

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN



2011



The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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Chapter 1 – Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Fire Management Plan

This Fire Management Plan will help achieve land use planning goals and objectives. Fire management decisions must be consistent and compatible across administrative boundaries. The plan must be consistent with resource management objectives and environmental laws and regulations. Fire Management Plans and their programs are based on a foundation of science and research that support ongoing efforts to increase knowledge of biological, physical and sociological factors. Key components considered when developing the FMP included firefighter and public safety, values at risk, natural and cultural resources, and public health issues. This FMP provides direction for Fire and Fuels Management Activities.

In 2002, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) instructed all offices to use the new Interagency Fire Management Plan (FMP) template to set wildland fire management goals and components to be coordinated across administrative boundaries and on a landscape basis. In April 2009, a revised Interagency template was created and mandated for use. The following Fire Management Plan will adhere to the new template.

1.2 General Description of Area and Management Designations

This plan serves as the approved Fire Management Plan (FMP) for the Wyoming High Desert District, which includes all public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Rock Springs, Rawlins, Kemmerer, and Pinedale Field Offices (see Appendix 11). The three tier realignment which became effective on October 1, 2008 (the Fire Program was effective March 3, 2008) is reflected in this document. The two other BLM districts in Wyoming are the Wind River/Bighorn Basin District (Worland, Cody, Lander Field Offices), and the Wyoming High Plains District (Casper, Buffalo, and the Newcastle Field Offices). Communication and coordination with the BLM counterparts in the other two districts will not change.

The Fire Management Plan directs fire and fuels activities on a Fire Management Unit (FMUs) basis, which addresses all potential wildland fire occurrences, planned ignitions, and other vegetative treatments. The Wyoming High Desert District manages 27 FMUs. FMUs may include a full range of management actions and are defined by natural and administrative boundaries, land management objectives, constraints, values at risk, fire occurrence patterns, access, and vegetation patterns. The FMU development allows Field Managers and Fire Management personnel to more effectively address land management objectives, constraints, and strategies to meet compliance with Resource Management Plans (RMPs) and other documents listed above. FMUs are developed in coordination with Field Office resource professionals, cooperators, and adjoining agencies to ensure consistency with approved land management plans.

1.3 Management Goals and Desired Outcomes

This plan will guide the High Desert District in employing a flexible suppression strategy based on safety and resource management considerations that are identified in the most currently approved RMPs for the four Field Offices within the District. This FMP documents the fire management objectives, strategies and resource considerations based on interdisciplinary input and interagency collaboration. This FMP describes strategies to meet Land Use Plan goals and objectives for desired conditions. A more detailed list of management goals is addressed in Section 3.1.

Chapter 2 – Policy, Land Management Planning and Partnerships

2.1 Fire Policy

“Fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and legal consequences of fire. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to fire” (*1995/2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy*).

2.1.1 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy

This FMP meets the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy by following these guiding principles:

1. Firefighter and public safety is the first priority in every fire management activity.
2. The role of wildland fire as an essential ecological process and natural change agent will be incorporated into the planning process.
3. Fire management plans, programs, and activities support land and resources management plans and their implementation.
4. Sound risk management is a foundation for all fire management activities.
5. Fire management programs and activities are economically viable, based upon values to be protected, costs, and land and resource management objectives.
6. Fire management plans and activities are based upon the best available science.
7. Fire management plans and activities incorporate public health and environmental quality considerations.
8. Federal, State, tribal, local, interagency, and international coordination and cooperation are essential.
9. Standardization of policies and procedures among federal agencies is an ongoing objective.

2.1.2 National Fire Plan Goals

This FMP meets the policy and direction in the National Fire Plan because it emphasizes the four primary goals of the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy and Cohesive Strategy for Protecting People and Sustaining Natural Resources:

- Improving fire prevention and suppression;
- Reducing hazardous fuels;
- Restoring fire-adapted ecosystems; and
- Promoting community assistance.

2.1.3 National Interagency Statutes

The following National Interagency statutes and agreements contain legal requirements and authorities to plan and carry out activities to manage wildland fire on Department of the Interior lands. The acts provide a basis for cooperation between Agencies on all aspects of wildfire management and to facilitate the cooperative use of fire related resources for non fire emergencies.

- Protection Act of September 20, 1922 (42 Stat. 857; 16 U.S.C. 594)
- National Forest Indian Resources Management Act of 1991 (Pub. L. 101-630)
- The Economy Act of 1932. Act of June 30, 1932 (41 U.S.C. 686)
- The Granger-Thye Act of April 24, 1950 (16 U.S.C. 572)
- The Reciprocal Fire Protection Act, Act of May 27, 1955 (42 U.S.C. 1856)
- The Wilderness Suppression Act, Act of April 7, 1989 (Pub. L. 100-428 as amended by Pub. L. 101-11. April 7, 1987)
- Supplemental Appropriation Act of September 10, 1982 (96 Stat. 837)
- Disaster Relief Act of May 22, 1974 (88 Stat 143; 42 U.S.C. 5121)
- Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 through 1544)
- Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976
- The Canada/United States, Reciprocal Forest Firefighting Resources Arrangement, May 7, 1982
- MOU between the Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture, January 11, 1943
- MOU between the Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture, 1976
- MOU between the Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture and National Weather Service, 1972
- Interagency Agreement between the Department of Interior, Department of Agriculture, 1982
- Interagency Agreement Between the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, USFWS of the Department of Interior, and the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture.

2.1.4 Interagency Standards

Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations provides fire and fire aviation program management direction for Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, USFWS, and National Park Service managers. Employees engaged in fire management activities will continue to comply with all agency specific health and safety policy documents, and with fire operations standards stated in the *NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide* (PMS 461, NFES 1077) and the *NWCG Fireline Handbook* (PMS 410-1, NFES 0065).

2.1.5 Resource Management Goals

The Fire Management policies of the BLM support agency resource management goals. An overriding resource goal is the restoration or maintenance of natural ecosystems while providing for firefighter and public safety, followed by protection of natural and cultural resources, and human developments from unwanted wildland fire. Fire is a critical natural process and will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale crossing agency boundaries. This plan is consistent with decisions in the Green River, Pinedale, Kemmerer, and Rawlins RMPs. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses are prepared for actions initiated under this FMP, except in emergency situations such as wildfire suppression. If a proposed action is not consistent with RMP decisions, the NEPA analysis may provide the rationale and basis for a RMP amendment.

2.1.6 Department of the Interior Policy

This Fire Management Plan meets Department of the Interior policy found in 620 DM 1 by using management response to unplanned ignitions and planned ignitions both as a natural process and as a tool in the planning process.

2.1.7 Agency Specific Policies

The following agency specific policies contain legal requirements and authorities to plan and carry out activities to manage wildland fire on Department of the Interior lands.

- Department Manual 910
- Bureau Manual 9200
- Bureau Manual 8560, Management of Designated Wilderness Areas
- Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003
- Healthy Forest Initiative
- Taylor Grazing Act of June 28, 1934
- DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*
- BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*
- Current Wyoming Sage-Grouse and Sagebrush Management Plans
- BLM LUP Handbook H-1601-01

2.1.8 District Specific Policies

The following are District specific policies that are associated with Fire Management within the High Desert District.

- High Desert District Aviation Plan
- High Desert District Initial Attack Plan
- State of Wyoming, Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement
- Lincoln County Annual Operating Plan
- Fremont County Annual Operating Plan
- Sublette County Annual Operating Plan
- Sweetwater County Annual Operating Plan
- Teton County Annual Operating Plan
- Uinta County Annual Operating Plan
- Carbon County Annual Operating Plan
- Albany County Annual Operating Plan
- Laramie County Annual Operating Plan

2.1.9 Other Policies and Guidelines

FMPs are to be developed for all areas subject to wildland fires in compliance with the following:

- Guidance for Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy – February 2009
- Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review – 1995 and 2001
- “Urban Wildland Interface Communities Within the Vicinity of Federal Lands that are at High Risk from Wildfire,” *Federal Register*, vol. 66, no. 3, January 4, 2001, (<http://www.blm.gov/natacq/FIRE/urbinter.html>).
- A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment
- 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan
- Resource Management Plans
- Interagency Fire Management Plan Template
- Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations
- Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Reference Guide
- Bureau Manuals 9211, 9212 Fire Planning and Fire Prevention

Operational plans such as preparedness, pre-planned dispatch, standard operating guidelines, planned ignition plans and prevention plans and Aviation Plans supplement the FMP.

2.2 Land / Resource Management Planning

For Interagency cooperation documents, refer to the above listed Annual Operating Plans between the High Desert District and our cooperators. This FMP complies with all laws, regulations, and policies, and is in conformance with the following RMPs and other planning documents associated with each Field Office:

- Green River Resource Management Plan August 1997
- Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan July 2006
- Snake River Resource Management Plan April 2004
- Kemmerer Resource Management Plan May 2010
- Pinedale Resource Management Plan November 2008
- Rawlins Resource Management Plan December 2008

2.3 Partnerships

In addition to the DOI Departmental Manual (910 DM), the High Desert District Fire Management Plan is an integrated supporting document for applicable RMP(s). The RMPs are mandated to be compliant with all federal, state, and local environmental policies.

This document was created by an Interdisciplinary Team of individuals from each Field Office in the Wyoming High Desert District. The Fire Management Officer provided direction during the creation of this Fire Management Plan.

The High Desert District Fire Management Plan has been a cooperative planning effort between federal agencies, state agencies, and local volunteer fire departments.

- Bureau of Land Management
 - Kemmerer Field Office
 - Pinedale Field Office
 - Rawlins Field Office
 - Rock Springs Field Office
- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Seedskadee National Wildlife Refuge
 - Cokeville National Wildlife Refuge
 - Mortenson Lake National Wildlife Refuge
 - Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge
- National Park Service
 - Fossil Butte National Monument
- USDA Forest Service
 - Ashley National Forest – Flaming Gorge National Recreational Area
 - Bridger-Teton National Forest
 - Wasatch-Cache National Forest
 - Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest
- Wyoming State Department of Forestry
- Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- Rural and Volunteer Fire Departments
 - Sweetwater County
 - Lincoln County
 - Uinta County
 - Teton County
 - Sublette County
 - Laramie County
 - Carbon County
 - Albany County
 - Fremont County

Chapter 3 – Fire Management Unit Characteristics

3.1 Area-Wide Management Considerations

Invasive Species – Control the introduction and proliferation of noxious and invasive species and reduce established populations to acceptable levels determined through cooperation, consultation, and coordination with local, state, other federal plans, policies, and agency agreements.

Cultural Resources – Reduce imminent threats from natural or human-caused deterioration or potential conflict with other resource uses to protect and preserve cultural resources to ensure that they are available for appropriate uses by present and future generations.

Recreation/WSA – Ensure the continued availability and accessibility of outdoor recreational opportunities sought by the public while preventing or mitigating potential resource damage from recreational users. Provide for the health and safety of visitors. Within the WSAs and ACEC, specific guidelines for suppression are referred to in the Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics Implementation Guidelines and BLM Manual H-8550-1 Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review. The strategy is to provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing impacts to the WSA values. Surface disturbing activities, including temporary fire camps and other sites used for fire suppression activities, must be located out of the WSA. Travel is limited to existing roads and trails. Landing aircraft of any type should be avoided, except in life treating situations. Minimize cutting of live and burned trees and snags. In the event that a tree poses a safety hazard and needs to be cut, trees should be cut flush to the ground and naturalized, and limbs should be scattered. Refrain from making piles. Scatter limbs and burned material in a natural looking manner.

Infrastructure – Protect the District managed mineral resources from available BLM-administered public lands and federal minerals while minimizing the impacts to the environment, public health and safety, and other resource values and uses to provide opportunities for exploration and development of conventional and unconventional oil and gas, coal, and other leasable minerals.

Grazing – Maintain and enhance forage production and ecological conditions for the benefit of livestock use in conformance with other resource management objectives.

Wildlife – Manage for the biological integrity and habitat function of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems to sustain and optimize distribution and abundance of all native, desirable non-native, and Special Status fish and wildlife species.

Communities at Risk – The 2001 *Federal Register* Notice lists the urban wildland interface communities in the vicinity of Federal lands that are at high risk from wildfire. The operational roles of federal agencies as partners in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) consist of wildland firefighting, hazard fuels reduction, cooperative prevention and education, and technical assistance. Additional operational roles include preventing the movement of wildfires from the wildlands into the WUI area, and out of the WUI area into the wildlands as well as improving efficiency of wildfire suppression in WUI situations.

Emergency Stabilization and Restoration – Reduce the negative ecological impacts as a result of wildfire or wildfire suppression. The need for Burned Area Emergency Response will be determined on a case by case basis. All actions will be implemented according to DOI and BLM specific guidelines.

Fuels Management – Maintain or enhance vegetation community health, composition, and diversity in order to meet multiple resource management objectives as well as reduce hazardous fuel loading in wildland urban interface areas that pose significant risk to man made improvements.

Public Safety – The protection of human life is the single overriding priority.

3.1.1 Common Wildland Fire Management Goals

A full range of management responses are acceptable in the FMUs depending on ownership, resource availability, local fire situation, public/firefighter safety, minimizing costs, resource objectives, agreements, and other issues. These include, but are not limited to, full suppression, use of natural barriers and areas of sparse fuels, monitoring, and management response to unplanned ignitions. Response to wildland fire for resource benefit may be applied in identified areas when plans are in place. Management strategies and responses to resource requirements are noted in the FMUs according to resource values and considerations that help achieve ecosystem sustainability, including its interrelated ecological, economic, and social components and legal consequences of Wildfire. Circumstances under which a fire occurs and the likely consequences of firefighter safety, public safety, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the management responses to unplanned ignitions.

The following is a list of wildland fire management goals common to all Fire Management Units. These goals provide the programmatic direction for the FMP.

- All suppression actions will be based on life/safety, property, and resource values.
- Maintain interagency cooperation to facilitate coordinated fire management activities across administrative boundaries. This includes utilizing the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations* (Red Book).
- Fire management objectives and activities will support the BLM fire policy (National Fire Plan, Fire Management Implementation Plan for the BLM-administered public lands in the State of Wyoming and the 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Policy) and District management plans, analyses, and assessments.
- Planned and unplanned ignitions will be used to achieve resource objectives to reduce accumulations of fuels outside the normal range of variability.
- Work collaboratively with communities at risk within the WUI to develop plans for risk reduction.
- Planned and unplanned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and/or biological treatments will be used to manage vegetation types and to maintain or improve biological diversity and the health of public lands. In particular, plant species and age class diversity will be priority.
- A full range of fire management activities will be used to achieve ecosystem sustainability, including its interrelated ecological, economic, and social components.
- Managing wildland fire for resource benefit will be used as appropriate.
- Fire and fuels management direction will be based on a variety of resource objectives and constraints.
- All attempts will be made to manage wildland fires and fuels treatments in a cost effective manner.
- On all BLM-administered lands within all FMU's, Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) will be used whenever property or firefighter safety is not threatened. Roads, riparian areas, and natural fuel breaks should be used in association with indirect tactics to stop the fire in place of new fire line construction whenever possible.
- When appropriate, wildland fires will be assessed and Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) plans developed and implemented under national guidelines.

- Support of the local economy may be provided through the opportunity for salvage logging and biomass utilization. Local vendors and contractors will be used within the fire and fuels program when available to support local economy.
- The full range of wildland fire and fuels practices will be implemented. Planned ignitions, a management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments will be used to move affected landscapes toward the desired future condition as described in the respective RMPs.
- To minimize the spread of noxious weeds, equipment used for suppression will be cleaned before arriving on-site. Staging areas and fire camps will not be located on sites with noxious weed infestations.
- When aerial resources are using retardant applications, riparian areas or rock surfaces known or suspected of having rock art will be avoided by a minimum of 300 feet. In case of accidental exposure, the BLM Field Manager or designee will be contacted immediately.
- Protect and/or maintain municipal watersheds and special status species and habitats.
- Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” and Wyoming BLM Instruction Memorandum 2010-012 (12/29/2009) “*Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat Management Policy on Wyoming Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Administered Public Lands including the Federal Mineral Estate*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

3.1.2 Common Safety Considerations

Safety considerations in the High Desert District are primarily related to the large amount of oil and gas development in the district. The following are different tactics and mitigation measures to be considered when responding to wildland fires near oil and gas facilities:

- Dispatch centers, FMOs, and Duty Officers must have current oil and gas development maps developed from their local GIS data and be familiar with current oil and gas policies identifying the procedures to take in the case of a wildfire in the oil and gas field. If a fire is reported to be in or near an oil and gas field, dispatch will notify the duty officer and all responding resources of the risk associated with the preliminary location. Another good source of information regarding well locations, specifically fee and state locations is the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (WOGCC) website: <http://wogcc.state.wy.us>.
- Oil and Gas Resource Advisors (READs) are experts in the field of oil and gas operations. READs serve as a liaison between the fire management, industry, and the District Manager. READs should be used to advise incident commanders (I.C.s) and fire managers on safety and risk management. READs work for the Field Manager and therefore should be assigned as appropriate based upon each Field Office’s READ program.
- When arriving on scene, I.C.s will notify the appropriate dispatch center of the owner of the facility and its location (all well locations are required, by regulation, to post this information).
- I.C.s will identify the oil and gas facilities involved with the incident and determine what safety concerns are associated with them. These hazards may be different than common wildland fire hazards.

- I.C.s will coordinate with dispatch and READs to identify whether the oil and gas operators in that area have been contacted. Coordinate with dispatch and READs to make contacts if necessary.
- Hazards may involve HAZMAT, to include toxic, flammable, and corrosive materials.
- I.C.s will ensure traffic control is addressed. Use agency and local law enforcement when necessary.
- I.C.s will develop evacuation procedures for industry personnel who may potentially be threatened.
- The large, open spaces created by well pads and rights-of-way make convenient and tempting areas for firefighting operations, staging areas, and safety zones yet the presence of hazardous materials, high pressure pipelines and industrial equipment can create a dangerous environment for untrained personnel.
- When well sites are well maintained and fully functional, they are relatively fire resistant locations and can withstand the high temperatures associated with wildland fires.
- Not all well sites are well maintained however, and noxious and flammable gases can be present around the well site. If these gases are ignited, a potential flare-up or explosion could occur.
- When driving on a well pad, avoid backing up around production equipment. Park in such a way that allows you full vision of surrounding hazards and avoids the need for backing. Open pits/dumps should be avoided as they could contain discharging gas or other hazards.
- Toxic and harmful gases, such as hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), may be present in harmful concentrations around well sites and well equipment. Locations of these areas have been mapped and maps will be provided to all responding resources. These gases may or may not have a smell, are heavier than air, and sink to low areas. Avoid low areas during calm, windless periods.*
- Before entering an area that has been identified as a potential H₂S location, a READ from oil and gas should be on scene; it is recommended a Professional Engineering Technician (PET) should be this READ. This will provide for necessary guidance and monitoring capabilities.*
- If dozer operations are likely, ask the dispatch center to notify the appropriate utility representative. Do not assume that pipelines are buried deeply or are directly under their markers. Dozer operators and bosses need to be extremely cautious.
- Federal firefighters will not engage in suppressing oil and gas facilities or equipment that have caught fire. They are untrained to do so. This will be handled by the agency having jurisdiction, the structural fire department in coordination with the owner and their selection and notification of a “well control service.”
- Help the local cooperators recognize hazards such as: untrained and unequipped oil and gas personnel suppressing fire, heavy equipment working around pipelines, personnel, and emergency vehicles.
- Be honest, if you see serious safety concerns, insist on mitigation actions, or move your crew to a safe location.
- The safety of crews is the first priority. Only engage the fire when it has been determined it is safe to do so. If conditions warrant, disengage from the fire.

