

Table 2-1. Threatened and Endangered Animals in the EIS Area

| Species | State Status/Occurrence | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | Federal Status | Idaho Status | Montana Status | Oregon Status | Washington Status | Wyoming Status |
| Mammals | | | | | | |
| Grizzly bear, <i>Ursus arctos horribilis</i> | T | T | T | - | T | T |
| Woodland caribou, <i>Rangifer tarandus caribou</i> | E | E | E | - | E | - |
| Black-footed ferret, <i>Mustela nigripes</i> | E | - | E | - | - | E |
| Wolverine, <i>Gulo gulo</i> | - | - | - | T | - | - |
| Columbia white-tailed deer, <i>Odocoileus virginianus leucurus</i> | E | - | - | E | E | - |
| Southern sea otter, <i>Enhydra lutris nereis</i> | T | - | - | T | E | - |
| Gray wolf, <i>Canis lupus</i> | E | E | E | - | E | E |
| Pygmy rabbit, <i>Sylvilagus idahoensis</i> | - | - | - | - | T | - |
| Birds | | | | | | |
| Peregrine falcon, <i>Falco peregrinus tundrius</i> | T | - | - | E | E | - |
| Peregrine falcon, <i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i> | E | E | E | E | E | E |
| Bald eagle, <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus anascanus</i> | E/T | E | E | T | T | E |
| Whooping crane, <i>Grus americana</i> | E | E | E | - | - | E |
| Northern spotted owl, <i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i> | - | - | - | T | T | - |
| Short-tailed albatross, <i>Diomedea albatrus</i> | E | - | - | - | - | - |
| California condor, <i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> | E | - | - | - | - | - |
| Brown pelican, <i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i> | E | - | - | E | E | - |
| Aleutian Canada Geese, <i>Branta canadensis leucopareia</i> | E | - | - | E | E | - |
| White pelican, <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i> | - | O | O | O | O | O |
| Sandhill crane, <i>Crus Canadensis</i> | - | O | O | O | E | O |
| Snowy Plover, <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> | - | - | - | T | E | E |
| Upland sandpiper, <i>Bartramia longicauda</i> | - | - | - | - | E | - |
| Ferruginous hawk, <i>Buteo regalis</i> | - | O | O | O | O | E |
| Amphibians | | | | | | |
| Western spotted frog, <i>Rana pretiosa</i> | - | - | - | T | - | - |
| Wyoming toad, <i>Bufo hemniophrys baxteri</i> | E | - | - | - | - | E |
| Western pond turtle, <i>Clemmys marmorata</i> | - | - | - | - | T | E |
| Fish | | | | | | |
| Bonytail chub, <i>Gila elegans</i> | E | - | - | - | - | E |
| Borax Lake chub, <i>Gila boraxobius</i> | E | - | - | E | - | - |
| Humpback chub, <i>Gila cypha</i> | E | - | - | - | - | E |
| Kendall warm springs dace, <i>Rhinichthys osculus thermalis</i> | E | - | - | - | - | E |
| Colorado squawfish, <i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i> | E | - | - | - | - | E |
| Hutton Tui chub, <i>Gila bicolor</i> | T | - | - | O | - | - |
| Foskett speckled dace, <i>Rhinichthys osculus</i> | T | - | - | O | - | - |
| Warner sucker, <i>Catostomus warnermesis</i> | P | - | - | O | - | - |
| Insects | | | | | | |
| Oregon silverspot butterfly, <i>Speyeria zerene hippolyta</i> | T | - | - | O | T | - |

T = Threatened
P = Proposed for designation as threatened or endangered
E = Endangered
O = Occurrence in state/Protected

features visible on public lands. Highways, rivers, and trails of the five states pass through a variety of characteristic landscapes where natural attractions such as waterfalls can be seen and where cultural modifications exist. To enable visual resources to be considered when planning weed management, public lands have been assigned visual resource management (VRM) classes according to scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zone criteria. VRM classes provide objectives designed to mitigate adverse impacts of land management practices on scenic values (BLM Manual 8400). VRM maps and narratives derived from inventories and evaluations of visual resources on public lands may be examined in respective BLM district offices.

Among the outdoor recreation activities occurring on BLM lands in the EIS area are sightseeing, picnicking, camping, fishing, and hunting. Other popular activities are off-road vehicle use, horseback riding, river floating, and the studying of natural features. Some of these activities, such as camping and picnicking, occur at recreation sites that have noxious weeds. Table 2-2 shows annual recreation visits on BLM lands. Detailed information on recreational use of public lands may be obtained at BLM district offices.

Wilderness and Special Areas

The EIS area contains five designated wilderness areas totalling 19,700 acres and 224 wilderness study areas (WSAs) totalling 5,221,500 acres. The EIS area also has many designated or proposed special areas such as areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs), natural areas, scenic waterways, and scenic trails.

Economic Conditions

The five states in the EIS area are presented as the regional economy that would be affected by the Proposed Action or alternatives. The five states had a 1980 population of 8.9 million, a 24 percent increase over the 1970 population. Table 2-3 shows population fluctuations over the past three decades, and Table 2-4 shows income and employment for the EIS area.

BLM administers roughly 52 million of the region's 312 million acres, or 17 percent of the land base (USDI, BLM 1984). The average annual cost of controlling weeds on BLM land in the EIS area in 1982 and 1983 amounted to \$344,000.

