multiple Use Analysis:

This recommendation conflicts with wildlife recommendation 10.4 and wildlife aquatics objective 3 which state that the Snake River Omitted lands highest value is for wildlife habitat.

Minerals objective 3, recommendations wildlife aquatics 3.2 support development of access into the omitted lands.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Reject recommendation 2.1

Reasons:

The highest value of the omitted lands along the Snake River is for wildlife habitat. Development of access and intensive forestry programs would be detrimental to this value. The rejection of this recommendation is supported by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bingham County Commissioners.

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use recommendation.

INSTRUCTIONS

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Big Desert
Activity	Forestry
Overlay Reference	Step 1 F-2.2 Step 3

Recommendation

Establish a seed tree orchard by FY-1983 on approximately 200 acres of the 810 acres of non-stocked forest land along the Snake River. These 200 acres are to be located in patches averaging 20 acres in size scattered along the river above the Indian Reservation. Seed trees to be established are primarily lodgepole pine and Douglas fir, although other species such as Englemann spruce or Ponderosa pine should be considered as the need arises.

Seeds from representative environments and habitat types around the District are to be collected during the fall of 1978 and 1979. These seeds are then to be sent to the nursery for germination and nurturing.

Refer to Step 1, MFP Overlay.

Support Needs

Refer to Recommendation F-2.1 for support needs 1-7.

YACC involvement will be required. Greater success would be assured if management of this project was under the YACC program, with direction from the Forestry program.

Rationale

Reforestation projects on the entire District will require up to 120,000 seedlings per year by 1984. Success of these regeneration projects partially depends upon a localized seed source, as well as seeds from a similar habitat type. Seed collection is extremely time consuming and at times, seeds must be acquired from sources that are nearly inaccessible.

The establishment of a seed tree orchard would allow for relatively simple, and inexpensive seed collection from a readily available source. The seeds acquired from this orchard would be keyed to a particular site environment and habitat type.

The river bottom lands are ideally suited for seed tree orchards because these lands are generally more moist than the normal conifer forest, and have higher temperatures. These two facts plus the lower elevation combine to induce the trees to become sexually mature in less time, and to be more prolific seed bearers. Seeds for nursery stock could be acquired from seedlings planted in these orchards between 8 and 15 years after planting.

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Name (MFP)	Big Desert
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A tremendous amount of maintenance is required during the first few years of establishment. At least portions of this maintenance could be accomplished during the winter season. YACC would be suited for this project due to the large volume of manual labor required. This type of program could develop into an excellent training project for several YACC employees.

Multiple Use Analysis:

This recommendation conflicts with wildlife recommendation 10.4 and wildlife aquatics objective 3 which state that the Snake River Omitted lands highest value is for wildlife habitat.

Minerals objective 3, recommendation wildlife aquatics 3.2 support development of access into the omitted lands.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Reject recommendation 2.2

Reasons:

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Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use recommendation.

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