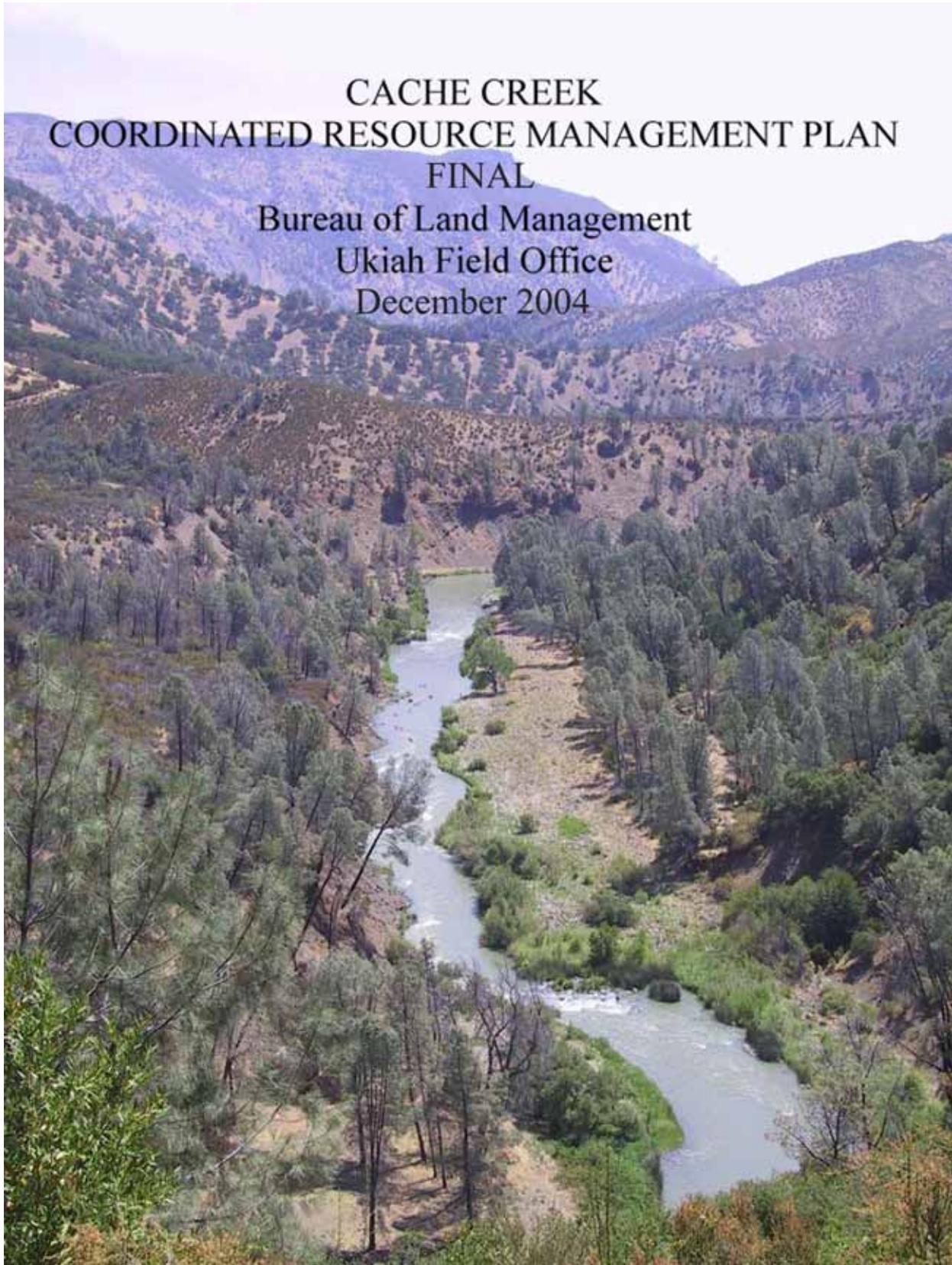


**CACHE CREEK
COORDINATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FINAL**

**Bureau of Land Management
Ukiah Field Office
December 2004**





United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ukiah Field Office
2550 N. State Street
Ukiah, CA 95482
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Dear Reader,

Enclosed is the Final Cache Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP). This plan provides the framework for the future management direction of BLM lands included within the Cache Creek Natural Area. Additional cooperators with this plan include the California Department of Fish and Game, which manages the Cache Creek Wildlife Area, and Yolo County Parks and Resources Management which manages Cache Creek Canyon Regional Park.