*Appendices 41 through 45 display H₂S fields for the High Desert District and each field office.

3.2 Fire Management Unit Characteristics

The High Desert District manages 27 Fire Management Units (FMU). Each of these units are described by: location, characteristics, fire history, fire regime and condition class, values at risk, communities at risk, and safety considerations. Also, the fire management objectives are stated for each FMU: suppression objectives, planned and unplanned ignition objectives, landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities, non-fire fuels treatments objectives, emergency stabilization and rehabilitation objectives, and community protection/community assistance objectives. The definitions of fire regime, condition classes, fire intensity levels (FIL), and maps of each FMU can be found in the Appendix. Each FMU section provides a table that analyzes acreage by biophysical setting, historic fire regime group, and conditional class.

All fires may not have been accurately recorded. For example, multiple fires starting on private property and burning onto public lands would have been counted as one fire prior to the mid-1990s due to a change in the fire reporting system. The records show that the High Desert District has had a total of 920 fires from 1999 through 2008. These fires amount to a total of 184,319.1 acres burned over the last 10 years. This is an average of 92 fires per year, an average of 200.35 acres per fire, and an average of 18,431.91 acres per year.

Kemmerer Field Office

KFO 1, Star Valley FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located in the northernmost part of the Field Office in the Star Valley area and consists primarily of a few scattered BLM parcels around Smoot, Osmond, Afton, Thayne, Bedford, Etna, and Alpine communities. This FMU totals 129,247 acres which includes 3,483 acres managed by the BLM; 120,173 acres of private; 640 acres of Bureau of Reclamation land; 4,730 acres of State land; 110 acres of Forest Service land; and 111 acres of water (see Appendix 12 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of mountainous areas and valley bottoms within the Star Valley area. Elevation ranges from 6,000 to 8,000 feet. Vegetation types within the FMU consists of mixed conifer forests, mixed mountain shrub, aspen, and sage/grass. Resources and use associated with this FMU includes some livestock grazing, and crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong habitat. The federal land consists of isolated parcels surrounded by private land. Some of these parcels have little or no access due to the adjacent private land. This FMU provides potential habitat for three species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA): the gray wolf (Experimental); Ute ladies'-tresses (Threatened); and the yellow-billed cuckoo (Candidate). BLM Wyoming State Sensitive Species inhabiting this FMU include Snake River cutthroat trout and northern goshawk.

Fire History – There is the potential that lightning could cause fires on these scattered parcels as well as human caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 through 2008, no fires have been reported in this FMU. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations every month of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 85 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months lightning storms could bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-01, Star Valley FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	17,550	0	1,950	19,500
2211660 Douglas Fir Woodland	III	11,700	0	1,300	13,000
2211590 Montane Riparian	III	4,550	8,450	0	13,000
2210500 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	3,640	9,100	260	13,000
2211260 Mountain Sage	II	64,350	0	7,151	71,501
Total Acres by Condition Class		101,790	17,550	10,661	130,001

Values at Risk – The Star Valley area contains cultural resources; therefore, any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource input. The Star Valley areas contain a significant amount of urban interface with numerous permanent residents, summer homes, and cabins. There are powerline corridors, highways, and commercial timber resources on Forest Service lands bordering most of the parcels.

Communities at Risk – Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Alpine and Star Valley. The numerous communities in the Star Valley area include Etna, Freedom, Bedford, Turnerville, Thayne, Auburn, Grover, Afton, Osmond, Smoot, and Fairview.

Safety Consideration – This FMU has an intermingled land ownership pattern with BLM, U.S. Forest Service, and private land. There are many areas within this FMU which have limited ingress/egress. Smoke impacts are a concern due to the adjacent private land and population in this area.

Fire Management Objectives

The objective for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub and scattered aspen and conifer stands, is to protect resources at risk. There is a limited amount of wildlife habitat and important plant communities in this FMU. The parcels are small and intermingled with private, state, and other federal lands. Therefore, the objective is to protect life, property, and resources at risk.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private, State, and USDA Forest Service lands, due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. Generally, wildland fires would be suppressed in this area with no more than 10% of public land to be burned or treated over the next 20 years. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at <15 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 40 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Based on the small amount and size of the BLM parcels, as well as being intermingled with private, state, and other federal lands, a full suppression strategy will be implemented and planned ignitions will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – There are no landscape objectives for this FMU due to the limited BLM-managed lands and the intermingled land pattern of this FMU.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) could be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulations.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – If needed, emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will be conducted to promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Hazardous fuel reduction projects could be identified in the urban interface and in areas where resources are at risk. Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Alpine and Star Valley. Non-fire fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions could be implemented in this wildland urban interface area to minimize threats to resources at risk.

KFO 2, Raymond Mountain Wilderness Study Area FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located north of Cokeville and consists of the Raymond Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA). This FMU totals 34,435 acres which includes 32,757 acres of BLM, 308 acres of private, and 1,370 acres of State Land. (See A.13 & A.14 in Appendix for map)

Characteristics – This FMU consists of the Raymond Mountain Wilderness Study Area, which includes mountainous areas on Raymond Mountain. Elevation ranges from 6,500 feet to 8,000 feet. Vegetation types within the FMU consist of mixed conifer forests, mixed mountain shrub, aspen, and sage/grass communities. Resources and use associated with this FMU include livestock grazing, crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong range, sage-grouse habitat, and Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat. This FMU provides potential habitat for three species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA): the gray wolf (Experimental), the Ute ladies'-tresses (Threatened), and the yellow-billed cuckoo (Candidate). Other BLM Wyoming State Sensitive Species inhabiting this FMU include peregrine falcon and northern goshawk.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions in this FMU. Human-caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users, as well as agricultural activities. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 through 2008, no fires have been reported in this FMU. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations every month of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 85 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months occasional lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-02, Raymond Mountain FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	172	1,378	172	1,722
2211660 Douglas Fir Woodland	III	2,014	930	155	3,099
2210500 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	1,377	5,165	345	6,887
2211260 Mountain Sage	II	1,550	8,264	516	10,330
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	1,291	3,357	517	5,165
2910620 Curl Leaf Mahogany	III	2,169	5,062	0	7,231
Total Acres by Condition Class		8,573	24,156	1,705	34,434

Values at Risk – This WSA contains cultural resources, so any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource specialist input. The Raymond Mountain WSA area contains Bonneville Cutthroat habitat, Ute ladies’-tresses habitat, fences and exclosures, sage-grouse winter habitat, and plant community health with the occurrence of cheatgrass. The WSA lies adjacent to private lands, which have structures and summer homes, as well as corrals, communication sites, and remnant mining structures. There are also two historic cabins on private land within the WSA located on private ground in the Huff Creek drainage.

Communities at Risk – There are no Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU.

Safety Considerations – This FMU has very limited ingress/egress due to rough terrain and the WSA. Public safety is a concern due to the high use by recreationist and hunters.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub, and scattered aspen and conifer stands, are to maintain, enhance, and improve wilderness values, to improve elk calving, to improve big game winter and transitional habitat, to improve sage-grouse habitat, to enhance Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat, to improve upland plant community health, age class structure and diversity, to reduce conifer and sagebrush encroachment into aspen, to stimulate aspen and mixed mountain shrub regeneration, to protect cultural and natural resources, and to enhance wilderness values.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing impacts to the WSA values. In order to maintain wilderness values and visual integrity, no more than 40% of the WSA would be burned or treated in a 20 year period. All suppression actions within the WSA will adhere to Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics and Implementation Guidelines. Additional WSA guidelines for suppression include, but are not limited to, the following: use of bulldozers or other heavy equipment is prohibited, only non-mechanical hand tools may be used (no chainsaws), surface disturbing activities including temporary fire camps, helipads, and other sites used for fire suppression activities must be located out of the WSA. Use of the Huff Creek Road on the north end of the WSA is permitted. Landing aircraft of any type, except in life threatening situations, is prohibited. Minimize cutting of live and burned trees and snags. In the event that a tree poses a safety hazard and needs to be cut, trees should be cut flush to the ground and limbs should be scattered. Refrain from making piles and scatter limbs and burned material in a natural looking manner. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 300 feet of riparian areas and other sensitive resources.

The priority for management of unplanned ignitions is to prevent wildland fires from spreading out of the WSA onto private land and other agency lands. Use the management of unplanned ignitions in accordance with WSA values and vegetation objectives. At no time will bulldozers or graders be used within the WSA. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at < 5,000 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 5,000 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class one and two. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition class two and three, and prevent invasive non-native species invasion specifically cheatgrass. All air quality objectives will be met. Wilderness objectives center on returning fire to a natural role in the ecosystem. Management of the WSA will center on the management of unplanned ignitions with natural processes intact. Unplanned ignitions are an opportunity to manage fire as a natural ecosystem process. Fuels treatments to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, protect resources at risk, and to meet

vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be considered when planning and implementing treatments. In order to meet wilderness objectives, planned ignitions may be used to reintroduce or maintain natural conditions of a fire dependant ecosystem. Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics and Implementation Guidelines must also be followed while implementing planned ignition activities. No planned ignitions will be implemented in this FMU until pre- and post-burn livestock management can be assured.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities:

- **Mixed Conifer.** The landscape goal for mixed conifer stands is to create or maintain a mosaic of age classes and structure composition across the landscape, while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush and aspen communities.
- **Wyoming or Mountain Big Sagebrush/Grassland (S/G).** See *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities with Emphasis on Fire Management*.
- **Aspen.** Aspen stands should be composed of a mosaic of different age-classes consisting of 30% of the stands with young trees, 50% with mixed ages of young to mature trees, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent trees.
- **Mixed Mountain Shrub.** Mountain shrub communities include single-species dominated, or a mix of the following species: antelope bitterbrush, serviceberry, true mountain mahogany, curl leaf mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, currant, and ceanothus. Mixed mountain shrub stands should be comprised of a mosaic of different age classes consisting of 30% of the communities in predominantly young shrubs, 50% in a mix of young-to-mature shrubs, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (chemical) may be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives if it meets specific wilderness criteria and objectives. Non-Fire (Mechanical) treatments will not be considered.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*. Rehabilitation guidelines found in the Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics and Implementation Guidelines will also be adhered to in an effort to eliminate evidence of human-related impacts.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – There are no urban- interface areas with resources at risk within the WSA, however there are summer homes located near the northern boundary and other resources at risk on the perimeter of the WSA that need to be considered in protecting resources at risk. There are no Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU.

KFO 3, Smiths Fork FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located northeast of Cokeville and consists primarily of the Smiths Fork, upper Hams Fork, and upper Fontenelle drainages. This FMU totals 171,006 acres which includes 78,946 acres of land managed by the BLM; 69,917 acres of private land; 22,044 acres of State land; and 99 acres of Forest Service land (see Appendix 15 map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of mountainous areas including portions of Raymond Mountain, Commissary Ridge, and Dempsey Ridge. Elevation ranges from 6,500 to 9,300 feet. Vegetation types within the FMU consist of mixed conifer forests, mixed mountain shrub, aspen, and sage/grass communities. Resources and use associated with this FMU include livestock grazing, crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong range, sage-grouse leks, nesting, winter, and brood rearing habitat, and Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat. This FMU provides potential habitat for eight species listed under the ESA, which include the gray wolf (Experimental), the Ute ladies'-tresses (Threatened), the yellow-billed cuckoo (Candidate), and the Canada lynx (Threatened). Designated habitats, called Lynx Analysis Units (LAU), are specially managed for the Canada lynx within the FMU boundary. In addition, the east side of the unit falls within the Colorado River watershed and provides water to four endangered fishes: the boneytail, the Colorado pikeminnow, the humpback chub, and the razorback sucker. The Endangered fish are not present in the FMU, but are affected by any action that removes water from the system. Additional BLM Wyoming State Sensitive Species inhabiting this FMU include northern goshawk and Colorado River cutthroat trout.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions in this FMU. Human caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 4 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 575.4 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.4 wild fires per year at an average of 143.85 acres per fire, and an average of 57.54 acres burned per year. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations every month of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 85 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months lightning storms could bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-03, Smiths Fork FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	15,436	0	1,715	17,151
2211660 Douglas Fir Woodland	III	1,921	4,253	686	6,860
2210500 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	3,430	13,721	0	17,151
2211260 Mountain Sage	II	11,405	45,620	3,002	60,027

KFO-03, Smiths Fork FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	21,010	39,018		60,028
2211590 Montane Riparian	III	2,058	8,232		10,290
Total Acres by Condition Class		55,260	110,844	5,403	171,507

Values at Risk – The Smiths Fork area contains cultural resources, so any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource input. This FMU contains some urban interface areas including a portion of the Commissary Ranches located on the north end of Sheep Mountain, ranches and cabins in the upper Hams Fork drainage, and structures located in Dipper Creek, the Smiths Fork Drainage, and on the west and north side of Raymond Mountain. Other resources at risk include powerline corridors, timber resources on adjoining Forest Service lands, and the Canyon Club located at the northwest corner of the FMU.

Communities at Risk – Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of the Canyon Club located in the northwest of this FMU.

Safety Consideration – This FMU has some areas of Wildland Urban Interface. Within these areas ingress/egress is a safety concern for both the public and firefighters. Smoke from fires in this FMU has the potential to impact the public and major roadways.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub, and scattered aspen and conifer stands, are to improve elk calving and big game winter and transitional habitat, to improve sage-grouse habitat, to enhance Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat, to improve upland plant community health, age class structure and diversity, to reduce conifer and sagebrush encroachment into aspen, to stimulate aspen and mixed mountain shrub regeneration, and to protect cultural and natural resources.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private land. No more than 30 percent of this FMU would be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Within Lynx Analysis Units, suppression activities should be managed to comply with current conservation measures identified for Canada lynx. The priority for the management of unplanned ignitions is to prevent wildland fires from threatening resources at risk and to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire locations. Fire management activities near Forest Service lands will be coordinated with the Forest Service. Use of fire suppression chemicals, including foaming agents and surfactants, will not be allowed within 300 feet of surface water sources. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at <4000 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at <2,000 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class one and two. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition class two and three, and prevent invasive non-native species invasion with emphasis on limiting the spread of cheatgrass and reducing its extent on the landscape. Management of unplanned ignitions for resource benefit may be used when plans are in place and resource benefits can be achieved. This area borders the Raymond Mountain WSA and the west portion of this FMU will provide opportunities in the future. All air quality objectives will be met. Implement Fuels treatments to reduce hazardous fuel accumulations to protect resources at risk and to meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be considered when planning and implementing treatments. Within the Dempsey Ridge and Commissary Ridge Lynx analysis units, planned ignitions will be planned in accordance with the current conservation measures identified for Lynx.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities:

- Mixed Conifer. The landscape goal for mixed conifer stands is to create or maintain a mosaic of age classes and structure composition across the landscape, while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush and aspen communities.
- Wyoming or Mountain Big Sagebrush/Grassland. See *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* with Emphasis on Fire Management.
- Aspen. Aspen stands should be composed of a mosaic of different age-classes consisting of 30% of the stands with young trees, 50% with mixed ages of young to mature trees, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent trees.
- Mixed Mountain Shrub. Mountain shrub communities include single-species dominated, or a mix of the following species: antelope bitterbrush, serviceberry, true mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, currant, and ceanothus. Mixed mountain shrub stands should be comprised of a mosaic of different age classes consisting of 30% of the communities in predominantly young shrubs, 50% in a mix of young-to-mature shrubs, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent.
- Juniper. The landscape objective for juniper is to maintain the current sites where old-age juniper is the Potential Natural Community (PNC), while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush/grassland communities on loamy sites.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) could be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Hazardous fuel reduction projects will be identified in the urban interface and in areas where resources are at risk. Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of the Canyon Club.

KFO 4, Rock Creek/Slate Creek FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located north of Kemmerer and consists primarily of the Rock Creek, Hams Fork, and Pomeroy and Slate Creek drainages. This FMU totals 482,068 acres (310,780 acres of BLM-managed land, 128,114 acres of private, 694 acres of Bureau of Reclamation, 40,271 acres of State land, 559 acres of USFWS land, 13 acres of National Park Service, and 1,637 acres of water (see Appendix 16 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of mountainous areas including Commissary Ridge, Slate Creek Ridge and Dempsey Ridge. Elevation ranges from 6,500 to 9,500 feet. Vegetation types within this FMU consist of mixed conifer forests, mixed mountain shrub, aspen, sage/grass, with limited saltbush and greasewood communities. This area contains large contiguous blocks of sagebrush habitat important to many sagebrush obligate species. This area has an increasing amount of cheatgrass on the west side of the FMU. Resources and use associated with this FMU includes livestock grazing, crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong range, Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat, and the Morgan Canyon Bald Eagle roost. This FMU provides potential habitat for nine species listed under the ESA: the gray wolf (Experimental); Ute ladies'-tresses (Threatened); the black-footed ferret (Endangered); the yellow-billed cuckoo (Candidate); and the Canada lynx (Threatened). Most of the two LAUs in the KFO lie within this FMU boundary, and as such need to be managed according to the Lynx conservation measures. In addition, most of the FMU is in the Colorado River watershed and provides water to four endangered fishes: the boneytail, the Colorado pikeminnow, the humpback chub, and the razorback sucker. The Endangered fish are not present in the FMU, but are affected by any action that removes water from the system. Additional BLM Wyoming State Sensitive Species inhabiting this FMU include sage thrasher, loggerhead shrike, Brewers sparrow, sage sparrow, white-tailed prairie dog, ferruginous hawk, mountain plover, and pygmy rabbit. There are also two endemic plant species located in this FMU which include Dorn's and Tufted twinpod.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions in this FMU. Human caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 14 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 6375 total acres burned. This represents an average of 1.4 wild fires per year at an average of 455.36 acres per fire, and an average of 637.5 acres burned per year. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations every month of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 85 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-04, Rock Creek/Slate Creek FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	3,378	40,534	4,343	48,255
2211270 Semi-Desert Shrub	V	4,825	43,430	0	48,255

KFO-04, Rock Creek/Slate Creek FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210500 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	2,895	10,133	1,448	14,476
2211260 Mountain Sage	II	10,857	57,907	3,619	72,383
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	65,144	152,004	0	217,148
2210610 Aspen/Mixed Conifer	III	12,064	36,191	0	48,255
2211590 Montane Riparian	III	21,956	11,822	0	33,778
Total Acres by Condition Class		121,119	352,021	9,410	482,550

Values at Risk- The Rock Creek and Slate Creek areas contain significant cultural resources, so any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource input. There are numerous ranches and Cabins located on Fontenelle Creek, Slate Creek, Pomeroy Basin, Hams Fork, Rock Creek, and in the Commissary Ridge Areas. Pine Creek Ski Resort is also located in this FMU approximately seven miles east of Cokeville. Other resources at risk in this FMU consist of Fossil Butte National Monument ten miles west of Kemmerer, Aspen Springs (a small subdivision located a few miles north of Kemmerer), powerline corridors, minimal oil and gas development, communication sites, proposed wind energy sites, the Morgan Canyon bald eagle roost, Kemmerer Gas Compressor station, and Lake Viva Naughton development. Fossil Butte National Monument and a portion of the Cokeville Meadows National Wildlife Refuge lie within this FMU.

