

Future Livestock Use Adjustments

If the results of resource monitoring studies show that the proposed grazing management is not meeting the multiple use objectives of the Monument Resource Management Plan, livestock use adjustments will be made in accordance with the BLM grazing administration regulations and existing policy. Livestock use adjustments could take the form of changes in the grazing system, changes in season of use, reductions or increases in active preference, or a combination of all of these.

Fire Management

The Limited Fire Suppression Plan will be prepared as soon after approval of the RMP as funding allows. The overall Shoshone District Fire Management Plan consolidating fire management guidelines from this RMP and other land use plans also will be prepared as funding allows. The District Fire Management Plan will be updated as other activity plans containing fire management guidelines are prepared.

ORV Designations

ORV closures associated with WSAs recommended suitable for designation will be implemented if Congress designates the areas as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Other ORV closures and limitations will be implemented following preparation of the ORV Designation Implementation Plan.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

ACECs were designated upon approval of the RMP. Management of the ACECs according to the objectives stated in the RMP will be given high priority.

SUPPORT

Several areas of support needed to accomplish the objectives of the RMP have been mentioned elsewhere in this document. For example, fire suppression

and presuppression will be a key support requirement for several resources including soils, wildlife habitat, and livestock forage. Other support services will also be required.

Cadastral survey will be needed to establish legal boundaries for parcels transferred from public ownership, retention of legal access through transferred parcels, wilderness areas, trespass settlement, and mineral material sale or free use areas.

Appraisal support will be needed to establish the value of tracts transferred from public ownership and trespass settlement.

Legal services will be required for review of real estate documents.

Law enforcement will be needed to ensure compliance with the designations, use levels, and restrictions established in the RMP.

Engineering services will be required for survey and design of range improvements and road building and maintenance.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The results of implementing the selected RMP will be examined periodically to inform the resource managers and public of the progress of the plan. The results being achieved under the plan will be compared with the plan objectives.

Monitoring and evaluation help the resource managers

- to determine whether an action is accomplishing the intended purpose,
- to determine whether mitigating measures are satisfactory,
- to determine if the decisions in the plan are being implemented,
- to determine if the related plans of other agencies, governments, or Indian tribes have changed, resulting in an inconsistency with the RMP,
- to identify any unanticipated or unpredictable effects, and
- to identify new data of significance to the plan.

The proposed monitoring and evaluation plan for the Monument RMP is shown on pages 43 through 45. The plan specifies resource components to be monitored, how they will be monitored, where they will be monitored, the estimated cost of monitoring, and a suggested threshold level that will warrant a management concern. If future monitoring shows a variation from RMP objectives warranting management concern, the reasons for the variation will be examined

closely. Modification of a RMP decision may be needed, or the variation may be due to factors beyond BLM's control, such as climatic or economic fluctuations.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The following statewide guidelines direct BLM management on public lands in Idaho.

Air Quality

Under the Clean Air Act (as amended, 1977), BLM-administered lands were given Class II air quality classification, which allows moderate deterioration associated with moderate, well-controlled industrial and population growth. BLM will manage all public lands as Class II unless they are reclassified by the State as a result of the procedures prescribed in the Clean Air Act (as amended, 1977). Administrative actions on the public lands will comply with the air quality classification for that specific area.

Allowable Uses

The public lands will be managed under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield as required by FLPMA. Any valid use, occupancy, and development of the public lands, including but not limited to, those requiring rights-of-way, leases, and licenses will be considered, subject to applicable environmental review procedures, unless specifically excluded in the plan. In some areas, however, environmental values, hazards, or manageability considerations may require limitations on either the type or intensity of use, or both. Those limitations are identified in the plan's land use allocations and management objectives for specific areas within the public lands. BLM will include stipulations and special conditions as necessary in leases, licenses, and permits to ensure the protection and preservation of resources.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs) are established through the planning process as provided in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act

for "...areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards." Management is tailored to the specific needs of each ACEC.

Coordination With Other Agencies, State and Local Governments, and Indian Tribes

BLM will coordinate its review of detailed management plans and individual projects prepared in conjunction with the RMP to ensure consistency with officially adopted and approved plans, policies, and programs of other agencies, State and local governments, and Indian tribes. Cooperative agreements and memoranda of understanding will be developed, as necessary, to promote close cooperation between BLM and other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and Indian tribes.

Cultural Resources

BLM will manage cultural resources so that representative samples of the full array of scientific and socio-cultural values are maintained or enhanced consistent with State and Federal laws.

Detailed Management Plans

The RMP provides general guidance for the resource area. More detailed management plans, called activity plans, will be prepared to deal with areas where a greater level of detail is required. Activity plans will indicate specific management practices, improvements, allocations, and other information for a particular site or area. They will be prepared for most major BLM programs such as range (allotment management plans), recreation (recreation area management plans), wildlife (habitat management plans), and cultural resources (cultural resources activity plans.). Where two or more activities have activity plan needs in the same general area, a single consolidated activity plan may be prepared. Coordination, consultation, and public involvement are integral parts in the formulation of activity plans.

