AQUATIC

WILDLIFE

INSTRUCTIONS

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GPO 836-084

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN – STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name *(MFP)*	Big Desert
Activity	Wildlife Aquatics
Objective Number	WLA-1

Objective:

Improve water quality of the Snake River.

Rationale:

The Congress and President have charged Federal agencies with the lead in improving and quality of water associated with activities of the Federal Government. These laws and EO include the following:

PL-84-660	PL-92-500	PL-660
PL-89-234	PL-92-523	PL-93-523
PL-89-753		PL-93-320
PL-91-224	PL-94-579	
PL-566	PL-95-87	EO-11-507
PL-91-910	PL-95-217	EO-11-514
		EO-11-752
		EO-11-990
		EO-11-988

Big Desert Wildlife (5/80) Farringer

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-20 (April 1975)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION–ANALYSIS–DECISION

Name *(MFP)* Big Desert
Activity Wildlife
Overlay Reference 1.1
Step 1 WL 13.5 Step 3 WL ~~10.4~~

Recommendation:

Protect the stream banks, including islands, from livestock use on all areas bordering the Snake River except the following which should be continued at 1979 actual livestock use rate (see overlay file).

33-24 (3) 10	33 (25) 5-1
33-24 (3) 12	33-24-(3) 17
34-1A-24	33-24 (1)
33-24 (3) 14	33-24 (2)
33-24 (3) 2	33-24 (3)
33-25 (10)	33-24 (3) 7
33-25 (10) 3	33-24 (3) 8
33-25 (9)	33-24 (3) 6

Rationale:

Except for the areas listed, stream bank erosion ranges from moderate to severe. Reduction in livestock use, in conjunction with some structural control measures, is the only feasible way to reduce the sediment attributable to public land. This action would meet the Bureau's responsibility under PL 92-500.

* All MFP 1 recommendations-reference URA overlays.

Multiple Use Analysis:

Conflicts with RM 3.1 which authorizes livestock use of the omitted lands.

Supported by VRM 2.1 eliminate stream side and backwater damage by livestock

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Defer islands from livestock use until after high water flow to prevent entrapment and excessive use.

No structural control measures will be implemented by BLM.

Reasons:

There is little or no streamside grazing damage along the Snake River. The stream bank has a vertical drop of three to five feet depending on water level, and livestock access to the river is limited to gravel bars. Streamside erosion is due to the Snake River flow dynamics and is constantly

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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changing. Livestock adjustments have been made both in length of season and turnout dates. Eleven of the 17 allotments have had turnout date delayed from 2 weeks to 3 months. Stocking rate is now less than the 1979 level.

Structural control would be cost prohibitative and only cause other problem areas downstream. Structural controls installed in a river cannot be done on a spot control basis it must include and entire river section. Structures installed to stabilize a bank may only accelerate water flow and cause increased erosion on the opposite bank downstream.

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use Recommendation.

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UNITED STATES
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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION–ANALYSIS–DECISION

Name *(MFP)* Big Desert
Activity Wildlife Aquatic
Overlay Reference
Step 1 WLA-1.2 Step 3 WLA 1.2

Recommendation:

Clean up the existing unauthorized dump and manure disposal areas located as follows:

33-24 (3)12
34-LA-23
34-LA-24
34-LA-26
33-24-(3)13
33-25-(4)
33-25-(10)4

Rationale:

During high flow periods or rainstorms, debris and pathogens from the dump areas may enter the water ways. Health problems and dispersement of trash to downstream areas could result (PL 95-217).

Multiple Use Analysis:

No conflicts identified.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Accept.

Investigate source of dumped material and work with responsible party to get the area cleaned up.

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use Recommendation.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

Big Desert Wildlife Aquatic 5/80 Farringer

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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GPO 836-084

UNITED STATES
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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name *(MFP)* Big Desert
Activity Wildlife Aquatic
Overlay Reference
Step 1 WLA-1.3 Step 3 WLA 1.3

Recommendation:

Provide sanitary facilities and drinking water in high use areas.