Communities at Risk – Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Cokeville, Pomeroy subdivision, Pine Creek Ski Area, Nugget Ranches and the Fontenelle subdivision area.

Safety Consideration – This FMU includes both USFWS lands and National Park lands. This FMU has some areas of Wildland Urban interface. Within these areas ingress/egress is a safety concern for both the public and firefighters. Smoke from fires in this FMU has the potential to impact the public and major roadways.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub and scattered aspen and conifer stands, are to improve elk calving and big game winter and transitional habitat, to improve sage-grouse habitat, to enhance Bonneville cutthroat trout, to improve upland plant community health, age class structure and diversity, to reduce conifer and sagebrush encroachment into aspen, to stimulate aspen and mixed mountain shrub regeneration, and to protect cultural and natural resources. On the Cokeville Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, the BLM will follow the strategies and tactics as determined by the Refuge Managers unless or until they threaten other land ownership or policy.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private land. No more than 35% of the crucial big game winter range in this FMU would be burned or treated over the next 20 years, and no more than 40 percent of this FMU would burn or treated in the next 20 years. Within Lynx analysis units, manage suppression activities to comply with current conservation measures identified for Lynx. The priority for the management of unplanned ignitions is to prevent wildland fires from threatening resources at risk, and manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire locations. Fire management activities near Fossil Butte National Monument would be coordinated with the Park Service. Use of fire suppression chemicals including foaming agents and surfactants will not be allowed within 300 feet of surface water sources. All fires occurring in the mixed mountain shrub communities at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-6 will be suppressed at <5,000 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring in timber types at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-4 will be suppressed at < 1500 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class one and two. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition class two and three, and prevent invasive non-native species invasion, specifically cheatgrass. Fuels treatments to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, protect resources at risk, and meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be considered when planning and implementing treatments. Within the Dempsey Ridge and Commissary Ridge Lynx analysis units, planned ignitions will be planned in accordance with current conservation measures identified for Lynx.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities:

- **Mixed Conifer.** The landscape goal for mixed conifer stands is to create or maintain a mosaic of age classes and structure composition across the landscape, while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush and aspen communities.
- **Wyoming or Mountain Big Sagebrush/Grassland.** See *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities with Emphasis on Fire Management*.
- **Aspen.** Aspen stands should be composed of a mosaic of different age-classes consisting of 30% of the stands with young trees, 50% with mixed ages of young to mature trees, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent trees.
- **Mixed Mountain Shrub.** Mountain shrub communities include single-species dominated, or a mix of the following species: antelope bitterbrush, serviceberry, true mountain mahogany, curlleaf mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, currant, and ceanothus. Mixed mountain shrub stands should be comprised of a mosaic of different age classes consisting of 30% of the communities in predominantly young shrubs, 50% in a mix of young-to-mature shrubs, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent.
- **Juniper.** The landscape objective for juniper is to maintain the current sites where old-age juniper is the Potential Natural Community (PNC), while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush/grassland communities on loamy sites.
- **Saltbush Desert Shrub.** The landscape objective is to maintain current acreage of saltbush desert shrubs.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) will be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site by site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Hazardous fuel reduction projects will be identified in the urban interface and in areas where resources are at risk. Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Cokeville, Pomeroy subdivision, Pine Creek Ski Area, Nugget Ranches and the Fontenelle subdivision area.

KFO 5, North Cumberland FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located west of Kemmerer and consists primarily of the north end of the Bear River Divide and the Twin Creek Drainage. This FMU totals 174,044 acres which includes 148,289 acres of land managed by the BLM; 13,422 acres of private land; and 11,793 acres of state land (see Appendix 17 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of mountainous areas and upland hills including the north end of the Bear River Divide, the Twin Creek drainage, and Fossil Ridge. Elevation ranges from 6,500 feet to 8,300 feet. Vegetation types within the FMU consist of small areas of mixed conifer forests, mixed mountain shrub, aspen, and sage/grass communities. Resources and use associated with this FMU include livestock grazing, crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong range, sage-grouse lek, winter, nesting, and brood rearing habitat, Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat, and the Nugget Canyon bald eagle roost. There are three federally listed Threatened or Endangered species and/or habitat that have been identified within the FMU and include gray wolf habitat, Ute ladies'-tresses habitat, and the Nugget Canyon bald eagle roost. Additional BLM Wyoming State Sensitive Species inhabiting this FMU include sage thrasher, loggerhead shrike, Brewer's sparrow, sage sparrow, ferruginous hawk, white-tailed prairie dog, burrowing owl, and pygmy rabbit.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions in this FMU. Human caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 6 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 10,635.1 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.6 wild fires per year at an average of 1772.52 acres per fire, and an average of 1,063.51 acres burned per year. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations every month of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 85 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-05, North Cumberland FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	IV	15,649	0	0	15,649
2211260 Mountain Sage	II	17,388	0	0	17,388
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	39,123	91,287	0	130,410
2210160 Pinyon-Juniper	III	1,739	0	0	1,739
2211590 Montane Riparian	III	2,609	6,085	0	8,694

KFO-05, North Cumberland FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
Total Acres by Condition Class		76,508	97,372	0	173,880

Values at Risk – The North Cumberland area contains significant cultural resources, so any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource input. Other Resources at Risk include the Road Hollow gas field, which contains H2S gas wells, a few structures including a house at Orr, powerline corridors, Twin Creek subdivision, railroad tracks, the Nugget Canyon Bald Eagle roost, and scattered range improvements.

Communities at Risk – Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Sage Junction (Orr) and the Twin Creek Subdivision.

Safety Considerations – This FMU has some areas of Wildland Urban interface. Within these areas ingress/egress is a safety concern for both the public and firefighters. Smoke from fires in this FMU has the potential to impact the public and major roadways. This FMU has a high occurrence of oil and gas development as well as H2S wells.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub, and scattered aspen and conifer stands, are to improve big game winter and transitional habitat, to improve sage-grouse habitat, to enhance Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat, to improve upland plant community health, age class structure and diversity, to reduce juniper encroachment into sagebrush communities, to limit sagebrush encroachment into aspen, to stimulate aspen and mixed mountain shrub regeneration, and to protect cultural and natural resources.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private land. As a result of an aggressive planned ignitions program in this area and planned ignition treatments already on the ground, no more than 40 percent of the crucial big game winter range in this FMU could burn or be treated in the next 20 years. The priority for the management of unplanned ignitions is to prevent wildland fires from threatening resources at risk, and manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire locations. Use of fire suppression chemicals including foaming agents and surfactants will not be allowed within 300 feet of surface water sources. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at <1000 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 3000 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class one and two. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition class two and three, and prevent invasive non-native species invasion, specifically cheatgrass. Fuels treatments to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation protect resources at risk, and to meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be considered when planning and implementing treatments. All air quality objectives will be met.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities:

- **Mixed Conifer.** The landscape goal for mixed conifer stands is to create or maintain a mosaic of age classes and structure composition across the landscape, while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush and aspen communities.
- **Wyoming or Mountain Big Sagebrush/Grassland.** The landscape goal for sage brush is to limit sagebrush encroachment into aspen. Also, See *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* with Emphasis on Fire Management.
- **Aspen.** Aspen stands should be composed of a mosaic of different age-classes consisting of 30% of the stands with young trees, 50% with mixed ages of young to mature trees, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent trees.
- **Mixed Mountain Shrub.** Mountain shrub communities include single-species dominated, or a mix of the following species: antelope bitterbrush, serviceberry, true mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, currant, and ceanothus. Mixed mountain shrub stands should be comprised of a mosaic of different age classes consisting of 30% of the communities in predominantly young shrubs, 50% in a mix of young-to-mature shrubs, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent.
- **Juniper.** The landscape objective for juniper is to maintain the current sites where old-age juniper is the Potential Natural Community (PNC), while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush/grassland communities on loamy sites.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) will be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives- Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Hazardous fuel reduction projects will be identified in the urban interface and in areas where resources are at risk. Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the wildland urban interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Sage Junction (Orr), and the Twin Creek subdivision.

KFO 6, Bear River Divide/Carter FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located south of Kemmerer and consists primarily of the Carter Lease and the south part of the Cumberland to Interstate 80. This FMU totals 802,911 acres which includes 344,229 acres of land managed by the BLM; 430,775 acres of private land; 27,374 acres of State land; and 1,533 acres of water (see Appendix 18 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of mountainous areas and upland hills including the south end of the Bear River Divide and the Carter Lease area. In this checkerboard land pattern area there are places with limited access to public lands. Elevation ranges from 6,500 to 8,000 feet. Vegetation types within the FMU consist of a few scattered pockets of mixed conifer forests, mixed mountain shrub, aspen, sage/grass, with some saltbush and greasewood communities. Resources and use associated with this FMU includes livestock grazing, crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong range, sage-grouse habitat, and the Woodruff Narrows Bald Eagle roost. This FMU provides potential habitat for eight species listed under the ESA including the gray wolf (Experimental), Ute ladies'-tresses (Threatened), the black-footed ferret (Endangered), and the yellow-billed cuckoo (Candidate). In addition, the east side of the FMU is in the Colorado River watershed, and provides water to four endangered fishes: the boneytail, the Colorado pikeminnow, the humpback chub, and the razorback sucker. The Endangered fish are not present in the FMU, but are affected by any action that removes water from the system. Additional BLM Wyoming State Sensitive Species inhabiting this FMU include sage thrasher, loggerhead shrike, Brewers sparrow, sage sparrow, ferruginous hawk, white-tailed prairie dog, burrowing owl, Dorn's twin pod, Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat, and pygmy rabbit.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions in this FMU. Human caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 19 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 1480 total acres burned. This represents an average of 1.9 wild fires per year at an average of 77.91 acres per fire, and an average of 148.0 acres burned per year. There are active coal fires along Oyster Ridge within this FMU which have also caused ignitions in the past. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations every month of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 85 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-06, Bear River Divide/Carter FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	8,045	67,575	4,826	80,446
2210160 Pinyon-Juniper	III	120,668	0	0	120,668
2211260 Mountain Sage	II	21,720	92,914	6,034	120,668

KFO-06, Bear River Divide/Carter FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	132,735	309,715	0	442,450
2211590 Montane Riparian	III	12,067	28,156	0	40,223
Total Acres by Condition Class		295,235	498,360	10,860	804,455

Values at Risk – This area contains significant cultural resources including the Bridger Antelope Trap (T17N R117W Sec 26), so any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource input. There are numerous gas wells and two gas plants and associated facilities located on the Bear River Divide area (Carter Creek and Whitney Canyon Plants), and the Painter Reservoir gas unit. A small portion of the oil and gas has H2S gas. There is a wind farm located east of Highway 189 and just north of I-80. There is also a wind farm located on Bigelow Bench along I-80. The P&M Coal Mine is also located in this FMU and sits just south-west of Kemmerer. Other Values at risk include powerlines, communication sites, railroad tracks, the Woodruff Narrows Bald Eagle roost, Rock House in the Clear Creek drainage, Muddy Creek Compressor Station, Mulkey Ranch, Structures at Mulkey Springs, Cumberland Town site, and the sulfur pipeline and haul road.

Communities at Risk – Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Bear River Divide (Gas Plants), and Evanston North. Other communities in this FMU that are not listed in the *Federal Register* include Opal, Oakley, Carter, Almy, Diamondville, and Kemmerer.

Safety Considerations – This FMU has some areas of Wildland Urban interface. Within these areas ingress/egress is a safety concern for both the public and firefighters. Smoke from fires in this FMU has the potential to impact the public and major roadways. This FMU has a high occurrence of oil and gas development as well as H2S wells.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub and scattered aspen and conifer stands, are to improve big game winter and transitional habitat, to improve sage-grouse habitat, to improve upland plant community health and age class structure and diversity, to reduce juniper encroachment into sagebrush communities, to stimulate aspen and mixed mountain shrub regeneration, and to protect cultural and natural resources.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private land. No more than 30 percent of the crucial big game winter range in this FMU could burn or be treated in the next 20 years. The priorities for the management of unplanned ignitions are to prevent wildland fires from threatening resources at risk and to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire locations. Active suppression of wildland fire will be implemented in areas of checker-board land status, unless plans and agreements are in place which would allow for an alternate management response to unplanned ignitions. Use of fire suppression chemicals including foaming agents and surfactants will not be allowed within 300 feet of surface water sources. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at < 600 acres 90

percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 600 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class one and two. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition class two and three, and prevent invasive non-native species invasion, specifically cheatgrass. Fuels treatments to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation protect resources at risk, and to meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be considered when planning and implementing treatments. All air quality objectives will be met.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities:

- Mixed Conifer. The landscape goal for mixed conifer stands is to create or maintain a mosaic of age classes and structure composition across the landscape, while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush and aspen communities.
- Wyoming or Mountain Big Sagebrush/Grassland. See *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities with Emphasis on Fire Management*.
- Aspen. Aspen stands should be composed of a mosaic of different age-classes consisting of 30% of the stands with young trees, 50% with mixed ages of young to mature trees, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent trees.
- Mixed Mountain Shrub. Mountain shrub communities include single-species dominated, or a mix of the following species: antelope bitterbrush, serviceberry, true mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, currant, and ceanothus. Mixed mountain shrub stands should be comprised of a mosaic of different age classes consisting of 30% of the communities in predominantly young shrubs, 50% in a mix of young-to-mature shrubs, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent.
- Juniper. The landscape objective for juniper is to maintain the current sites where old-age juniper is the Potential Natural Community (PNC), while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush/grassland communities on loamy sites.
- Saltbush Desert Shrub. The landscape objective is to maintain current acreage of saltbush desert shrubs.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) will be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Hazardous fuel reduction projects will be identified in the urban interface and in areas where resources are at risk. Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the wildland urban interface and areas of intermingled private land where resources are at risk. Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Evanston North and Bear River Divide.

KFO 7, Evanston/Bridger Valley FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located from Evanston along Interstate 80 to the Utah border and east to Lyman following Interstate 80 and consists primarily of private land with some scattered BLM-administered lands. This FMU totals 405,681 acres which includes 45,590 acres of land managed by the BLM; 336,192 acres of private land; and 23,899 acres of State land (see Appendix 19 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of upland hills and valley bottoms including a majority of the Bridger Valley and all of the area south of Evanston. The majority of this area is private land with some scattered BLM-administered lands. In some areas of this FMU there is limited access as a result of the large amount of private land. Elevation ranges from 6,500 to 8000 feet. Vegetation types within the FMU consist of some mixed conifer forests, mixed mountain shrub, aspen, sage/grass, and saltbush and greasewood communities. Resources and use associated with this FMU include livestock grazing, crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong range, and sage-grouse lek, nesting, winter, and brood rearing habitat. This FMU provides potential habitat for two species listed under the ESA, which include Ute ladies'-tresses (Threatened) and the yellow-billed cuckoo (Candidate). Additionally, BLM Wyoming state sensitive species inhabiting this FMU include Prostrate bladderpod, Dorn’s twinpod, and Tufted twinpod.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions in this FMU. Human caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 4 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 92.3 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.4 wild fires per year at an average of 23.08 acres per fire, and an average of 9.23 acres burned per year. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations every month of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 85 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-07, Evanston/Bridger Valley FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	36,543	0	4,060	40,603
2210160 Pinyon-Juniper	III	60,904	0	0	60,904
2211260 Mountain Sage	II	54,814	0	6,090	60,904
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	142,111	60,905	0	203,016
2211590 Montane Riparian	III	26,392	14,211	0	40,603
Total Acres by Condition Class		320,764	75,116	10,150	406,030

Values at Risk – This area contains significant cultural resources, so any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource input. The majority of this area is private land with many scattered tracts of land with residences and structures on it. There are also powerlines, railroad tracks, Interstate 80 corridor, and numerous small communities. Other Values at risk include meteorological sites, Fort Bridger historical site, Piedmont historical site, and numerous oil and gas facilities with some H₂S gas, and the Silver Creek Refinery.

Communities at Risk – Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Robertson. Other communities in the area not identified in the *Federal Register* include Evanston, Lyman, Mountain View, Fort Bridger, Millburne, Hilliard, Piedmont, and Millis.

Safety Considerations – This FMU has some areas of Wildland Urban interface. Within these areas ingress/egress is a safety concern for both the public and firefighters. Numerous oil and gas facilities, with some H₂S gas, are in the area along with the Silver Creek Refinery.

Fire Management Objectives

The objective for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub and scattered aspen, salt desert shrub and conifer stands, is to focus on protection of life and property and resources at risk based on the land pattern and small amounts of Federal land.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private land. No more than 10 percent of this FMU could burn or be treated in the next 20 years. The priorities for the management of unplanned ignitions are to prevent wildland fires from threatening private land and resources at risk and to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire locations. Fire management activities near Forest Service lands would be coordinated with the Forest Service. Active suppression of wildland fire will be implemented in areas of checker-board land status, unless plans and agreements are in place which would allow for an alternative management response to unplanned ignitions. Use of fire suppression chemicals including foaming agents and surfactants will not be allowed within 300 feet of surface water sources. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at <100 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 100 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Based on the small amount and size of the BLM parcels, as well as being intermingled with private, state, and other federal lands, there will be no objective that centers on a management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit and planned ignitions will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – None

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) could be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, as well as treat vegetation to reach site specific vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a sit- by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives

established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Hazardous fuel reduction projects may be identified in the urban interface and in areas where resources are at risk. Non-Fire Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions could be implemented in the wildland urban interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Robertson.

KFO 8, South Bridger FMU

Description of FMU

Location – This FMU is located south of Lyman and consists primarily of the Meeks Cabin and Hickey Mountain area, and the Cottonwood Bench area. This FMU totals 189,427 acres which includes 113,417 acres of land managed by the BLM; 71,593 acres of private land; 4,400 acres of State land; and 17 acres of Forest Service land (see Appendix 20 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of upland hills and mountainous areas including the Meeks Cabin and Hickey mountain areas and the Cottonwood Bench area. In some areas of intermingled private land there are some limited access points. Elevation ranges from 6,600 to 8,000 feet above mean sea level. Vegetation types within the FMU consist of mixed conifer forests, mixed mountain shrub, aspen, sage/grass, with limited saltbush and greasewood communities. Resources and use associated with this FMU includes livestock grazing, crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong range, and sage-grouse lek, winter, nesting and brood rearing habitat. This FMU provides potential habitat for six species listed under the ESA including the Ute ladies'-tresses (Threatened) and the yellow-billed cuckoo (Candidate). In addition, the FMU is in the Colorado River watershed and provides water to four endangered fishes: the boneytail, the Colorado pikeminnow, the humpback chub, and the razorback sucker. The Endangered fish are not present in the FMU, but are affected by any action that removes water from the system.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions in this FMU. Human caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 7 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 11.5 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.7 wild fires per year at an average of 1.64 acres per fire, and an average of 1.15 acres burned per year. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations every month of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 85 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-08, South Bridger FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	1,888	16,046	943	18,877
2211600 Sub Alpine Riparian	III	2,831	6,607	0	9,438
2210500 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	5,663	19,821	2,831	28,315
2210560 Mesic Spruce Forest	V	9,438	9,438	0	18,876
2211260 Mountain Sage	II	9,910	54,837	1,322	66,069

KFO-08, South Bridger FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	8,496	19,820	0	28,316
2210610 Aspen Mixed Conifer	III	5,664	13,214	0	18,878
Total Acres by Condition Class		43,890	139,783	5,096	188,769

Values at Risk – This area contains significant cultural resources, so any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource input. There are many private land residences and seasonal cabins located in this FMU including Tokewanna Estates. Other resources at risk in this FMU consist of some oil and gas wells located in the Hickey Mountain area, Timber Resources on BLM and adjoining Forest Service land, a youth camp in the Meeks Cabin area and powerlines. There is a small area on the east boundary of this unit that borders some oil and gas activity that has the potential for H2S gas.