The Draft CRMP was released in September 2002, and considered several alternatives with varying degrees of habitat development/resource protection and primitive recreation development. Based on public input to this draft at public meetings and from written responses, emails, faxes, and phone messages a Proposed Action was developed that best prioritized the protection of resource values while allowing a compatible level of primitive recreational use.

Each of the projects proposed in this CRMP will be evaluated in an Environmental Assessment that will present several alternatives and discuss the environmental impacts of each alternative.

I thank everyone who commented on the Draft and provided helpful suggestions in developing this CRMP.

Sincerely,

Rich Burns
Ukiah Field Office Manager

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

**Cache Creek
Coordinated Resource Management Plan/
Environmental Assessment
Final**

Prepared by:

**Ukiah Field Office
December, 2004**



Rich Burns

Rich Burns
Ukiah Field Office Manager

December 14, 2004

Date

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Executive Summary

The alternative selected for the Cache Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) Final is the action that was best determined to balance the protection of natural and cultural resource values while still allowing a compatible level of recreational use.

Based on public written and email responses received during the comment period for the September, 2002 Draft Plan, the majority of those providing comments supported the Draft's Proposed Action (See Appendix 4 – Public Participation Plan).

In this Final CRMP there are some changes from the Draft Plan Proposed Action, but for the most part the Proposed Action has been kept intact. Detailed discussions of the Proposed Action as recommended by the Ukiah Field Office Manager are found in Chapter 3, as well as discussions of several key issues critical to the implementation of this plan – some new issues, and several others expanded upon in greater detail.

Comments generated following the release of the initial public draft of this plan in September, 2002, and from subsequent public meetings in October 2002 reaffirmed support for the BLM's Draft Proposed Action of maintaining undisturbed natural values, with a secondary goal of providing opportunities for a compatible level of primitive recreation within the Cache Creek Natural Area, hereinafter referred to as the CCNA. Without an approved plan in place, public lands here would be left open to unmanaged land uses that could degrade resource values and quality of primitive recreation. The Proposed Action is consistent with the Clear Lake Resource Area Management Framework Plan Update (BLM, 1984), the general plan currently in effect for BLM lands under the jurisdiction of the Ukiah Field Office. An updated planning effort involving the preparation of a Resource Management Plan (RMP) that will supercede the old MFP is currently being developed and will be completed in 2006.

This CRMP is intended to be a flexible or working document. It is by no means considered a complete document of all management actions that will be recommended for the CCNA. As new and different issues arise, the management focus will be to address these issues in concert with the public.

It is important to note that this CRMP is not intended to be a clearinghouse for all projects proposed for the CCNA. Rather, it discusses a range of several types of potential projects in general terms (wildlife habitat management, noxious plant control, riparian restoration, recreational developments, etc.). For each project subsequently proposed, an Environmental Assessment will be prepared which will detail the specific alternatives, locations, actions, impacts and any necessary stipulations.

Impacts from the Proposed Action are expected to be minimal. These impacts would come primarily from wildlife habitat improvements and habitat restoration

activities such as the various techniques employed to manage noxious weeds. Additional impacts would come from construction of public use facilities and the increased presence and activities of visitors taking advantage of recreational opportunities. A detailed discussion of the anticipated impacts from the Proposed Action, along with mitigation measures is found in Chapter 4.

In 2001 a Technical Review Team was assembled to evaluate the Draft CRMP prior to initial public release. Volunteer members of the Team and the interest they represented included:

- Mike Ford, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (Wildlife issues)
- Jim Swanson, Dept. of Fish & Game (Wildlife issues)
- Jim Ball, Director Yolo County Parks and Facilities (Recreation issues)
- James Austin, Backcountry Horsemen (Recreation issues)
- Craig Thomsen, Dept. of Agronomy and Range Science, UC Davis (Research)
- Jeff Smith, Supervisor District 2, Lake County (Local government issues)
- Doug White, supervisor District 2, Colusa County (Local government issues)
- Jim Eaton, California Wilderness Coalition (Wilderness issues)
- Ray Krauss, Homestake Mining Company (Industry issues)
- Kesner Flores, Cortina Rancheria (Native American issues)
- Chet Vogt, California Cattlemen's Association (Grazing issues)

Other members were subsequently added to the Technical Review Team including:

- Jerry Hartwig, Yolo County Parks Board
- Andrew Fulks, Yolo County Parks Board
- Scott Koller, Dept. of Fish & Game

Two meetings of the TRT were held prior to release of the initial public draft of September, 2002. A third meeting was held on July 10, 2004 prior to release of the Final Plan to review changes made following the public comment period.

Public participation and comment was solicited through a series of meetings following release of the Draft CRMP in September 2002, as well as email and written comments. These are also summarized in Appendix 4.