Rationale:

The recreational use of public lands will probably increase significantly in areas close to the population centers. To insure proper use of such areas the BLM should provide a safe and healthful recreation experience; the Safe Drinking Water Act (PL 89-234) and Clean Water Act 1977 (PL 95-217) and amendments specifically apply.

Improper disposal of waste materials can have a negative impact on the productivity of fish food organisms, increase nuisance algae growth and reduce oxygen levels.

Multiple Use Analysis:

No conflicts identified.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Reject.

Reasons:

This is not a high visitor use area, and the need has not been demonstrated. See Watershed WSW 1.3

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use Recommendation.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

Big Desert Wildlife Aquatic 5/80 Farringer

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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GPO 836-084

UNITED STATES
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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN – STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name *(MFP)*	Big Desert
Activity	Wildlife Aquatic
Objective Number	WLA-2

Objective:

Increase the number of sportfish in the Snake River.

Rationale:

The proximity of the major population centers will increase the presenre on a limited resource. The Snake River, a largely unused resource within the planning unit, should realize an increase in fishing pressure. The habitat for trout is limited during the summer due to water withdrawals. These conditions (slow moving, warm water) favor the production of "trash" fish (carp, suckers, etc.).

INSTRUCTIONS

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION–ANALYSIS–DECISION

Name (MFP)
Big Desert

Activity
Wildlife Aquatic

Overlay Reference
Step 1 WLA 2.1 Step 3 WLA 2.1

Recommendation:

Increase trout spawning habitat.

Rationale:

Control of other variables such as water temperature, water quality and flow regime are not within the control of BLM. However, several spawning gravel sites were identified as being suitable if the silt were removed. This can be accomplished via physical cleaning such as rolling the gravels during high flow periods. In addition, gravels of the correct size can be put into the river. With this type of effort successful competitive spawning can be achieved.

Multiple Use Analysis:

No conflicts identified.

Supported by R 3.2 improve fishing opportunities.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Reject.

If Idaho Department of Fish and Game proposes such a project work with them as a cooperator.

Reasons:

Idaho Fish and Game has very little information on spawning occurrence in the Snake River below Idaho Falls. German Brown, Rainbow and cut-throat trout all reproduce naturally in the river. There is no planting program. Rainbow and Cutthroat spawn in smaller tributaries, but it appears Brown trout may be spawning in the main stream. Practicality and effectiveness of the recommednation requires further study. There are no tributaries of the Snake River on BLM managed lands in this area.

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use Recommendation.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600–21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN – STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name *(MFP)*	Big Desert
Activity	Wildlife Aquatic
Objective Number	WLA 3

Objective:

Manage the lands along the Snake River for Wildlife.

Rationale

Riparian and aquatic habitat has the highest wildlife productivity of any habitat type. It comprises a fraction of 1% of the total land area under study. In addition, the Flood Plain Management Act requires the uses be compatible with the functions of the flood plain. The presences of any wetlands also requires protection. EO 11990 requires that riparian and wetland areas be protected.

Big Desert Wildlife Aquatic 5/80 Farringer

INSTRUCTIONS

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION–ANALYSIS–DECISION

Name *(MFP)* Big Desert
Activity Wildlife Aquatic
Overlay Reference
Step 1 WLA 3.2 Step 3 WLA 3.1

Recommendation:

Provide access to the following areas:

33-24 (3) 12
33-25 (10) 1
33-25 (10) 4
33-25 (10) 3
33-25 (10) 1
33-25 (8)
33-25 (4)
33-25 (6)

Rationale:

Management of the lands for wildlife and/or other purposes also requires utilization of the wildlife resource. Access to most public land on the river is limited due to control of access by adjacent private landowners. This private control of access provides for the use of public lands by a very privileged few.

Developing public access to the omitted lands has been proposed by recreation R. 6.1, minerals M 3.1 and forestry F 1.1.

Multiple Use Recommedation:

Reject.

Do not develop additional public access to the omitted lands.