Communities at Risk – Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Meeks Cabin.

Safety Considerations – There is an increase in beetle killed trees within the forested areas of this FMU. This FMU has some areas of Wildland Urban interface. Within these areas ingress/egress is a safety concern for both the public and firefighters. Smoke from fires in this FMU has the potential to impact the public and major roadways. In addition, There is some oil and gas development on the USDA Forest Service lands south of this FMU.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub, scattered aspen and conifer stands, are to improve elk calving and big game winter and transitional habitat, to improve sage-grouse habitat, to improve upland plant community health, age class structure and diversity, reduce conifer and sagebrush encroachment into aspen, to stimulate aspen and mixed mountain shrub regeneration, and to protect cultural and natural resources. Fire management activities near Forest Service lands would be coordinated with the Forest Service.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private land. No more than 20 percent of this FMU could burn or be treated in the next 20 years. The priorities for the management of unplanned ignitions are to prevent wildland fires from threatening private land, timber resources on Forest Service land, and resources at risk, and to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire locations. Use of fire suppression chemicals including foaming agents and surfactants will not be allowed within 300 feet of surface water sources. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at < 100 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 100 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class one and two. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition class two and three, and prevent invasive non-native species invasion. Air quality objectives will be met. Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit may be used when plans are in place and resource benefits can be achieved.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities:

- **Mixed Conifer.** The landscape goal for mixed conifer stands is to create or maintain a mosaic of age classes and structure composition across the landscape, while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush and aspen communities.
- **Wyoming or Mountain Big Sagebrush/Grassland.** See *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities with Emphasis on Fire Management*.
- **Aspen.** Aspen stands should be composed of a mosaic of different age-classes consisting of 30% of the stands with young trees, 50% with mixed ages of young to mature trees, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent trees.
- **Mixed Mountain Shrub.** Mountain shrub communities include single-species dominated, or a mix of the following species: antelope bitterbrush, serviceberry, true mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, currant, and ceanothus. Mixed mountain shrub stands should be comprised of a mosaic of different age classes consisting of 30% of the communities in predominantly young shrubs, 50% in a mix of young-to-mature shrubs, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent.
- **Juniper.** The landscape objective for juniper is to maintain the current sites where old-age juniper is the Potential Natural Community (PNC), while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush/grassland communities on loamy sites.
- **Saltbush Desert Shrub.** The landscape objective is to maintain current acreage of saltbush desert shrubs.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) will be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Hazardous fuel reduction projects will be identified in the urban interface and in areas where resources are at risk. Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the wildland urban interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Meeks Cabin area.

KFO 9, Moxa FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located east of Kemmerer and consists primarily of the area from Fontenelle Reservoir south past Interstate 80 to the Field Office boundary on the east and south. This FMU totals 704,381 acres (343,860 acres of land managed by the BLM; 319,407 acres of private land; 18,875 acres of Bureau of Reclamation; 17,197 acres of State land; 42 acres of USFWS lands; 7 acres of Forest Service lands, and 4,993 acres of water) (see Appendix 21 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of upland hills, sagebrush steppe, and badlands. Elevation ranges from 6,200 to 7,000 feet. Vegetation types within the FMU consist of mixed mountain shrub, sage/grass, and saltbush and greasewood communities. Resources and use associated with this FMU includes livestock grazing, crucial big game winter, transitional, and yearlong range, and sage-grouse lek, nesting, winter, and brood rearing habitat. This FMU provides potential habitat for eight species listed under the ESA including the gray wolf (Experimental), Ute ladies'-tresses (Threatened), the black-footed ferret (Endangered), and the yellow-billed cuckoo (Candidate). In addition, the FMU is in the Colorado River watershed and provides water to four endangered fishes: the boneytail, the Colorado pikeminnow, the humpback chub, and the razorback sucker. The Endangered fish are not present in the FMU, but are affected by any action that removes water from the system. Wyoming State Sensitive Species inhabiting this FMU include sage thrasher, loggerhead shrike, Brewers sparrow, sage sparrow, ferruginous hawk, burrowing owl, mountain plover, white-tailed prairie dog, and pygmy rabbit.

Fire History – Although there have been limited fire activity in this FMU, lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions. Human caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Wildland fires typically occur between July 1 and October 30. From 1999 to 2008, approximately 9 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 904.5 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.9 wild fires per year at an average of 100.5 acres per fire, and an average of 90.45 acres burned per year. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations most months of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 90 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

KFO-09, Moxa FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211270 Semi Desert Shrub	V	190,067	0	21,119	211,186
2211530 Greasewood Flat	V	35,198	0	0	35,198
2211590 Montane Riparian	III	10,559	24,639	0	35,198
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	84,474	295,661	42,237	422,372
Total Acres by Condition Class		320,298	320,300	63,356	703,954

Values at Risk – This area contains significant cultural resources, so any heavy equipment use or potential fire suppression impacts should have cultural resource input. This FMU contains intense oil and gas wells included in the Moxa Arch gas field with some H₂S in the south portion of this unit. There are numerous ranches and structures located along the Hams Fork River. Other values at risk include four trona mines with associated processing plants and railroads, powerlines and substations, Interstate 80 corridor, Fontenelle, Little America, Granger, land bordering Seedskafee National Wildlife refuge, numerous wildlife water developments (guzzlers), the Shute Creek Gas Plant, several large gas processing facilities, and three developed campsites located at Fontenelle Reservoir and along the Green River

Communities at Risk – There are no Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU. Other communities located in this FMU not listed in the *Federal Register* consist of Fontenelle, Granger, and Little America.

Safety Considerations – This FMU has some areas of Wildland Urban Interface. Within these areas ingress/egress and powerlines pose a safety concerns for both the public and firefighters. Smoke from fires in this FMU has the potential to impact the public and major roadways. This FMU has a high occurrence of oil and gas development as well as H₂S wells.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives for this FMU, which consists largely of mixed mountain shrub and salt desert shrub communities, are to improve big game winter and transitional habitat, improve sage-grouse habitat, improve upland plant community health and age class structure and diversity, and protect cultural and natural resources.

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private land. No more than 20 percent of this FMU could burn or be treated in the next 20 years. The priorities for the management of unplanned ignitions are to prevent wildland fires from threatening resources at risk, including oil and gas resources, and to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire locations. Active suppression of wildland fire will be implemented in areas of checker-board land status, unless plans and agreements are in place which would allow for an alternative management response to unplanned ignitions. Use of fire suppression chemicals including foaming agents and surfactants will not be allowed within 300 feet of surface water sources. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at < 100 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 100 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class one and two. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition class two and three, and prevent invasive non-native species invasion. Implementation of planned ignitions to meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be limited, but considered when planning and implementing treatments. Air quality objectives will be met.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities:

- Wyoming or Mountain Big Sagebrush/Grassland. See *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities with Emphasis on Fire Management*.

- **Mixed Mountain Shrub.** Mountain shrub communities include single-species dominated, or a mix of the following species: antelope bitterbrush, serviceberry, true mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, currant, and ceanothus. Mixed mountain shrub stands should be comprised of a mosaic of different age classes consisting of 30% of the communities in predominantly young shrubs, 50% in a mix of young-to-mature shrubs, and 20% dominated by mature to decadent.
- **Juniper.** The landscape objective for juniper is to maintain the current sites where old-age juniper is the Potential Natural Community (PNC), while controlling encroachment of this community type into adjacent sagebrush/grassland communities on loamy sites.
- **Saltbush Desert Shrub.** The landscape objective is to maintain current acreage of saltbush desert shrubs.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) will be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Hazardous fuel reduction projects could be identified in some industrial interface areas where resources are at risk. Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the wildland urban interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. There are no Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU.

Pinedale Field Office

PFO 1, Wind River Front FMU

Description

Location – The Pinedale Field Office (PFO) fire management unit (FMU) 1 (PFO-1) is located on the northern and eastern most portions of the PFO and is bordered by Bridger-Teton National Forest (FS) lands. The southern boundary starts where Chall Creek crosses the Forest Service boundary in the northwest corner of the PFO. The boundary follows Chall Creek east, joining South Beaver Creek and then Beaver Creek. At Bronx, County Road 150 crossing U.S. Highway 191/189 continuing on County Road 149 delineates the boundary. The boundary continues east crossing the Cora road on County Road 120 and turns south at Willow Creek continuing south down the New Fork River. At the confluence of the New Fork and West Fork rivers, the boundary turns east. The boundary follows the West Fork River upstream to the confluence of Muddy Creek. From the confluence of Muddy Creek and the West Fork River, the boundary is west of Muddy Creek and follows the BLM/Private boundary south to the PFO boundary. This area total 320,409 acres, and encompasses 214,747 acres of private land; 80,033 acres of BLM-administered land (7,724 within the Scab Creek WSA); 23,393 acres of State land; 115 acres of Forest Service; and 2,121 acres of water (see Appendix 22 for map).

Characteristics – The dominant vegetation in the FMU consists of aspen, lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, Douglas fir, mountain big sagebrush, basin big sagebrush, and Wyoming big sagebrush. Uses of the FMU includes livestock grazing, big game winter and transitional ranges, pronghorn antelope spring, summer, and fall range, and sage-grouse habitat. Presence of or habitat for the federally listed threatened or endangered species Canada lynx, gray wolf, and black-footed ferret has been identified within the FMU. There are lynx analysis units associated with this FMU. The BLM sensitive species within the FMU include, but are not limited to, pygmy rabbit and sage-grouse. Other BLM sensitive species are identified on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (BLM Manual 6840). The Scab Creek WSA is located within the FMU. The entire FMU is a high recreation use area.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fire accounts for the majority of ignitions. Human caused fire is possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Suppression fires typically occur between July 1 and September 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 10 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 1591 total acres burned. This represents an average of 1 wildfire per year at an average of 159.1 acres per fire, and an average of 159.1 acres burned per year.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

PFO-01, Wind River Front FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210610 Aspen Forest Woodland	II	24,031	4,806	19,224	48,061
2211670 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	48,061	0	16,020	64,081
2211260 Mountain Sage	IV	1,602	12,816	1,602	16,020

PFO-01, Wind River Front FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	24,031	40,051	16,020	80,102
2210801 Basin Big Sagebrush	IV	12,816	0	3,204	16,020
2210550 Mixed Conifer	V	48,061	28,837	19,224	96,122
Total Acres by Condition Class		158,602	86,510	75,294	320,406

Values at Risk – Boulder Lake on BLM-managed land contains significant archaeological deposits. Any dozer work or fire camp setup should have cultural resource input. Scab Creek Wilderness Study Area (WSA) is located within the FMU and contains numerous recorded historic cabins. Finis Mitchell’s cabin (located 300 meters west of Struggle Up Springs) should be evaluated for inclusion in a protective thinning project, due to 100- to 1,000-hour dead fuels that are located in the immediate cabin vicinity. The cabin’s status near the WSA will need to be taken into consideration, with non-impairment of WSA values addressed/evaluated for any proposed thinning projects within the Scab Creek WSA. Other known historic cabins in the WSA should also be evaluated for protective (thinning) projects. Additionally, the Lander Trail is located between Buckskin Crossing and U.S. Highway 191 (see Appendix 22). Any fire suppression or dozer work in the Lander Trail vicinity should have cultural resource input. An air quality and acid rain monitoring station (NADP site) exists on the east side of Fremont Lake and would need protection from wildland fire. The Fall Creek, Scab Creek, Muddy Creek, and Franz Elk Feed ground operated by the WGFD are found in this area. The Upper Green River, Boulder SRMA, and associated recreation facilities are located within the FMU, along with Air Force seismic monitoring facilities. U.S. Highway 189-191 runs north and south through the area where smoke could be a safety concern.

Communities at Risk – There are a limited amount of public land in this area, and it is intermingled with developed private property and urban interface. It encompasses the towns of Pinedale, Boulder, and surrounding subdivisions, including, but not limited to, Hoback Ranches, Upper Green River, Pocket Creek, and miscellaneous ranches and cabins.

Safety Considerations – The communities of Pinedale and Boulder are within this unit and could be impacted by smoke and would have the highest concentration of people within the Field Office. Hoback Ranches Subdivision is within the FMU with associated High WUI interface, poor ingress/egress and smoke impacts. Beetle killed trees are prevalent along the Wind River Range could result in unexpected fire behavior. Major roadways including Highway 189/191 runs through the unit and has potential to be impacted by smoke. The Pinedale airport is also within this unit.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives are to improve forage availability in the uplands, to maintain or improve wildlife habitat and livestock forage, to sustain aspen communities by reducing conifer and sagebrush encroachment and stimulate aspen regeneration, to promote healthy timber regeneration, to protect cultural resources, to

limit hazardous fuels in and around the wildland urban interface, to protect and manage for wilderness characteristics and values where appropriate, and to return to a natural fire regime.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 30 percent of this FMU would be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. Within Lynx analysis units, manage suppression activities to comply with current conservation measures identified for Lynx. Maintain wilderness values and visual integrity of the WSA.

Fire retardant drops will be prohibited within 300 feet of riparian, wetland areas, other sensitive resources, and developed and semi-developed campsites exist along the Green River and at the Warren Bridge campground. Prevent surface disturbing activity and retardant drop on known special status species. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-2 will be suppressed at < 200 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 3-6 will be suppressed at < 1000 acres 90 percent of the time.

Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit in cooperation with the Forest Service will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Non-fire fuels treatment may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan.

The need for implementing stabilization and/or rehabilitation projects following wildland fire shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The emphasis will be to reestablish healthy native plant communities and/or restore watershed function and to protect resources at risk.

Fuels treatment may be implemented on federal land in the wildland urban interface to limit the threat of wildland fire events. Community coordination, education, and assistance may be implemented with communities within the FMU.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – The objectives are to restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition classes 2 or 3. Plant communities within the landscape should generally fall into 3 categories: 15-25% early seral stage, 50-70% mid-seral stage and 15-25% late seral stage.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities-

- **Aspen Forest Woodlands:** The landscape objective for Aspen Forest Woodlands is to return or maintain woodlands to their historic range of variability.
- **Mixed Conifer:** The landscape objective for Mixed Conifer is to return or maintain woodlands to their historic range of variability.
- **Mixed Sagebrush/Shrub:** The landscape objective for Mixed Sagebrush communities is to maintain and/or enhance native vegetation community health, composition, and diversity in conformance with Wyoming Standards for Rangeland Health.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The objectives are to use mechanical, chemical, and biological treatment to reduce fuel loads and create a vegetative mosaic, with an emphasis on restoring or maintaining as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1 in an effort to prevent uncharacteristic wildland fire.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland urban interface.

PFO 2, Horse/Cottonwood Creek FMU

Description

Location – The PFO 2 FMU is located on the north and west sides of the PFO. The northern boundary starts where Chall Creek crosses the Forest Service boundary in the northwest corner of the PFO. The boundary follows Chall Creek east, joining South Beaver Creek and then Beaver Creek. At Bronx, the boundary is delineated by County Road 150 crossing U.S. Highway 191/189 continuing on County Road 149. The boundary continues east crossing the Cora road on County Road 120 and turns south at Willow Creek continuing south down the New Fork River to U.S. Highway 191. The boundary follows U.S. Highway 191 west to County Road 188. At the junction of County Road 188 and U.S. Highway 191, the boundary heads straight south to the Green River. The Green River south to North Piney Creek is the eastern boundary of the FMU. The southern boundary is North Piney Creek from the confluence of the Green River to the FS boundary. The western boundary is the FS boundary. This area total 444,684 acres, and encompasses 222,527 acres of private land; 199,026 acres of BLM-administered land; 22,059 acres of State land; 27 acres of Forest Service; and 1,045 acres of water (see Appendix 23 for map).

Characteristics - The dominant vegetation in the FMU is mountain big sagebrush, basin big sagebrush, and Wyoming big sagebrush with aspen, Lodgepole pine, Subalpine Fir, and willow dominated riparian areas. Use of the FMU includes livestock grazing, big game winter and transitional ranges, Pronghorn Antelope spring, summer, and fall range, and Sage Grouse habitat. Presence of or habitat for the federally listed, threatened, or endangered species Canada Lynx, Gray Wolf, and Black footed Ferret have been identified within the FMU. There are lynx analysis units (LAU) associated with this FMU. BLM and sensitive species within the FMU include, but are not limited to: Pygmy Rabbits and Sage Grouse. Other BLM sensitive species are identified on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list (guidance found in BLM manual 6840).

Fire History – Lightning-caused fire accounts for the majority of ignitions. Human caused fire is possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Suppression fires typically occur between July 1 and September 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 6 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 2508.7 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.6 wildfires per year at an average of 418.12 acres per fire, and an average of 250.87 acres burned per year.

Fire Regime (FR)/Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

PFO-02, Horse/Cottonwood Creek FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210610 Aspen Forest Woodland	II	30,015	10,005	26,681	66,701
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	33,351	200,103	100,051	333,505
2210550 Mixed Conifer	V	17,787	22,233	4,447	44,467
Total Acres by Condition Class		81,153	232,341	131,179	444,673

Values at Risk – There are potential stone circles on Beaver Ridge. Cora Butte has rock alignments that extend from private surface onto BLM-managed land. Stone circles are known to exist on several hilltops and ridges in this area. The Ryegrass/Soapholes allotment contains the Aspen Ridge Stone Alignment Site, a Traditional Cultural Property and an eligible National Register Site. This area should be avoided by fire activity, including the avoidance of Aspen Ridge as a communication site, helispot or fire observation locale. Any dozer work should have cultural resource input. The Wardell Buffalo Trap is located in the southeast corner of this area. This site and its interpretive facilities should be protected. The timbered areas in the western area have the potential to contain historic cabins. Additionally, the Lander Trail is located in this area. Any fire suppression or dozer work in the Lander Trail vicinity should have cultural resource input. North Piney and Bench Corral elk feed grounds, operated by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, are contained in this FMU. The Big Piney/Marbleton Airport is a location where there are flammable materials.

Communities at Risk – This area contains intermingled landownership and some concentrated areas of developed private property. The community of Marbleton is located on U.S. Highway 189.

Safety Considerations – There is a high incidence of oil and gas development throughout this unit. Beetle-killed trees exist along the Wyoming Range and could result in unexpected fire behavior. The communities of Big Piney and Marbleton along with U.S. Highway 189 could be at risk of smoke impacts. The Big Piney Municipal Airport is within this unit.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives are to improve forage availability in the uplands, to maintain or improve wildlife habitat and livestock forage, to sustain aspen communities by reducing conifer and sagebrush encroachment and stimulate aspen regeneration, to promote healthy timber regeneration, to protect cultural resources, to limit hazardous fuels in and around the wildland urban interface, to protect and manage for wilderness characteristics and values where appropriate, and to return to a natural fire regime.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 30 percent of this FMU would be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. Within Lynx analysis units manage suppression activities to comply with current conservation measures identified for Lynx.