Several studies have reported estimates of the magnitude of losses from noxious weeds on all lands, both public and private.

The annual forage loss on all lands to range users caused by spotted knapweed alone is estimated at \$4.5 million in Montana (Bucher 1984). A University of Idaho study estimated the annual economic loss from weeds in Idaho to exceed \$500 million (Lewiston Morning Tribune 1980). In illustrating potential economic losses, Pehallegon (1983) estimated \$19.5 million in economic losses from 4.5 million acres of weed-infested range lands in Washington State.

Economic losses from poisonous plants occur on

Table 2-2. Annual Recreation Visits on BLM-Administered Lands, 1983

| | Ore. | Wash. | Idaho | Mont. | Wyo. | Total |
|--------------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Hunting | 862,800 | 2,400 | 6,286,400 | 579,400 | 4,063,000 | 11,794,000 |
| Fishing | 813,600 | 12,600 | 404,800 | 786,000 | 285,200 | 2,302,200 |
| Camping | 419,625 | 4,000 | 543,125 | 393,750 | 441,625 | 1,802,125 |
| Boating | 565,750 | 21,000 | 550,750 | 204,250 | 1,261,250 | 2,603,000 |
| O.R.V. | 95,250 | 57,000 | 267,750 | 596,500 | 667,750 | 1,684,250 |
| Other | 1,818,750 | 13,000 | 1,010,750 | 1,823,250 | 1,477,250 | 6,143,000 |
| Total | | | | | | 26,328,575 |

Recreation Visit: A visit, whether for a few minutes, a full day, or more, to BLM-administered lands and waters by a person to engage in any recreation activities, except those part of or incidental to the pursuit of a gainful occupation.

Source: USDI, BLM 1984.

Table 2-3. Population, 1960-1980

| | 1960 | 1970 | 1980 |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Idaho | 667,191 | 713,015 | 943,935 |
| Montana | 674,767 | 694,409 | 786,690 |
| Oregon | 1,768,687 | 2,091,533 | 2,633,105 |
| Washington | 2,853,214 | 3,413,244 | 4,132,156 |
| Wyoming | 330,066 | 332,416 | 469,557 |
| Region | 6,293,925 | 7,244,617 | 8,965,443 |
| United States | 179,323,175 | 203,235,298 | 225,504,825 |

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1980.

public lands in the EIS area. Data adapted from Nielson (1978) shows the annual estimate from mortality and reduced calving or lambing would amount to \$12 million annually on lands of all ownerships:

Cattle - 1 percent mortality of adult animals (\$250/head) - \$3,827,000

Cattle - 1 percent reduction in calf crop (\$160) - \$2,449,300

Sheep - 3.5 mortality of adult animals (\$50/head) - \$4,230,600

Sheep - 1 percent in reduction in lamb crop (\$45/head) - \$1,631,800

These estimates are based on the assumption that some degree of poisonous weed control is accomplished.

Social Environment

The social environment affected by BLM's weed control program includes individuals; the companies and businesses they work for; the communities, organizations, and groups they have formed; and their agencies and institutions of government. The social environment also includes attitudes, opinions, and perceptions about weed control policies and practices. For this EIS, BLM did not undertake a detailed social analysis of the EIS area that included a population profile, demographic analysis, institutional analysis, or formal public opinion survey. During the past several years, however,

Table 2-4. Employment and Personal Income, 1982

| | Idaho | Montana | Oregon | Washington | Wyoming | United States |
|---|-------|---------|--------|------------|---------|---------------|
| Employment by Source (Thousand Employees) | | | | | | |
| Totals ¹ | 416 | 367 | 1,168 | 1,925 | 266 | 106,068 |
| Proprietor | | | | | | |
| Farm | 27 | 24 | 41 | 44 | 9 | 2,723 |
| Non Farm | 43 | 42 | 120 | 154 | 23 | 7,473 |
| Wage and Salary | | | | | | |
| Farm | 23 | 10 | 27 | 48 | 6 | 1,321 |
| Non Farm | | | | | | |
| Agricultural | 5 | 2 | 10 | 16 | 2 | 591 |
| Services | | | | | | |
| Mining | 4 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 35 | 1,124 |
| Construction | 14 | 13 | 29 | 73 | 19 | 3,875 |
| Manufacturing | 48 | 21 | 186 | 287 | 9 | 18,856 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 19 | 23 | 56 | 88 | 18 | 5,082 |
| Wholesale Trade | 22 | 17 | 62 | 98 | 10 | 5,321 |
| Retail Trade | 54 | 55 | 176 | 279 | 38 | 15,204 |
| Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate | 15 | 14 | 58 | 92 | 8 | 5,500 |
| Services | 64 | 62 | 200 | 335 | 36 | 20,415 |
| Government | | | | | | |
| Federal, Civilian | 12 | 13 | 29 | 66 | 7 | 2,909 |
| Federal, Military | 9 | 8 | 10 | 95 | 6 | 2,630 |
| State and Local | 57 | 54 | 162 | 247 | 40 | 13,044 |
| Total Personal Income (Thousand \$) | 8,710 | 7,680 | 27,350 | 49,110 | 6,210 | 2,751,520 |
| Per Capita Income (\$) | 8,937 | 9,544 | 10,231 | 11,466 | 12,211 | 11,100 |

¹Consists of wage and salary jobs (full and part-time) plus number of proprietors.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis 1984.