Reasons:

Idaho Fish and Game region 5 and 6, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bingham County Commissioners, grazing leasees and others did not approve of acquiring additional public access. Access is presently available to all of the omitted lands tracts by boat.

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use Recommendation.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION–ANALYSIS–DECISION

Name *(MFP)*
Big Desert
Activity
Wildlife Aquatic
Overlay Reference
Step 1 WLA 3.3 Step 3 WLA 3.2

Recommendation:

Retain all riparian areas in public ownership.

Rationale:

The Floodplain Management Act requires the retention of flood plains in public ownership. The functional value of a flood plain is greater than the private or commercial use of such areas.

Multiple Use Analysis:

No conflicting recommendations identified.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Modify the recommendation:

Lands may possibly pass from federal control to state consitant with objective 3 (Manage lands for wildlife)

Reasons:

Riparian lands along the Snake River have been identified for retention in public ownership through the omitted lands adjudication process. Idaho Department of Fish and Game has filed an application to purchase omitted lands (59 acre).

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use Recommendation.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600–21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN – STEP 1
ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Name *(MFP)*	Big Desert
Activity	Wildlife Aquatic
Objective Number	WLA-4

Objective

Restore the beneficial uses of riparian areas.

Rationale

Required, where feasible, by the Flood Plain Management Act and EO 11990, Wetland Riparian Habitat.

Big Desert Wildlife Aquatic 5/80 Farringer

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-20 (April 1975)

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UNITED STATES
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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION–ANALYSIS–DECISION

Name (MFP)
Big Desert
Activity
Wildlife Aquatic
Overlay Reference
Step 1 WLA 4.1 Step 3 WLA 4.1

Recommendation:

Reduce grazing in the following areas:

33-24 (3) 11	33-25 (10) 2
34-1A-23	33-25-(4)
34-1A-26	33-25-(6)
34-1A-27	33-24-(3) 16
34-1A-29	33-24-(3) 18
33-24-(3) 5	
33-25 (7)	
33-25 (8)	

Rationale:

One of the major functions of the floodplain is to retard the overland movement of water. Where overgrazing is occurring or has occurred, this function can be greatly reduced. The subsequent impacts range from increased downstream flooding to reduced flows during the dry months.

Multiple Use Analysis:

Conflicts with RM 3.1

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Modify as follows:

Stocking rates for omitted lands will be authorized as shown in recommendation RM 3.1.

Reasons:

Stocking rates will be based on the phenalogical needs of the vegetation.

Multiple Use Decision:

Accept Multiple Use Recommendation.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600–21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION–ANALYSIS–DECISION

Name (MFP)
Big Desert
Activity
Wildlife Aquatic
Overlay Reference
Step 1 WLA 4.2 Step 3 WLA 4.2

Recommendation:

Protect banks in high erosion rate areas.

33-25 (10) 4	33-25 (4)	33-24 (3) 18
33-25 (10) 2	33-25 (6)	
33-25 (8)	33-25 (6) 2	
33-25 (7)	33-25 (5)	

Rationale:

The erosion that occurs along stream banks is a significant sediment source. In addition, the loss of riparian areas is continuing at an accelerated rate. This portion of the Snake River accounts for about 3% of all the riparian areas in the State of Idaho and is a large portion of a very limited resource. These areas could be protected by such activities as rip-rap, tree planting, and contouring.

Multiple Use Analysis:

No conflicting recommedations identified.

Supporting recommendations are VRM 2.1 eliminate grazing to protect stream-banks and backwater areas.

Multiple Use Recommendation:

Reject.

Reasons:

The erosion along the Snake River is due to high stream flow in the spring. Flows range from 20-25,000 CFS in spring to 2,500 CFS in the fall. There is dense shoreline vegetation at present, making foot access very difficult.

Structures in the floodplain are not only subject ot yearly damage, but interfere with water flow. The result can be altered flood pattern with subsequent increased damage up and downstream.

Multiple Use Decision:

Use Multiple Use Recommendation.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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