Fire retardant drops will be prohibited within 300 feet of riparian, wetland areas, and other sensitive resources. Prevent surface disturbing activity and retardant drop on known special status species. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-2 will be suppressed at < 600 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 3-6 will be suppressed at < 1000 acres 90 percent of the time.

Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit in cooperation with the Forest Service will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Fuels treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Non-fire fuels treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan.

The need for implementing stabilization and/or rehabilitation projects following wildland fire shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The emphasis will be to reestablish healthy native plant communities and/or restore watershed function and to protect resources at risk.

Fuels treatment may be implemented on federal land in the wildland urban interface in order to limit the threat of wildland fire events. Community coordination, education, and assistance may be implemented with communities within the FMU.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – The objectives are to restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition classes 2 or 3. Plant communities within the landscape should generally fall into 3 categories: 15-25% early seral stage, 50-70% mid-seral stage and 15-25% late seral stage.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities-

- **Aspen Forest Woodlands:** The landscape objective for Aspen Forest Woodlands is to return or maintain woodlands to their historic range of variability.
- **Mixed Conifer:** The landscape objective for Mixed Conifer is to return or maintain woodlands to their historic range of variability.
- **Mixed Sagebrush/Shrub:** The landscape objective for Mixed Sagebrush communities is to maintain and/or enhance native vegetation community health, composition, and diversity in conformance with Wyoming Standards for Rangeland Health.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The objectives are to use mechanical, chemical, and biological treatment to reduce fuel loads and create a vegetative mosaic, with an emphasis on restoring or maintaining as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1 in an effort to prevent uncharacteristic wildland fire.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site by site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland urban interface.

PFO 3, Mesa South Desert FMU

Description

Location – The PFO 3 FMU is located in the center of the PFO and extends to the southern boundary of the PFO. The northern boundary is U.S. Highway 191 from County Road 188 east to the New Fork River. The eastern boundary follows the New Fork River south to the confluence of the New Fork and West Fork rivers. The boundary follows the West Fork River upstream to the confluence of Muddy Creek. From the confluence of Muddy Creek and the West Fork River, the boundary is west of Muddy Creek and follows the BLM/Private boundary south to the PFO boundary. The southern boundary follows the PFO boundary west to the Green River. The western boundary is the Green River north to the County Road 188 turn off on U.S. Highway 191. These areas total 403,572 acres, which encompass 36,759 acres of private land; 348,109 acres of BLM-administered land; 16,804 acres of State land; and 1,900 acres of water (see Appendix 24 for map).

Characteristics – The dominant vegetation in the FMU is Wyoming big sagebrush and forest dominated riparian areas. Cottonwood stands along the Green and New Fork rivers provide wildlife habitat and recreational and scenic values. Other areas provide habitat for crucial mule deer winter range and sage-grouse. Use of the FMU includes livestock grazing, big game winter and transitional ranges, pronghorn antelope spring, summer, and fall range, and sage-grouse habitat. Presence of or habitat for the federally listed threatened or endangered species Canada lynx, gray wolf, and black-footed ferret has been identified within the FMU. There are lynx analysis units associated with this FMU. BLM sensitive species within the FMU include, but are not limited to, pygmy rabbit and sage-grouse. Other BLM sensitive species are identified on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (guidance found in BLM Manual 6840).

Fire History – Lightning-caused fire accounts for the majority of ignitions. Human caused fire is possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Suppression fires typically occur between July 1 and September 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 5 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 5.4 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.5 wild fires per year at an average of 1.08 acres per fire, and an average of 0.54 acres burned per year.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

PFO-03, Mesa South Desert FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	85,782	171,565	85,782	343,129
2210810 Desert Shrub	V	45,414	0	15,138	60,552
Total Acres by Condition Class		131,196	171,565	100,920	403,681

Values at Risk – The Mesa contains several sensitive locales (Archaeological District 48SU4000, 48SU4100, 48SU2109), and rock alignment site concentrations spanning the northwestern portion of the Mesa (about 8 miles) overlooking the Green River. Special status species, fragile soils, and pale ontological sites are in high concentration in the Ross Butte ecosystem area. The Lander trail is located

within the High Desert District management area and any fire suppression or dozer work in this vicinity should have cultural resource input. One historic cabin is noted for the northern Jonah Field; this cabin does not contain fuels in the cabin area sufficient to carry fire to threaten the site. There are numerous WGFD FEAR river recreation access sites along the Green River, including the Houston and New Fork river campgrounds and river accesses. There are hundreds of oil and gas facilities in the areas known as the Jonah Field and Anticline development. Smoke may pose public safety hazards in the town of Pinedale and surrounding subdivisions and along U.S. Highway 191, and could cause visibility problems at the Pinedale Airport. There are also flammable materials stored at the airport.

Communities at Risk – Most of the lands in this area are public with rolling topography and good access for fire management. There are areas of intermingled landownership and some concentrated areas of developed private property.

Safety Considerations – There is a very high incidence of oil and gas development throughout this unit. Major roadways including portions Highway 191 runs through the unit and has potential to be impacted by smoke.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives are to improve forage availability in the uplands, to maintain or improve wildlife habitat and livestock forage, to sustain aspen communities by reducing conifer and sagebrush encroachment, to protect cultural resources, to limit hazardous fuels in and around the wildland urban interface, to protect and manage for wilderness characteristics and values where appropriate, and to return to a natural fire regime.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 30 percent of this FMU would be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. Within Lynx analysis units, manage suppression activities to comply with current conservation measures identified for Lynx.

Fire retardant drops will be prohibited within 300 feet of riparian, wetland areas, and other sensitive resources. Prevent surface disturbing activity and retardant drops on known special status species. Immediate suppression is required within oil and gas facility areas. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at < 50 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 500 acres 90 percent of the time.

Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit in cooperation with cooperators, such as Forest Service, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. This would allow ignitions to burn from BLM-administered lands into Forest Service lands based on a go/no-go checklist developed by the Forest Service.

Fuels treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Non-fire fuels treatment may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan.

The need for implementing stabilization and/or rehabilitation projects following wildland fire shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The emphasis will be to reestablish healthy native plant communities and/or restore watershed function and to protect resources at risk.

Fuels treatment may be implemented on federal land in the wildland urban interface to limit the threat of wildland fire events. Community coordination, education, and assistance may be implemented in communities within the FMU.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1 and to prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition classes 2 or 3. Plant communities within the landscape should generally fall into 3 categories: 15-25% early seral stage, 50-70% mid-seral stage and 15-25% late seral stage.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities-

- **Mixed Sagebrush/Shrub:** The landscape objective for Mixed Sagebrush communities is to maintain and/or enhance native vegetation community health, composition, and diversity in conformance with Wyoming Standards for Rangeland Health.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The objectives are to use mechanical, chemical, and biological treatment to reduce fuel loads and create a vegetative mosaic, with an emphasis on restoring or maintaining as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1 in an effort to prevent uncharacteristic wildland fire.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland urban interface.

PFO 4, LaBarge FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located on the west side of the PFO. The northern boundary is North Piney Creek from the Forest Service boundary to the confluence of the Green River. The eastern boundary is the Green River from the confluence of North Piney Creek to the confluence of LaBarge Creek. LaBarge Creek is the southern boundary and extends between the confluences of the Green River west to the confluence of Grassy Hollow Creek. The western boundary is north from the confluence of Grassy Hollow Creek and LaBarge Creek to the southeast corner of the Lake Mountain WSA and follows the eastern boundary of the WSA and then the eastern boundary of the Rock Creek Area of Critical Concern (ACEC) north to the FS boundary. The remainder of the western boundary is the Forest Service boundary. This area totals 291,468 acres and encompasses 101,302 acres of private land; 174,907 acres of BLM-administered land; 13 acres of Forest Service; 13,882 acres of State land; and 2,893 acres of water (see Appendix 25 for map).

Characteristics – The dominant vegetation in the FMU consists of Wyoming big sagebrush, mountain big sagebrush, basin big sagebrush, aspen, lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, Douglas fir, and limber pine. Use of the FMU includes livestock grazing, big game winter and transitional ranges, pronghorn antelope spring, summer, and fall range, and sage-grouse habitat. Presence of or habitat for the federally listed threatened or endangered species Canada lynx, gray wolf, and black-footed ferret has been identified within the FMU. There are lynx analysis units associated with this FMU. BLM sensitive species within the FMU include, but are not limited to, pygmy rabbit and sage-grouse. Other BLM sensitive species are identified on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (guidance found in BLM Manual 6840).

Fire History – Lightning-caused fire accounts for the majority of ignitions. Human caused fire is possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Suppression fires typically occur between July 1 and September 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 1 fire has occurred within this FMU, accounting for 0.4 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.1 wildfires per year at an average of 0.4 acres per fire, and an average of 0.04 acres burned per year.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

PFO-04, LaBarge FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210610 Aspen Forest Woodland	II	46,719	5,840	5,840	58,399
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	51,099	98,111	55,187	204,397
2211260 Mountain Sage	IV	6,716	14,599	7,884	29,199
Total Acres by Condition Class		104,534	118,550	68,911	291,995

Values at Risk – The Lander Trail is located in this area, so any fire suppression or dozer work in the Lander Trail vicinity should have cultural resource input. In this management area, numerous historic cabins, wooden structures relating to early oil and gas development and other flammable cultural resources are located. Fire suppression efforts should have cultural resource input. Rock art sites (Big Chief Panel, Upper Bird Canyon, and Calpet) and human burials are sensitive sites that, if threatened by fire, should have cultural resource input. U.S. Highway 189 is in this area. There are hundreds of oil and gas facilities in the areas known as the LaBarge and Big Piney fields. An Exxon Dehydration plant, H₂S transmission facilities, and other H₂S ancillary facilities are significant hazards in the area. There are communication sites on Hogsback ridge and transmission lines in the area of the LaBarge uplift. The Beaver Creek ACEC is a crucial habitat for Colorado River cutthroat trout.

Communities at Risk – There are areas of intermingled landownership and some concentrated areas of developed private property. The communities of Big Piney, Marbleton, Calpet, LaBarge, and Industrial interface are in this FMU.

Safety Considerations – There is a high incidence of oil and gas development throughout this unit. Riley Ridge, Fogarty Creek, and Dry Piney sour gas fields are located in the southwestern portion of this unit along with sour gas dehydration plants in the same area. Beetle killed trees are prevalent along the Wyoming Range and could result in unexpected fire behavior. The community of LaBarge, WY along with portions of Highway 189 could be impacted by smoke in this unit.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives are to improve forage availability in the uplands, to maintain or improve wildlife habitat and livestock forage, to sustain aspen communities by reducing conifer and sagebrush encroachment and stimulate aspen regeneration, to promote healthy timber regeneration, to protect cultural resources, to limit hazardous fuels in and around the wildland urban interface, to protect and manage for wilderness characteristics and values where appropriate, and to return to a natural fire regime.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 30 percent of this FMU would be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. Manage suppression activities within Lynx Analysis Units to comply with current conservation measures identified for Lynx.

Fire retardant drops will be prohibited within 300 feet of riparian, wetland areas, and other sensitive resources. Prevent surface disturbing activity and retardant drop on known special status species. Immediate suppression is required within oil and gas facility areas and around exposed coal seams. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-2 will be suppressed at < 500 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 3-6 will be suppressed at < 1500 acres 90 percent of the time.

Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit in cooperation with cooperators, such as the Forest Service, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. This would allow ignitions to burn from BLM-administered lands into Forest Service lands based on a go/no – go checklist developed by the Forest Service.

Fuels treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Non-fire fuels treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan.

The need for implementing stabilization and/or rehabilitation projects following wildland fire shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The emphasis will be to reestablish healthy native plant communities and/or restore watershed function and to protect resources at risk.

Fuels treatment may be implemented on federal land in the wildland urban interface to limit the threat of wildland fire events. Community coordination, education, and assistance may be implemented in communities within the FMU.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – The objectives are to restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition classes 2 or 3. Plant communities within the landscape should generally fall into 3 categories: 15-25% early seral stage, 50-70% mid-seral stage and 15-25% late seral stage.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities-

- **Aspen Forest Woodlands:** The landscape objective for Aspen Forest Woodlands is to return or maintain woodlands to their historic range of variability.
- **Mixed Sagebrush/Shrub:** The landscape objective for Mixed Sagebrush communities is to maintain and/or enhance native vegetation community health, composition, and diversity in conformance with Wyoming Standards for Rangeland Health.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The objectives are to use mechanical, chemical, and biological treatment to reduce fuel loads and create a vegetative mosaic, with an emphasis on restoring or maintaining as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1 in an effort to prevent uncharacteristic wildland fire.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland urban interface.

PFO 5, Miller Mountain FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located on the southwest corner of the PFO. LaBarge Creek is the northern boundary between the confluences of the Green River west to the confluence of Grassy Hallow Creek. The northern boundary is north from the confluence of Grassy Hallow Creek and LaBarge Creek to the southeast corner of the Lake Mountain WSA and follows the eastern boundary of the WSA north and then the eastern boundary of the Rock Creek Area of Critical Concern (ACEC) to the Forest Service boundary. The northern and western boundaries are shared with the Forest Service. The eastern boundary is the Green River from the confluence of LaBarge Creek south to the confluence of Fontenelle Creek and Fontenelle Reservoir. Fontenelle Creek makes up the southern boundary between the Forest Service boundary and Fontenelle Reservoir on the Green River. These areas total 157,499 acres encompassing 21,648 acres of private land; 120,513 acres of BLM-administered land (13,577 within the Lake Mountain WSA); 9,532 acres of State land; 1,472 of Bureau of Reclamation administered lands; 7 acres of Forest Service; and 4,327 acres of water (see Appendix 26 for map).

Characteristics – The dominant vegetation in the FMU consists of Wyoming big sagebrush, mountain big sagebrush, basin big sagebrush, aspen, Lodgepole pine, and limber pine. Use of the FMU includes livestock grazing, big game winter and transitional ranges, pronghorn antelope spring, summer, and fall range, and sage-grouse habitat. Presence of or habitat for the federally listed threatened or endanger species Canada lynx, gray wolf, and black-footed ferret has been identified within the FMU. There are lynx analysis units associated with this FMU. BLM sensitive species within the FMU include, but not limited to, pygmy rabbit and sage-grouse. Other BLM sensitive species are identified on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (guidance found in BLM Manual 6840).

Fire History – Lightning-caused fire accounts for the majority of ignitions. Human caused fire is possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Suppression fires typically occur between July 1 and September 30. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 1 fire has occurred within this FMU, accounting for 3.5 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.1 wildfires per year at an average of 3.5 acres per fire, and an average of 0.35 acres burned per year.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

PFO-05, Miller Mountain FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest	IV	15,746	0	15,746	31,492
2210802 Wyoming Big Sage	IV	30,706	51,176	20,470	102,352
2211670 Lodgepole Pine Forest	V	5,197	16,535	1,889	23,621
Total Acres by Condition Class		51,649	67,711	38,105	157,465

Values at Risk – In this management area, numerous historic cabins, wooden structures relating to early oil and gas development and other flammable cultural resources are located. Fire suppression efforts should have cultural resource input. Rock art sites (the Mahogany Site) and human burials are sensitive sites that, if threatened by fire, should have cultural resource input. Holden Hill is a nationally significant Sublette Cutoff/Oregon Trail site that could easily be adversely affected by fire or fire suppression efforts. Any fire suppression near Holden Hill should be preceded by cultural resource input. The Rock Creek ACEC is crucial habitat for Colorado River cutthroat trout and elk parturition area. The Lake Mountain WSA is located within the FMU and is an area of high recreational use. U.S. Highway 189 is also in this area.

Communities at Risk – There are areas of intermingled landownership and some concentrated areas of developed private property.

Safety Considerations – There is a high incidence of oil and gas development throughout this unit. Beetle killed trees exist along the Wyoming Range and could result in unexpected fire behavior. Major roadways including portions of Highway 189 could be at risk of smoke impacts.

Fire Management Objectives

The objectives are to improve forage availability in the uplands to draw livestock use away from riparian areas, to maintain or improve wildlife habitat and livestock forage, to sustain aspen communities by reducing conifer and sagebrush encroachment and stimulate aspen regeneration, to promote healthy timber regeneration, protect cultural resources, to limit hazardous fuels in and around the wildland urban interface, to protect and manage for wilderness characteristics and values where appropriate, and to return to a natural fire regime.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 30 percent of this FMU would be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. Manage suppression activities within Lynx Analysis Units to comply with current conservation measures identified for Lynx. Also, maintain wilderness values and visual integrity of the WSA.

Fire retardant drops would be prohibited within 300 feet of riparian, wetland areas, and other sensitive resources. Prevent surface disturbing activity and retardant drop on known special status species. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-2 will be suppressed at < 500 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 3-6 will be suppressed at < 2000 acres 90 percent of the time.

Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit in cooperation with cooperators, such as Forest Service, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. This would allow ignitions to burn from BLM-administered lands into Forest Service lands based on a go – no go checklist developed by the Forest Service. Fuels treatments may be considered as needed on a case by case basis.

Non-fire fuels treatment may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan.

The need for implementing stabilization and/or rehabilitation projects following wildland fire shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The emphasis will be to reestablish healthy native plant communities and/or restore watershed function and to protect resources at risk.

Fuels treatment may be implemented on federal land in the wildland urban interface to limit the threat of wildland fire events. Community coordination, education, and assistance may be implemented in communities within the FMU.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – The objectives are to restore or maintain as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1. Prevent plant communities and fuel conditions from moving into fire condition classes 2 or 3. Plant communities within the landscape should generally fall into 3 categories: 15-25% early seral stage, 50-70% mid-seral stage and 15-25% late seral stage.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities-

- **Aspen Forest Woodlands:** The landscape objective for Aspen Forest Woodlands is to return or maintain woodlands to their historic range of variability.
- **Mixed Conifer:** The landscape objective for Mixed Conifer is to return or maintain woodlands to or their historic range of variability.
- **Mixed Sagebrush/Shrub:** The landscape objective for Mixed Sagebrush communities is to maintain and/or enhance native vegetation community health, composition, and diversity in conformance with Wyoming Standards for Rangeland Health.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The objectives are to use mechanical, chemical, and biological treatment to reduce fuel loads and create a vegetative mosaic, with an emphasis on restoring or maintaining as much of the landscape as possible in fire condition class 1 in an effort to prevent uncharacteristic wildland fire.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site by site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland urban interface.

PFO 6, Snake River FMU

Description

Location – Located within Ts. 40, 41, & 42 N., Rs. 116 & 117 W Along the Snake River. Ownership of the parcels are scheduled to be transferred from the BLM by 2019 (see Appendix 27 for map).

Characteristics – Cottonwood riparian areas with willow and shrub under story with limited mixed conifer are present in the FMU. Presence of, or habitat for, the federally listed threatened or endanger species Canada Lynx and Gray Wolf has been identified within the FMU. There are lynx analysis units associated with this FMU. Other BLM sensitive species are identified on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (BLM Manual 6840).

Fire History – Due to isolated location of this FMU, fire occurrence is low and has not been documented between 1999 and 2008.