Economic and Social Considerations

BLM will ensure that any management action undertaken in connection with this plan is cost-effective and takes into account local social and economic factors. Cost-effectiveness may be determined by any method deemed appropriate by the Bureau for the specific management action involved.

Environmental Reviews

The NEPA process will be conducted on all projects prior to approval. This site-specific analysis will allow some projects to be considered under provisions of the categorical review process and others to be considered under the environmental assessment process.

Fish and Wildlife

BLM will manage fish and wildlife habitat on the public lands. A variety of methods may be employed, including management actions designed to maintain or improve wildlife habitat, inclusion of stipulations or conditions in BLM leases, licenses, and permits, and development of detailed plans for fish and wildlife habitat management. Priority will be given to habitat for listed and candidate threatened and endangered species and sensitive species. If any listed or candidate threatened or endangered species may be affected by BLM actions, the Fish and Wildlife Service will be consulted as prescribed by the Endangered Species Act.

Riparian and wetlands habitat have a high priority for protection and improvement in accordance with National policy. All BLM management actions will comply with Federal and State laws concerning fish and wildlife.

Geology, Energy, and Minerals

Geology, Energy, and Minerals Management

BLM will manage geological, energy, and minerals resources on the public lands. Geological resources will be managed so that significant scientific, recreational, and educational values will be maintained or enhanced. Generally, the public lands are available for mineral exploration and development, subject to applicable regulations and Federal and State laws.

Location of Mining Claims

Location of mining claims in accordance with the State and Federal mining laws and regulations is nondiscretionary. The public lands are available for location of mining claims unless withdrawn. Recommendations by BLM for withdrawal are subject to final consideration by the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

Leasing and Sale

Energy and minerals leasing and mineral materials sale is discretionary. Approval of an application for lease or sale is subject to environmental review in the NEPA process and may include stipulations to protect other resources. Generally, the public lands may be considered for energy and minerals leasing and sale.

The entire Monument Planning Area will be open to mineral leasing. Some stipulations have been identified in the Monument RMP and are identified in the management prescriptions for multiple use areas, where applicable, in each alternative.

Land Tenure Adjustment

The public lands will be retained in Federal ownership and managed by BLM according to the principles of multiple use and sustained yield, except those lands specifically identified in the plan or amendment as transfer areas. Transfer areas are those public lands identified through the planning process which are available for transfer from Federal ownership.

Transfer of public land within a transfer area may be accomplished by any means authorized by law. Final transfer from BLM jurisdiction, however, is subject to a decision by the authorized officer, based on detailed analysis and such documentation as prescribed by law or regulation.

Mineral in character lands will not be identified as transfer areas.

Wilderness study areas (WSAs) and designated wilderness areas will not be identified as transfer areas.

Lands may be acquired by BLM as authorized by law, but only within retention areas (multiple use areas). Objectives for acquiring lands in connection with BLM programs may be established in the RMP.

BLM will manage transfer areas until transfer of title occurs. Management actions will be taken as necessary to meet resource or user needs. Public investments in transfer areas will be kept to a minimum.

All lands classifications, including those made under the Classification and Multiple Use Act of September 19, 1964 (43 U.S.C. 1411-18), will be reviewed in the planning process to determine if they are still appropriate. Review will consider whether the classifications are necessary to meet management objectives established in the RMP and whether the land is being used for the purpose classified. Classifications will be cancelled unless they are necessary to implement the RMP decisions.

Motorized Vehicle Access and Use

Through the planning process, public lands are placed in one of three categories for purposes of controlling motorized vehicle access: open, limited, and closed. Guidelines for these categories are as follows:

1. Open. Motorized vehicles may travel anywhere.
2. Limited. Motorized vehicles are permitted, subject to specified conditions such as seasonal limitations, speed limits, and designated routes of travel as developed during subsequent activity planning.
3. Closed. Motorized vehicles are prohibited.

Public Utilities

Generally, public lands may be considered for the installation of public utilities, except where expressly closed by law or regulation. Project approval will be subject to preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. BLM will work closely with Idaho Public Utilities Commission, other State and Federal agencies, local governments, utility companies, and other interested parties to determine appropriate locations and environmental safeguards for public utilities involving public lands.

In the Monument Planning Area, rights-of-way in common will be used whenever possible. Proposed utility developments identified by the public utility industries follow existing right-of-way routes very well. Because of the lack of resource conflicts, utility corridors were not identified as an issue for the Monument RMP and no corridors have been established. Utility developments would be prohibited in wilderness study areas (WSAs) recommended suitable for designation.