Fire Regime (FR) /Condition Class (CC)

Insufficient data to generate table.

Values at Risk – Flammable cultural resources include the original approach to the Snake River/South Park Bridge and known and suspected ranching facilities. There are high recreation use areas along the Snake River levees, adjacent National Park Service lands, Jackson Hole gun club, and Wilson and South Park boat launching areas. The City of Jackson trash transfer facility and commercial transmission lines are on BLM-administered land. U.S. Highway 189/191 and State Highway 22 run through the area.

Communities at Risk – There are areas of intermingled landownership and concentrated areas of developed private property of multi-million dollar houses.

Safety Considerations – The communities of Jackson and Wilson, along with portions of U.S. Highway 191 and State Highway 22 could be impacted by smoke during a wildfire event. Some industrial interface exists.. Additionally, there are significant dispersed recreational activities.

Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives – Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land. Full suppression tactics will be used. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-6 will be suppressed at < 1 acres 90 percent of the time.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Due to the small portion of BLM-managed land within the unit and the future plans to relinquish these parcels wildland fire will be suppressed. Additionally there are no proposed fuel treatments in the FMU.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Due to the small portion of BLM-administered land within the unit and the future plans to relinquish these parcels no specified landscape objectives exist.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – There are no proposed fuel treatments in the FMU.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*. The emphasis will be to reestablish healthy native plant communities and restore watershed function, and protect resources at risk.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to hazardous fuel reduction in the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Fuels treatments may be implemented in the wildland urban interface to limit the threat of wildland fire events.

Rawlins Field Office

RFO 1, Laramie Range FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located north of Laramie within the lower Laramie Watershed, in the surrounding foothills/forest fringe of the Laramie Range (Medicine Bow/Routt National Forest). This FMU totals approximately 498,882 acres encompassing 341,898 private acres, 106,588 acres of land managed by the BLM, 47,287 acres of State lands; 216 acres of Forest Service; and 2,893 acres of open water (see Appendix 28 for map).

Characteristics – The Laramie Range Area FMU consists of rocky, mountainous terrain. Elevations range from 6,500 to 8,500 feet. The Laramie River, with its associated deep cut canyon, dissects the area from west to east. The dominant vegetation in this area is ponderosa pine-mixed conifer overstory/sagebrush-grass understory shifting to mostly grass/sagebrush at lower elevations. Cheatgrass has recently expanded in this FMU and is a management concern. Use in this FMU includes livestock grazing, recreation and a large portion of both year round and crucial big game winter range. The Laramie Range FMU is located within the North Platte River Basin and does not contain any water bodies that are currently on the State 303-d list.

Soils consist of a variety of sandy soil types. Access is limited to four wheel drive vehicles due to the rough and rocky terrain. Many areas are accessed only by foot. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and places which may have traditional cultural significance to Native Americans, are known to occur within this FMU. Some potential site types include lithic scatters, stone circle sites, stone cairns and alignments, camp sites, rock art panels, historic inscription localities, historic mining and/or oil and gas districts, emigrant trails, and historic transportation roads. This FMU includes critical T&E habitat for the Prebles jumping mouse and may contain habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses. Examples of species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list found in the Laramie Range FMU include the ferruginous hawk, sage thrasher, loggerhead shrike, and Laramie columbine. A complete and up-to-date list of all species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list is available at the BLM Wyoming State Office and the BLM website. The USFWS is responsible for maintaining the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered Species. There is a significant amount of WUI in this FMU due to the land ownership pattern. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found throughout the FMU.

Fire History – Lightning-caused fires account for the majority of all unplanned ignitions. Fires are frequent and large fire potential is high due to rough topography, high fuel loading, disease, insect epidemics, and long distance from Dispatch Location (DL). From 1999 through 2008, approximately 58 fires have occurred within the FMU, for a total of 22,883.6 burned acres. This represents an average of 5.8 wild fires per year, an average of 394.54 acres per fire, and an average of 2,288.36 acres burned per year. Suppression fires typically occur between June 1 and September 15. Historical weather data indicates that frost can occur above 8,000 feet every month of the year. Maximum temperatures can reach 100°F during July and August in the lower elevations. Thunderstorms and associated lightning occur frequently throughout the summer months.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RFO-01, Laramie Range FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	148,884	24,814	74,442	248,140
2910540 Ponderosa Pine	I	138,958	0	59,553	198,511
2910860 Mountain Shrub – Mahogany	IV	34,740	0	14,889	49,629
Total Acres by Condition Class		322,582	24,814	148,884	496,280

Values at Risk – Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are located on private lands throughout the FMU. Significant prehistoric and historic sites that are vulnerable to wildland fire and/or related events or activities are known to exist in this FMU. This FMU also includes habitat for threatened and endangered species, species on the Wyoming BLM State Director’s sensitive species list (such as sage-grouse), and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. For historical references, see the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies (RAMS) document located at the Rawlins Field Office.

Communities at Risk – There is one Community at Risk published in the *Federal Register*: the Flying X Ranch. The list may not include all the Communities at Risk located in this FMU. This list is maintained by Wyoming State Forestry and was printed in the *Federal Register*.

Safety Considerations – There is a moderate occurrence of ranching and recreational structures throughout this unit. Beetle and disease killed trees exist throughout the timbered portions of the unit and could result in unexpected fire behavior. The only highway that could be at risk of smoke and/ or direct fire impacts is Wyoming State Highway 34, the Sybille Canyon Road. Smoke impacts from wildfire and/or prescribed fire in this unit could potentially impact the community of Wheatland.

Fire Management Objectives

Restore healthy ponderosa pine communities by reducing tree density and basal area through both mechanical reduction and by the reintroduction of fire. Sagebrush ecosystems will be managed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and the *Wyoming Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan 2002* unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU. Protect WUI communities within the FMU, specifically those homes and structures within the forested types at the higher elevations. Manage rangelands/forests in accordance with the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (2003).

Suppression – Firefighter and public safety will always be the top priority, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private, state, and Forest Service lands due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. Generally wildland fires would be suppressed in this FMU but could be allowed to burn under an Appropriate Management Response scenario (refer to the Rawlins Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan, Section 2.3.3 Fire and Fuels

Management). Limit the use of dozers and graders and use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) when possible to limit surface disturbance. A management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. Management response to unplanned ignitions in this FMU will most likely result in suppression. However, the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices will remain as options. These management practices include utilizing planned ignitions, unplanned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. Management response to unplanned ignitions will be tailored to move treated areas towards the Desired Future Condition, but will still address areas of critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, WUI and areas of other critical resource constraints such as big game winter range and sage-grouse habitat. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FIL) 1-3 will be suppressed at less than 5 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at FIL 4-6 will be suppressed at less than 5 acres 75 percent of the time. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 500 feet of riparian areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Over a ten-year period the total acres desired would not exceed 5,000 acres or as developed and identified in individual activity plans. The management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as a fire management option within this FMU based on location and time of year of the fire. However, due to land ownership patterns a significant amount of preplanning and coordination will have to occur prior to using wildland fire. Therefore, a management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is not likely to occur.

Planned ignition as a treatment option will include broadcast burning for hazard fuel reduction as well as restoring ecosystem health. The burning of slash piles produced by mechanical operations and timber harvest will also occur within the FMU. Additional fuels treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. The impacts of planned ignitions on air quality are predictable and measurable. Wyoming state air quality regulators will be consulted to assure that proper monitoring of air quality impacts occurs. Additional information concerning the use of planned ignitions is located in National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS) and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments and Objectives – Create and maintain a vegetative mosaic across the landscape. Use hazardous fuels treatments to reverse the declining trend in rangeland/forest health and reduce risk of structure loss in the WUI. Treat areas infested by noxious and invasive weeds when appropriate to allow native perennials to re-establish. Other fuel treatments in these areas may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Additional information concerning the use of non-fire fuels treatments is located in NFPORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. A portion or all of the 5,000 acres that were identified in the above planned ignitions strategies section may also be treated with mechanical, manual, chemical or biological methods for ecosystem health and to keep fire from spreading to private lands.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Development of landscape objectives for upland plant communities will follow the direction and policy set forth in the Rawlins Field Office (RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD) and any such amendments to that document. Please refer to the RFO RMP and ROD, Sections 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management; 2.3.4, Forest Management; and 2.3.14, Vegetation. Please see also Section 2.3.12.3 “Other Management Areas” within the same document, specifically Laramie Peak Wildlife Habitat Management Area (pg 2-36 through 2-37.) Further information on landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities can be found in the Lower Laramie River Watershed Standards and Guidelines Assessment completed by the RFO Resources staff in September of 2007. Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related*

to *Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. Post-fire rehabilitation and restoration of wildland fires will be initiated, if necessary, to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Work closely with communities, homeowners and ranchers in the FMU to develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on public lands adjacent to private lands and structures at risk in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire.

RFO 2, Baggs/Platte Valley FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located south of Rawlins and the checkerboard and is bound on the east by the Snowy Range and on the west by Wyoming Highway 789. This area totals approximately 942,774 acres, which includes 416,782 private acres; 420,118 BLM-administered acres; 103,189 acres of State lands; 40 acres of USFWS land; 297 acres of Forest Service; and 2,348 acres of open water. Public lands will be managed in conjunction with Wyoming State lands, private lands and adjoining Forest Service lands (see Appendix 29 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of rolling hills, large river valleys, mountain foothills, canyons, and sand hills. The Snowy Range makes up the eastern boundary of this FMU and the Sierra Madre Range bisects the FMU north to Miller Hill. Elevation ranges from 6,000 to 8,500 feet. Two major rivers dissect this FMU: the North Platte River and the Little Snake River. The dominant vegetation community includes sagebrush, mixed mountain shrubs, Lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine, aspen, and juniper. Authorized activities in this FMU include livestock grazing, minerals production (such as oil and gas), commercial timber, recreation, and a large portion of both year round and crucial big game winter range. Air and water quality in the FMU meets national standards. The eastern portion of the Baggs/Platte Valley FMU is located within the North Platte River Basin while the western portion is located within the Colorado River Basin. This FMU does contain sections of water bodies that are currently on the State 303-d list: West Fork Loco Creek, Savery Creek, and Muddy Creek.

Soils exhibit a wide variety of depths and textures and vary according to aspect, elevation and moisture. This FMU is accessed by a road network suitable in most places for two wheel drive vehicle traffic. Some areas require a four wheel drive vehicle or travel by foot. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites and places which may have traditional cultural significance to Native Americans, are known to occur within this FMU. Some potential site types include lithic scatters, stone circle sites, stone cairns and alignments, camp sites, rock art panels, historic inscription localities, historic mining and/or oil and gas districts, emigrant trails, and historic transportation roads. This includes the historic J.O. Ranch located in the FMU. The J.O. is one of the few remaining examples of a large historic sheep ranch located on public land. This FMU also includes critical T&E habitat, wilderness values, a wild and scenic river, municipal watershed, numerous developed campgrounds, minerals developments and both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. T&E species located or potentially located in the FMU include the bald eagle, western boreal toad, yellow billed cuckoo, Ute ladies'-tresses, North Platte River species, Colorado River species, and migration corridors for Canada lynx. Examples of species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list found in the Baggs/Platte River FMU include the Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, sage-grouse, ferruginous hawk, Gibbon's beardtongue, and numerous fish species. A complete and up-to-date list of all species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list is available at the BLM Wyoming State Office and the BLM website. The USFWS is responsible for maintaining the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered Species. There is a significant amount of urban interface in this FMU due to the land ownership pattern. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found throughout the FMU.

Fire History – Fire frequency is low to moderate. Large fire potential is low to high depending on fuel type, fuel load, fuel moisture, weather, and distance from Dispatch Location (DL). From 1999 through 2008, approximately 34 fires have occurred within this FMU, for a total of 9349.1 acres. This represents an average of 3.4 wild fires per year, an average of 274.97 acres per fire, and an average of 934.91 acres burned per year. Suppression fires typically occur between July 1 and September 10. Historical weather data indicates that frost can occur above 8,000 feet every month of the year. Maximum temperatures can

reach 100°F during July and August in the lower elevations. Thunderstorms and associated lightning occur frequently throughout the summer months.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RFO-2, Baggs/Platte Valley FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	419,902	0	104,975	524,877
2211150 Juniper Woodland	IV	94,477	0	10,498	104,975
2910860 Mountain Shrub	IV	157,463	0	52,488	209,951
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	IV	52,487	0	52,488	104,975
2210802 Wyoming Big Sagebrush	IV	20,995	62,986	20,995	104,976
Total Acres by Condition Class		745,324	62,986	241,444	1,049,754

Values at Risk – Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are located on private lands throughout the FMU. Significant prehistoric and historic sites that are vulnerable to wildland fire and/or related events or activities are known to exist in this FMU. This FMU also includes habitat for threatened and endangered species, species on the Wyoming BLM State Director’s sensitive species list (such as sage-grouse), and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. This FMU also includes Wilderness values, Wild and Scenic Rivers, community watersheds, numerous developed campgrounds, extensive mineral developments (such as oil and gas), and habitat for threatened and endangered species and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. For updates, see the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office.

Communities at Risk – There are seven Communities at Risk within or immediately adjacent to the Baggs/Platte Valley FMU that were published in the *Federal Register*: the Odd Fellows Campground, Spring Creek, Cow Creek, Sierra Madre Ranch, Skyline Church Camp, French Creek and West Slope Sierra Madre. The list may not include all the Communities at Risk located in this FMU. This list is maintained by Wyoming State Forestry. A community protection plan was initiated in 2004. As a historical reference, refer to the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office.

Safety Considerations – There is a high occurrence of ranching and recreational structures throughout this unit. Beetle and disease killed trees exist throughout the timbered portions of the unit and could result in unexpected fire behavior. Portions of the Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Field and dispersed oil locations are spread throughout the western third of the unit. Several highways could be at risk of smoke and/ or direct fire impacts including Wyoming State Highway 70 (Baggs to Encampment), Wyoming State Highway 230, and Wyoming State Highway 130 (Snowy Range Road.) Smoke from wildfire and/or prescribed fire in this unit could potentially impact the communities of Dixon, Savery, Saratoga, Encampment, and Riverside within the unit, and Centennial, Woods Landing, Albany, and Laramie to the east of the unit.

Fire Management Objectives

In mixed mountain shrub communities, create and maintain a mosaic of shrub age classes across the landscape. Sagebrush ecosystems will be managed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and the *Wyoming Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan 2002* unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU. Manage aspen stands to increase distribution and improve seral structure. Create a more heterogeneous juniper tree age structure in woodlands through fuels treatments. Manage rangelands/forests in accordance with the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (2003).

Suppression – Firefighter and public safety will always be the top priority, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private, state, and USDA Forest Service lands due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. Generally wildland fires would be suppressed in this FMU but could be allowed to burn under an Appropriate Management Response scenario (refer to the Rawlins Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan: Section 2.3.3 Fire and Fuels Management.) Limit the use of dozers and graders and use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) when possible to limit surface disturbance. The management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. Management response to unplanned ignitions in this FMU will most likely result in suppression. However, the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices will remain as options. These management practices include utilizing planned ignitions, unplanned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. Management response to unplanned ignitions will be tailored to move treated areas towards the Desired Future Condition, but still address areas of critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, WUI and areas of other critical resource constraints. All fires occurring at FIL 1-3 will be suppressed at less than 10 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at FIL 4-6 will be suppressed at less than 10 acres 75 percent of the time. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 500 feet of riparian areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Create and maintain a vegetative mosaic across the landscape while meeting air quality guidelines. Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as a fire management option within this FMU based on location and time of year of the fire. However, due to land ownership patterns a significant amount of preplanning and coordination would occur prior to using wildland fire. Therefore, a management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is not likely.

Planned ignition as a treatment option will include broadcast burning for hazard fuel reduction as well as restoring ecosystem health. The burning of slash piles produced by mechanical operations and timber harvest will also occur within the FMU. Additional fuel treatments could be considered as developed in a site-specific plan. The impacts of planned ignitions on air quality are predictable and measurable. Wyoming state air quality regulators will be consulted to assure that proper monitoring of air quality impacts occurs. Additional information concerning the use of planned ignitions is located in NFPORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. Initiate planned ignitions on approximately 50,000 acres over the next ten years or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Development of landscape objectives for upland plant communities will follow the direction and policy set forth in the Rawlins Field Office

(RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD) and any such amendments to that document. Please refer to the RFO RMP and ROD, Sections 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management; 2.3.4, Forest Management; and 2.3.14, Vegetation. Please see also Section 2.3.12.3 “Other Management Areas” within the same document, specifically Cow Butte/Wild Cow Wildlife Habitat Management Area (pgs 2-34 and 2-35), High Savery Dam and Reservoir Site (pg 2-35), Pennock Mountain Wildlife Management Area (pg 2-38), Stratton Sagebrush Steppe Research Area (pgs 2-40 and 2-41), and Upper Muddy Creek Watershed/Grizzly Wildlife Habitat Management Area (pgs 2-41 through 2-42.) Further information on landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities can be found in the Upper Colorado River Basin and Upper North Platte River Watersheds Standards and Guidelines Assessments completed by the RFO Resources staff in October of 2002 and September of 2005, respectively. Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives – Treatments will be utilized to revitalize aspen stands, to rejuvenate shrub communities and to improve and maintain rangeland/forest health. Construct, improve and maintain fuel breaks associated with improvements on public and private lands. Use hazardous fuels treatments to reverse the declining trend in rangeland/forest health and reduce risk of structure loss in the WUI. Treat areas infested by noxious and invasive weeds when appropriate to allow native perennials to re-establish. Other fuel treatments in these areas may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Additional information concerning the use of non-fire fuels treatments is located in NFPORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. A portion or all of the 50,000 acres that were identified in the above planned ignitions strategies section may also be treated with mechanical, manual, chemical or biological methods for ecosystem health and to keep fire from spreading to private lands.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. Post-fire rehabilitation and restoration of wildland fires will be initiated, if necessary, to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Work closely with communities, homeowners and ranchers in the FMU to develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on public lands adjacent to private lands and structures at risk in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire.

RFO 3, Checkerboard/Scattered Land FMU

Description

Location – This large FMU bisects the Rawlins Field Office from east to west and ranges from the Wyoming/Nebraska border west into Sweetwater County. This area totals approximately 6,505,772 acres encompassing 4,673,428 private acres; 1,363,087 BLM-managed acres; 431,956 acres of State lands; 6,064 Department of Defense (DoD) acres; 1,906 Bureau of Reclamation acres; 4,464 acres of USFWS land; 204 acres of Forest Service; and 24,663 acres of open water. Public lands will be managed in conjunction with Wyoming State lands, DoD lands, BOR lands, adjacent USDA Forest Service lands and private lands (see Appendix 30 for map).

Characteristics – Public lands in this large FMU consist of high desert expanses of sagebrush steppe, Atlantic Rim running southwest from Rawlins, a small section of the Platte River Valley, and isolated mountains such as Elk Mountain, forest fringe, and grasslands in the east. Elevation ranges from 5,100 to 11,000 feet. The dominate vegetation community includes sagebrush, desert shrub, mixed mountain shrubs, ponderosa and lodgepole pine, aspen, and juniper. Use in this FMU includes livestock grazing, recreation, a major transportation corridor, oil and gas pipeline corridor, telecommunications corridor, wind energy development, communication facilities, mineral developments, coal leases and a large portion of both year round and crucial big game winter range. Air quality in this FMU meets national standards. Sections of the FMU lie within the North Platte River Basin, the South Platte River Basin, the Great Divide River Basin as well as the Colorado River Basin. There are four water bodies with sections on the State 303-d list within the FMU: Wyo. Hereford Ranch Reservoir No 1, Crow Creek, Muddy Creek and McKinney Creek.

Soils exhibit a wide variety of depths and textures and vary according to parent material, aspect, elevation and moisture. This FMU is accessed by a road network suitable in most places for two wheel drive vehicle traffic. Many areas will require a four wheel drive vehicle or travel by foot. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and places which may have traditional cultural significance to Native Americans, are known to occur within this FMU. Some potential site types include lithic scatters, stone circle sites, stone cairns and alignments, camp sites, rock art panels, historic inscription localities, historic mining and/or oil and gas districts, emigrant trails, and historic transportation roads. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found throughout the FMU. Located in the FMU are numerous mineral developments, several major transportation corridors, several major energy transmission lines, oil and gas pipelines, and major communication lines. This FMU also includes critical T&E habitat, municipal watersheds and both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. T&E and candidate species located or potentially located in the FMU include the bald eagle, western boreal toad, Ute ladies'-tresses, North Platte River species, Wyoming toad, Prebles meadow jumping mouse, Colorado butterfly plant, black-footed ferret, black-tailed prairie dogs, and migration corridors for Canada lynx. Examples of species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list found in the checkerboard/scattered lands FMU include the mountain plover, sage-grouse, ferruginous hawk, and burrowing owl. A complete and up-to-date list of all species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list is available at the BLM Wyoming State Office and the BLM Wyoming website. The USFWS is responsible for maintaining the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered Species. There is a significant amount of WUI in this FMU, due to the land ownership pattern. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found throughout the FMU.

Fire History – Fire frequency in this FMU is low except in the Interstate 80/Railroad corridor and near oil and gas fields where fire frequency is moderate to high. Fires along travel routes and near developments are mostly human caused, while fires elsewhere are natural. Large fire potential is low to high depending on fuel type, fuel load, weather, and distance from DL. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 160 fires

have occurred within the FMU, for a total of 22,473 acres. This represents an average of 16 wild fires per year, an average of 140.46 acres per fire, and an average of 2,247.3 acres burned per year. Suppression fires typically occur between June 15 and September 10. Historical weather data indicates that frost can occur above 8,000 feet every month of the year. Maximum temperatures can reach 100°F during July and August in the lower elevations. Thunderstorms and associated lightning occur frequently throughout the summer months.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RFO-03, Checkerboard/Scattered Land FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210802 Wyoming Big Sagebrush	II	490,201	980,403	490,201	1,960,805
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	441,181	490,202	49,020	980,403
2210660 Saltbush Shrubland	V	457,521	0	196,080	653,601
2911410 Northern Shortgrass Prairie	II	0	980,402	653,602	1,634,004
2210500 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	310,461	0	16,340	326,801
2910860 Mountain Shrub	IV	833,343	0	147,060	980,403
Total Acres by Condition Class		2,532,707	2,451,007	1,552,303	6,536,017

Values at Risk – Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are located on private lands throughout the FMU. Significant prehistoric and historic sites that are vulnerable to wildland fire and/or related events or activities are known to exist in this FMU. This FMU also includes habitat for threatened and endangered species, species on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (such as sage-grouse), and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. Located in the FMU are numerous mineral developments, several major transportation corridors, several major energy transmission lines, oil and gas pipelines, and major communication lines.

Communities at Risk – There are 23 Communities at Risk within or immediately adjacent to the Checkerboard/Scattered Land FMU that were published in the *Federal Register*: Oberg Pass, Aspen Highlands Estates, Corner Mountain Estates, Centennial, Albany, Mountain Meadow, Woods Landing Leases, Jelm Mountain Ranches, Boulder Ridge Estates, The Briar Patch, Saw Pine Cow Camp, Fish Creek, Rockaway Ranch, Ames Monument Ranches, Harriman, Remount, Crystal Lake, Granite Springs, Curt Gowdy, Pine Grove Estates, Pine Bluff, Aspen Country, and Woodedge. The list may not include all the Communities at Risk located in this FMU and is maintained by Wyoming State Forestry.

Safety Considerations – There is a very high incidence of energy development throughout this unit, as well as infrastructure related to oil and gas development (pipeline corridors, extensive gas fields and individual pads), and wind energy gathering and transmission (turbines and high voltage powerlines.) Additionally, major powerlines from Seminoe Dam run through the central portion of the unit. Major

transportation corridors including Interstates 80 and 25, and the Union Pacific railroad right-of-way, U.S. Highway 30, and portions of Wyoming State Highways 287/220, 487, 789, 34, and 130/230 transect the unit all have potential to be impacted by smoke. Throughout the breadth of the unit, dispersed agricultural, industrial, and residential structures exist, including expanding subdivisions in the eastern two-thirds. H₂S oil and gas fields within the unit include Espy/Hatfield, Table Rock, Quealy Dome/Muddy, and Quealy Dome/Tensleep.

Fire Management Objectives

Sagebrush ecosystems will be managed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and the *Wyoming Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan 2002* unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU. In mixed mountain shrub communities, create and maintain a mosaic of shrub age classes across the landscape. Manage aspen stands to increase distribution and improve seral structure. Manage rangelands/forests in accordance with the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (2003).

Suppression – Firefighter and public safety will always be the top priority, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private, State, DoD, Bureau of Reclamation and Forest Service lands due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. Generally wildland fires will be suppressed in this FMU but could be allowed to burn under an Appropriate Management Response scenario (refer to the Rawlins Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan, Section 2.3.3 Fire and Fuels Management). Limit the use of dozers and graders and use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) when possible to limit surface disturbance. The management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. Management response to unplanned ignitions in this FMU will most likely result in suppression. However, the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices will remain as options. These management practices include utilizing planned ignitions, unplanned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. Management response to unplanned ignitions will be tailored to move treated areas towards the Desired Future Condition, but still address areas of critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, WUI, and areas of other critical resource constraints. All fires occurring at FIL 1-3 will be suppressed at less than 10 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at FIL 4-6 will be suppressed at less than 10 acres 75 percent of the time. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 500 feet of riparian areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Create and maintain a vegetative mosaic across the landscape while meeting air quality guidelines. The management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as a fire management option within this FMU based on location and time of year of the fire. However, due to land ownership patterns, a significant amount of preplanning and coordination would occur prior to using wildland fire. Therefore, the management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is not likely. Over a ten-year period the total acres desired would not exceed 60,000 acres or as developed and identified in individual activity plan.

Planned ignition as a treatment option will include broadcast burning for hazard fuel reduction as well as restoring ecosystem health. The burning of slash piles produced by mechanical operations and timber harvest will also occur within the FMU. Additional fuel treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. The impacts of planned ignitions on air quality are predictable and measurable. Wyoming State air quality regulators will be consulted to assure that proper monitoring of air quality impacts occurs. Additional information concerning the use of planned ignitions is located in NFORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. Initiate planned ignitions on approximately 60,000 acres over the next ten years or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Development of landscape objectives for upland plant communities will follow the direction and policy set forth in the Rawlins Field Office (RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD) and any such amendments to that document. Please refer to the RFO RMP and ROD, Sections 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management; 2.3.4, Forest Management; and 2.3.14, Vegetation. Please see also Section 2.3.12.3 “Other Management Areas” within the same document, specifically Chain Lakes Wildlife Habitat Management Area (pgs 2-33 and 2-34), Jep Canyon Wildlife Habitat Management Area (pg 2-36), Laramie Plains Lakes Wildlife Habitat Management Area (pgs 2-37 and 2-38), Red Rim-Daley Wildlife Management Area (pg 2-39), Shamrock Hills Raptor Concentration Area (pgs 2-39 and 2-40), and Wick-Beummee Wildlife Habitat Management Area (pgs 2-42 through 2-43.) Further information on landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities can be found in the Great Divide Basin/Ferris & Seminoe Mountain, Lower North Platte, and Lower Laramie River Watersheds Standards & Guidelines Assessments completed by the RFO Resources staff in September of 2003, 2004 and 2007, respectively. Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives – Treatments will be utilized to revitalize aspen stands, to rejuvenate shrub communities and to improve and maintain rangeland/forest health. Construct, improve and maintain fuel breaks associated with improvements on public and private lands. Use hazardous fuels treatments to reverse the declining trend in rangeland/forest health and reduce risk of structure loss in the WUI. Treat areas infested by noxious and invasive weeds when appropriate to allow native perennials to re-establish. Other fuel treatments in these areas may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Additional information concerning the use of non-fire fuels treatments is located in NFORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. A portion or all of the 60,000 acres that were identified in the above planned ignitions strategies section may also be treated with mechanical, manual, chemical or biological methods for ecosystem health and to keep fire from spreading to private lands.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. Post-fire rehabilitation and restoration of wildland fires will be initiated, if necessary, to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Work closely with communities, homeowners and ranchers in the FMU to develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on public lands adjacent to private lands and structures at risk in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire.

RFO 4, Shirley Basin FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located north of Medicine Bow in the north-central part of the Rawlins Field Office and extends west out of Shirley Basin along the northern border of the field office. This area totals approximately 330,500 acres encompassing 84,302 private acres; 211,315 BLM-managed acres; and 34,883 acres of State lands. Public lands will be managed in conjunction with Wyoming State lands and private lands (see Appendix 31 for map).

Characteristics – The dominate topography in this FMU is a flat basin with granite outcrops to the west. Elevation ranges from 6,700 to 8,100 feet. The dominate vegetation community includes grass, ponderosa pine, juniper and sagebrush. Use in this FMU includes livestock grazing, recreation, and a year round and crucial big game winter range. Air and water quality in the FMU meet national standards. This FMU lies within the North Platte River Basin.

Soils exhibit a wide variety of depths and textures and vary according to parent material, aspect, elevation and moisture. The western half of the FMU is composed of granitic soils, while the eastern half is mostly sandy clay to sandy loams and relatively shallow except in the drainages. This FMU is accessed by a road network suitable in most places for two wheel drive vehicle traffic. Some areas will require a four wheel drive vehicle or travel by foot. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and places which may have traditional cultural significance to Native Americans, are known to occur within this FMU. Some potential site types include lithic scatters, stone circle sites, stone cairns and alignments, camp sites, rock art panels, historic inscription localities, historic mining and/or oil and gas districts, emigrant trails, and historic transportation roads. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found in a few places in the FMU. This FMU also includes critical T&E habitat, and both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. T&E and candidate species located or potentially located in the FMU include the Ute ladies'-tresses and black-footed ferret. Examples of species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list found in the Shirley Basin FMU include the sage-grouse, mountain plover, white-tailed prairie dogs, and swift fox. A complete and up-to-date list of all species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list is available at the BLM Wyoming State Office and the BLM website. The USFWS is responsible for maintaining the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered Species. There is small amount of urban interface in this FMU due to the land ownership pattern. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found throughout the FMU but most are located west of Wyoming Highway 77.

Fire History – Fire frequency in this FMU is low. Large fire potential is low due to low fuel loads and natural fuel breaks. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 4 fires have occurred within the FMU, for a total of 5122.1 acres. This represents an average of 1 fire per year, an average of 1280.53 acres per fire, and an average of 512.21 acres burned per year. Suppression fires typically occur between June 1 and September 1. Historical weather data indicates that frost can occur above 8,000 feet every month of the year. Maximum temperatures can reach 100°F during July and August in the lower elevations. Thunderstorms and associated lightning occur frequently throughout the summer months.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RFO-04, Shirley Basin FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	72,370	52,633	6,579	131,582
2210720 Low Sagebrush/Grass	IV	59,212	128,294	9,869	197,375
Total Acres by Condition Class		131,582	180,927	16,448	328,957

Values at Risk – Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are located on private lands in isolated locations in the FMU. Significant prehistoric and historic sites that are vulnerable to wildland fire and/or related events or activities are known to exist in this FMU. This FMU also includes habitat for threatened and endangered species, species on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (such as sage-grouse), and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game.

Communities at Risk – There are no identified Communities at Risk in this FMU. The list may not include all the Communities at Risk located in this FMU and is maintained by Wyoming State Forestry and printed in the *Federal Register*.

Safety Considerations – There is a moderate incidence of energy development throughout this unit, including infrastructure related to uranium mining (the Pathfinder-Shirley Basin Uranium Mine and its associated haul-roads and spoil piles, etc., which are currently being reclaimed) and existing and planned wind energy gathering and transmission infrastructure (turbines and high voltage powerlines.) Wyoming Highways 487 and 77 through Shirley Basin could be affected by smoke impacts.

Fire Management Objectives

Sagebrush ecosystems will be managed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and the *Wyoming Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan 2002* unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU. In mixed mountain shrub communities, create and maintain a mosaic of shrub age classes across the landscape. Manage rangelands/forests in accordance with the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (2003).

Suppression – Firefighter and public safety will always be the top priority, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private and state lands due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. Generally wildland fires will be suppressed in this FMU but could be allowed to burn under an Appropriate Management Response scenario (refer to the Rawlins Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan, Section 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management. Limit the use of dozers and graders and use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) when possible to limit surface disturbance. The management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. Management response to unplanned ignitions in this FMU will most likely result in suppression. However, the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices will remain as options. Management response to unplanned ignitions in the area between Wyoming State Highways 77 and 487

will emphasize the use of wildland fire for resource benefit. These management practices include utilizing planned ignitions, unplanned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. Management response to unplanned ignitions will be tailored to move treated areas towards the Desired Future Condition, but still address areas of critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, WUI and areas of other critical resource constraints. All fires occurring at FIL 1-3 will be suppressed at less than 10 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at FIL 4-6 will be suppressed at less than 10 acres 75 percent of the time. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 500 feet of riparian areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Create and maintain a vegetative mosaic across the landscape while meeting air quality guidelines. Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as a fire management option within this FMU based on location and time of year of the fire. The area identified as where a management response to unplanned ignitions would most likely occur is between Wyoming Highways 77 and 487. However, due to land ownership patterns outside the area between Wyoming Highways 77 and 487, a significant amount of preplanning and coordination would occur prior to using a management response to unplanned ignitions. Therefore, management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is not likely to occur in those areas. Over a ten-year period the total acres desired would not exceed 5,000 acres or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Planned ignitions as a treatment option will include broadcast burning for hazard fuel reduction as well as restoring ecosystem health. Burning slash piles produced by mechanical operations and timber harvest will also occur within the FMU. Additional fuel treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. The impacts of planned ignitions on air quality are predictable and measurable. Wyoming state air quality regulators will be consulted to assure that proper monitoring of air quality impacts occurs. Additional information concerning the use of planned ignitions is located in NFPORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. Initiate planned ignitions on approximately 5,000 acres over the next ten years or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Development of landscape objectives for upland plant communities will follow the direction and policy set forth in the Rawlins Field Office (RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD) and any such amendments to that document. Please refer back to the RFO RMP and ROD, Sections 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management; 2.3.4, Forest Management; and 2.3.14, Vegetation. Further information on landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities can be found in the Shirley Basin Watershed Standards & Guidelines Assessment completed by the RFO Resources staff in September of 2006. Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives – Treatments will be utilized to revitalize aspen stands, to rejuvenate shrub communities, to improve and maintain forest health and construct, and to improve and maintain fuel breaks associated with improvements on public and private lands. Use hazardous fuels treatments to reverse the declining trend in rangeland/forest health and reduce risk of structure loss in the WUI. Treat areas infested by noxious and invasive weeds when appropriate to allow native perennials to re-establish. Other fuel treatments in these areas may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Additional information concerning the use of non-fire fuels treatments is located in NFPORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. A portion or all of the 5,000 acres that were identified in the above planned ignitions strategies section may also be treated with mechanical, manual chemical or biological methods for ecosystem health and to keep fire from spreading to private lands.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site by site basis following wildland fires. Post-fire rehabilitation and restoration of wildland fires will be initiated, if necessary, to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Work closely with communities, homeowners and ranchers in the FMU to develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on public lands adjacent to private lands and structures at risk in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire.

RFO 5, Seminoe/Pedro/Shirley Mountains FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located in the mountains adjacent to the North Platte River and its reservoirs in the northcentral part of the Rawlins Field Office. This area totals approximately 323,333 acres encompassing 99,395 private acres; 140,224 BLM-managed acres; 15,477 acres of State lands; 2,148 acres of USFWS lands; 34,821 acres of BOR lands; and 31,268 acres of open water. Public lands will be managed in conjunction with Wyoming State lands, USFWS lands, Bureau of Reclamation lands, and private lands (see Appendix 32 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of rocky, mountainous terrain and rolling hills. Elevations range from 6,500 to 8,700 feet. The North Platte River, with its associated deep cut canyon, dissects the area from south to north. The dominant vegetation community includes ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, limber pine, sagebrush, mountain shrub, mixed conifer, juniper and aspen. Use in this FMU includes mineral extraction, energy production, livestock grazing, recreation, and both year round and crucial big game winter range. Air and water quality in the FMU meet national standards. This FMU is located within the North Platte River Basin.

Soils exhibit a wide variety of depths and textures and vary according to parent material, aspect, elevation and moisture. The majority of the soils are granitic in nature and relatively shallow except in drainages. Access is limited to four wheel drive vehicles due to the rough and rocky terrain. Many areas are accessed only by foot. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and places which may have traditional cultural significance to Native Americans, are known to occur within this FMU. Some potential site types include lithic scatters, stone circle sites, stone cairns and alignments, camp sites, rock art panels, historic inscription localities, historic mining and/or oil and gas districts, emigrant trails, and historic transportation roads. This FMU also includes critical T&E habitat, wilderness values, watershed values, an ACEC, numerous developed camp grounds, power generation facilities, and both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. Morgan Creek, a protected watershed, is found within this FMU. A hibernaculum, the Shirley Mountain Bat Cave ACEC, is unique to this FMU. T&E and candidate species located or potentially located in the FMU include the Ute ladies'-tresses, bald eagle, North Platte River species, blowout penstemon, and black-footed ferret. Examples of species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list found in the Seminoe/Pedro/Shirley Mountains FMU include the Laramie Plains false sagebrush, fringed myotis, spotted bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, and long-eared myotis. A complete and up-to-date list of all species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list is available at the BLM Wyoming State Office and the BLM website. The USFWS is responsible for maintaining the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered Species. There is a significant amount of WUI in this FMU due to the land ownership pattern. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found throughout the FMU.

Fire History – Fire frequency is moderate to high. Large fire potential is moderate to high due to rough topography, high fuel loading, diseases, insect epidemics and long distance from DL. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 27 fires have occurred within the FMU, for a total of 802.6 acres. This represents an average of 2.7 wild fires per year, an average of 29.73 acres per fire, and an average of 80.26 acres burned per year. Suppression fires typically occur between June 1 and September 1. Historical weather data indicates that frost can occur above 8,000 feet every month of the year. Maximum temperatures can reach 100°F during July and August in the lower elevations. Thunderstorms and associated lightning occur frequently throughout the summer months.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RFO-05, Seminoe/Shirley Mountains FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211670 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	8,063	0	24,189	32,252
2910540 Ponderosa Pine	I	43,540	0	4,838	48,378
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	III	120,945	0	40,315	161,260
2910860 Mountain Shrub – Mahogany	IV	76,598	0	4,032	80,630
Total Acres by Condition Class		249,146	0	73,374	322,520

Values at Risk – Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are located on private lands throughout the FMU. Significant prehistoric and historic sites that are vulnerable to wildland fire and/or related events or activities are known to exist in this FMU. This FMU also includes habitat for threatened and endangered species, species on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (such as sage-grouse), and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. This FMU also includes wilderness values, habitat for threatened and endangered species, commercial timber stands, an ACEC (*hibernaculum*), a protected watershed (Morgan Creek), several developed camp grounds, hydroelectric power generation facilities, major energy transmission lines, mineral developments, and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game.

Communities at Risk – There are two Communities at Risk within the Seminoe/Pedro/Shirley Mountains FMU - Kortes Dam Camp and Seminoe Reservoir. The list may not include all the Communities at Risk located in this FMU and is maintained by Wyoming State Forestry and printed in the *Federal Register*. Refer to the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office for updates.

Safety Considerations – There is a moderate incidence of energy development throughout this unit, including infrastructure related to dams, reservoirs, and their associated power-generating capabilities (Seminoe and Kortes Dams and Reservoirs and their associated housing developments, access roads, powerlines, spillways, etc.), as well as the Platte River arm of Pathfinder Reservoir. Direct impacts from smoke and fire could affect the “Highline” Road over the Seminoe Mountains between Carbon County Roads 351 and 291. Seminoe State Park and Miracle Mile are two important recreational areas within the unit that could be affected by fire suppression or prescribed fire operations.

Fire Management Objectives

In mixed mountain shrub communities, create and maintain a mosaic of shrub age classes across the landscape. Sagebrush ecosystems will be managed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and the *Wyoming Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan 2002* unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU. Manage aspen stands to increase distribution and improve seral structure. To restore healthy ponderosa pine communities by reducing tree density and basal area through both mechanical reduction and by the

reintroduction of fire. Manage all rangelands/forests in accordance with the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (2003).

Suppression – Firefighter and public safety will always be the top priority, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private, State, USFWS, and Bureau of Reclamation lands due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. Generally wildland fires would be suppressed in this FMU but could be allowed to burn under an Appropriate Management Response scenario (refer to the Rawlins Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan Section 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management). Limit the use of dozers and graders and use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) when possible to limit surface disturbance. The management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. Management response to unplanned ignitions in this FMU will most likely result in suppression. However, the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices will remain as options. Management response to unplanned ignitions in the Bennett Mountain WSA will emphasize the use of wildland fire for resource benefit. These management practices include utilizing planned ignitions, unplanned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. Management response to unplanned ignitions will be tailored to move treated areas towards the Desired Future Condition, but still address areas of critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, WUI and areas of other critical resource constraints. All fires occurring at FIL 1-3 will be suppressed at less than 10 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at FIL 4-6 will be suppressed at less than 10 acres 75 percent of the time. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 500 feet of riparian areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Create and maintain a vegetative mosaic across the landscape while meeting air quality guidelines. Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as a fire management option with this FMU based on location and time of year of the fire. The area identified as where a management response to unplanned ignitions will most likely occur is the Bennett Mountain WSA. However, a significant amount of preplanning and coordination will occur prior to using a management response to unplanned ignitions. Therefore, a management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is not likely to occur.

Planned ignition as a treatment option will include broadcast burning for hazard fuel reduction as well as restoring ecosystem health. The burning of slash piles produced by mechanical operations and timber harvest will also occur within the FMU. Additional fuel treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. The impacts of planned ignitions on air quality are predictable and measurable. Wyoming state air quality regulators will be consulted to assure that proper monitoring of air quality impacts occurs. Additional information concerning the use of planned ignitions is located in NFPORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. Initiate planned ignitions on approximately 10,000 acres over the next ten years or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Development of landscape objectives for upland plant communities will follow the direction and policy set forth in the Rawlins Field Office (RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD) and any such amendments to that document. Please refer to the RFO RMP and ROD, Sections 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management; 2.3.4, Forest Management; and 2.3.14, Vegetation. Please see also Section 2.3.12.1 “Wilderness Study Areas” within the same document, specifically Bennett Mountains Wilderness Study Area (pg 2-30.) Further information on landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities can be found in the Great Divide Basin/Ferris and Seminoe Mountain and the Lower North Platte River Watershed Standards and Guidelines Assessments completed by the RFO Resources staff in September of 2003 and 2004, respectively. Specific upland plant community objectives can also be found in the Seminoe Mountains Rx Burn Environmental Assessment. Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and

Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives – Treatments will be utilized to revitalize aspen and ponderosa pine, to rejuvenate shrub communities and to improve and maintain rangeland/forest health as well as to construct, improve and maintain fuel breaks associated with improvements on public and private lands. Use hazardous fuels treatments to reverse the declining trend in rangeland/forest health and reduce risk of structure loss in the WUI. Treat areas infested by noxious and invasive weeds when appropriate to allow native perennials to re-establish. Other fuel treatments in these areas may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Additional information concerning the use of non-fire fuels treatments is located in NFPORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. A portion or all of the 10,000 acres that were identified in the above planned ignitions strategies section may also be treated with mechanical, manual, chemical or biological methods for ecosystem health and to keep fire from spreading to private lands.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. Post-fire rehabilitation and restoration of wildland fires would be initiated, if necessary, to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Work closely with communities, homeowners and ranchers in the FMU to develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on public lands adjacent to private lands and structures at risk in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire.

RFO 6, Ferris Mountain FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located north east of Rawlins and encompasses the mountain range and adjacent lands between the Seminoe and Green Mountains in the north central part of the Rawlins Field Office. This area totals approximately 370,487 acres with 54,565 private acres; 281,878 BLM-managed acres; and 34,044 acres of State lands. Public lands will be managed in conjunction with BOR lands, USFWS lands, Wyoming State lands and private lands (see Appendix 33 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of an isolated, rocky mountain range with surrounding foot hills, forest fringe, and sand dunes. Elevation ranges from 6,500 to 10,000 feet. Numerous perennial streams dissect the FMU. Predominant vegetation communities include lodgepole pine, mixed conifer, aspen, montane riparian shrubs and trees, mixed mountain shrubs, and sagebrush. Use in this FMU includes mineral extraction, livestock grazing, recreation, and both year round and crucial big game winter range. Air and water quality in the FMU meet national standards. The majority of the FMU lies within the North Platte River Basin while a small area to the west lies within the Great Divide Basin.

Soils exhibit a wide variety of depths and textures and vary according to parent material, aspect, elevation and moisture. Due to the topography this FMU has limited access. Primary access is by a system of two-track roads best suited for four wheel drive vehicle traffic. Most areas are accessible only by foot. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and places which may have traditional cultural significance to Native Americans, are known to occur within this FMU. Some potential site types include lithic scatters, stone circle sites, stone cairns and alignments, camp sites, rock art panels, historic inscription localities, historic mining and/or oil and gas districts, emigrant trails, and historic transportation roads. In addition, Whiskey Gap, which was used as a layover location for numerous military and pioneer expeditions, is located in the FMU. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found in some parts of the FMU. This FMU also includes critical T&E habitat, an ACEC (blowout penstemon), wilderness values (Ferris Mountain WSA), and both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. T&E and candidate species located or potentially located in the FMU include the Ute ladies'-tresses, blowout penstemon, and black-footed ferret. Examples of species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list found in the Ferris Mountain FMU include the mountain plover, white tailed prairie dog, and sage-grouse. A complete and up-to-date list of all species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list is available at the BLM Wyoming State Office and the BLM website. The USFWS is responsible for maintaining the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered Species. There is a small amount of WUI in this FMU due to the land ownership pattern. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements located on private lands are found scattered throughout the FMU.

Fire History – Fire frequency in this FMU is low. Large fire potential is low to high depending on fuel type, fuel load, fuel moistures and weather. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 23 fires have occurred within the FMU, for a total of 64 acres. This represents an average of 2.3 wildfires per year, an average of 2.78 acres per fire, and an average of 6.4 acres burned per year. Suppression fires typically occur between June 15 and September 10. Historical weather data indicates that frost can occur above 8,000 feet every month of the year. Maximum temperatures can reach 100°F during July and August in the lower elevations. Thunderstorms and associated lightning can occur throughout the summer months.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RFO-06, Ferris Mountain FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211660 Douglas Fir	III	29,753	20,827	8,926	59,506
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	47,605	0	11,901	59,506
2210720 Low Sagebrush/Grass	V	43,638	152,735	21,819	218,192
2211260 Silver Sagebrush	III	23,802	17,852	17,852	59,506
Total Acres by Condition Class		144,798	191,414	60,498	396,710

Values at Risk – Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are located on private lands throughout the FMU. Significant prehistoric and historic sites that are vulnerable to wildland fire and/or related events or activities are known to exist in this FMU. This FMU also includes habitat for threatened and endangered species, species on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (such as sage-grouse), and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. This FMU also includes wilderness values (Ferris Mountain WSA), a protected watershed (Morgan Creek), cultural sites, an ACEC (blowout penstemon), habitat for threatened and endangered species, mineral production facilities, major energy transmission corridors, and both year-round and crucial winter range for big game.

Communities at Risk – There are no Communities at Risk identified in this FMU at this time. The list may not include all the Communities at Risk located in this FMU. This list is maintained by Wyoming State Forestry and was printed in the Federal Register.

Safety Considerations – Beetle- and disease-killed trees, as well as high fuel loadings, exist throughout the entire length and both aspects of Ferris Mountain which could result in unexpected fire behavior. Major pipeline rights-of-way surround Ferris Mountain on the east, west and south sides, as well as numerous feeder pipelines and oil and gas fields and individual pads along the south of the mountain. The Mahoney Dome and Bailey Dome oilfields located south of Ferris Mountain and east of Lamont (see Rawlins Field Office H2S map, Appendix 44) are known H2S producing fields.

Fire Management Objectives

Maintain and increase early seral structure in the Blowout Penstemon ACEC. Restoration of forest and shrub communities by allowing lightning-caused ignitions to burn as a natural ecological process. Manage aspen stands to increase distribution and improve seral structure. In mixed mountain shrub communities, create and maintain a mosaic of shrub age classes across the landscape. Sagebrush ecosystems will be managed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and the *Wyoming Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan 2002* unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within this FMU. Manage rangelands/forests in accordance with the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (2003).

Suppression Objectives – Firefighter and public safety will always be the top priority, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private, state, USFWS, and Bureau of Reclamation lands due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. Generally wildland fires would be allowed to burn in this FMU but could be suppressed under an Appropriate Management Response scenario (refer to the Rawlins Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan: Section 2.3.3 Fire and Fuels Management). Please also refer to the Ferris Mountain Prescribed Fire management plan. Limit the use of dozers and graders and use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) when possible to limit surface disturbance. The management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. Management response to unplanned ignitions will emphasize the use of wildland fire for resource benefit in this FMU. However, the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices will remain options. All fires determined to be man caused or not meeting the prescription criteria to be managed as a wildland fire for resource benefit will be suppressed. These management practices include utilizing unplanned ignitions, planned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. Management response to unplanned ignitions will be tailored to move treated areas towards the Desired Future Condition, but still address areas of critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, WUI and areas of other critical resource constraints. A WFDSS will be completed whenever a fire escapes initial attack. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 500 feet of riparian areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Create and maintain a vegetative mosaic across the landscape while meeting air quality guidelines. Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as a fire management option within this FMU based on location and time of year of the fire and is identified as the preferred management option. Over a 10-year period the total acres desired would not exceed 10,000 acres or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Planned ignitions as a treatment option will include broadcast burning for hazard fuel reduction as well as restoring ecosystem health. The burning of slash piles produced by mechanical operations and timber harvest will also occur within the FMU. Additional fuel treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. The impacts of planned ignitions on air quality are predictable and measurable. Wyoming State air quality regulators will be consulted to assure that proper monitoring of air quality impacts occurs. Initiate planned ignitions on approximately 10,000 acres over the next ten years or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Development of landscape objectives for upland plant communities will follow the direction and policy set forth in the Rawlins Field Office (RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD) and any such amendments to that document. Please refer back to the RFO RMP and ROD, Sections 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management; 2.3.4, Forest Management; and 2.3.14, Vegetation. Please see also Section 2.3.12.1 “Wilderness Study Areas” within the same document, specifically Ferris Mountain Wilderness Study Area (pg 2-30.) Further information on landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities can be found in the Great Divide Basin/Ferris and Seminoe Mountain Standards and Guidelines Assessments completed by the RFO Resources staff in September of 2003. Additional specific objectives for upland plant communities can also be found in the Ferris Mountain Prescribed Fire management plan. Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives – Treatments will be utilized to revitalize aspen and ponderosa pine, to rejuvenate shrub communities, and to improve and maintain rangeland/forest health as well as to

construct, improve and maintain fuel breaks associated with improvements on public and private lands. Use hazardous fuels treatments to reverse the declining trend in rangeland/forest health and reduce risk of structure loss in the WUI. Treat areas infested by noxious and invasive weeds when appropriate to allow native perennials to re-establish. Other fuel treatments in these areas may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. Additional information concerning the use of non-fire fuels treatments is located in NFPORS and the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office. A portion or all of the 10,000 acres that were identified in the above planned ignitions strategies section may also be treated with mechanical, manual, chemical or biological methods for ecosystem health and to keep fire from spreading to private lands.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. Post-fire rehabilitation and restoration of wildland fires would be initiated, if necessary, to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Work closely with communities, homeowners and ranchers in the FMU to develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on public lands adjacent to private lands and structures at risk in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire.

RFO 7, Kinney Rim/Adobe Town/Skull Creek FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located west of Wyoming Highway 789 in Carbon and Sweetwater counties south of checkerboard and excluding Powder Rim. This area totals approximately 596,042 acres encompassing 22,134 private acres; 557,945 BLM-managed acres; and 15,963 acres of State lands. Public lands will be managed in conjunction with Wyoming State lands and private lands (see Appendix 34 for map).

Characteristics – Public lands in this FMU consist of badlands, rocky rims, and rolling hills. Elevation ranges from 6,500 to 8,000 feet. The dominant vegetation community includes desert grass and shrub, sagebrush, and juniper. Use in this FMU includes mineral extraction (oil and gas), livestock grazing, wild horse grazing, recreation, and both year round and crucial big game winter range. Adobe Town WSA encompasses a significant portion of the FMU. Air and water quality in this FMU meet national standards. This FMU is located within the Colorado River Basin and contains a section of Muddy Creek that is on the State 303-d list

Soils exhibit a wide variety of depths and textures and vary according to parent material, aspect, elevation and moisture. Clay soils on steeper slopes are highly erodible. This FMU is accessed by a road network suitable for two wheel drive vehicle traffic in good weather. Most areas will require a four wheel drive vehicle or travel by foot. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and places which may have traditional cultural significance to Native Americans, are known to occur within this FMU. Some potential site types include lithic scatters, stone circle sites, stone cairns and alignments, camp sites, rock art panels, historic inscription localities, historic mining and/or oil and gas districts, emigrant trails, and historic transportation roads. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are not common, but continued mineral development and exploration is increasing the amount of industrial WUI. This FMU also includes critical T&E habitat, wild horse management units, wilderness values and both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. T&E and candidate species located or potentially located in the FMU include the black-footed ferret. Examples of species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list found in the Kinney Rim/Adobe Town/Skull Creek FMU include white-tailed prairie dog and mountain plover. A complete and up to date list of all species on the BLM Wyoming State Director's sensitive species list is available at the BLM Wyoming State Office and the BLM website. The USFWS is responsible for maintaining the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered Species.

Fire History – Fire frequency in this FMU is low. Most fires are from natural ignition. Large fire potential is low due to low fuel loads and natural fuel breaks. From 1998 through 2008, approximately 26 fires have occurred within the FMU, for a total of 1260.5 acres. This represents an average of 2.6 wild fires per year, an average of 48.48 acres per fire, and an average of 126.05 acres burned per year. Suppression fires typically occur between June 15 and September 10. Historical weather data indicates that frost can occur above 8,000 feet every month of the year. Maximum temperatures can reach 100°F during July and August in the lower elevations. Thunderstorms and associated lightning occur throughout the summer months.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC)

RFO-07, Kinney Rim/Adobe Town Skull Creek FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	17,416	27,369	4,977	49,762
2211150 Juniper Woodland	III	70,910	0	3,732	74,642
2210660 Saltbush Shrubland	V	104,499	0	44,785	149,284
2210802 Wyoming Big Sagebrush	IV	44,785	134,355	44,786	223,926
Total Acres by Condition Class		237,610	161,724	98,280	497,614

Values at Risk – Ranch buildings, mineral developments and other improvements are located on private and public lands in the FMU. Significant prehistoric and historic sites that are vulnerable to wildland fire and/or related events or activities are known to exist in this FMU. This FMU also includes habitat for threatened and endangered species, species on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (such as sage-grouse), and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. For updates see the RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office.

Communities at Risk – There are no communities at risk within this FMU that were published in the *Federal Register*. The list may not include all the Communities at Risk located in this FMU. This list is maintained by Wyoming State Forestry and was printed in the *Federal Register*. Refer to RAMS document located at the Rawlins Field Office.

Safety Considerations – This FMU contains widespread incidence of both dispersed and concentrated oil and gas infrastructure, including individual and group pads, concentrated fields, pump and compressor stations, several man-camps, and multiple pipeline rights-of-way. Heavy truck traffic is common on all improved and many unimproved roads in the FMU. The Stratton Field (see Rawlins Field Office H2S map, Appendix 44) is a known H2S producing field.

Fire Management Objectives

Sagebrush ecosystems will be managed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and the *Wyoming Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan 2002* unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU. Restoration of shrub communities by allowing lightning-caused ignitions to burn as a natural ecological process. In mixed mountain shrub communities, create and maintain a mosaic of shrub age classes across the landscape. Manage rangelands/forests in accordance with the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (2003).

Suppression Objectives – Firefighter and public safety will always be the top priority, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private and state lands due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. Generally wildland fires would not be suppressed in this FMU but could be suppressed under an Appropriate Management Response scenario (refer to the Rawlins Field Office

Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan, Section 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management). Limit the use of dozers and graders and use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) when possible to limit surface disturbance. The management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. This would include firefighter and public safety, protection of communities, developments and improvements, the protection of resources (e.g., cultural, wildlife habitat, watersheds, etc.) and the protection of identified resources having relevance and important values. Management response to unplanned ignitions will emphasize the use of wildland fire for resource benefit in this FMU. However, the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices will remain as options. All fires determined to be man caused or not meeting the prescription criteria to be managed as a wildland fire for resource benefit will be suppressed. These management practices include utilizing unplanned ignitions, planned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. Management response to unplanned ignitions will be tailored to move treated areas towards the Desired Future Condition, but still address areas of critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, WUI and areas of other critical resource constraints. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 500 feet of riparian areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Create and maintain a vegetative mosaic across the landscape while meeting air quality guidelines. The use of wildland fire for resource benefit is identified as a fire management option within this FMU based on location and time of year of the fire. A management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as the preferred management option in this FMU. Over a 10-year period the total acres desired would not exceed 10,000 acres or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Planned ignitions as a treatment option will include broadcast burning for hazard fuel reduction as well as restoring ecosystem health. The burning of slash piles produced by mechanical operations will also occur within the FMU. Additional fuel treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. To ensure that impacts of planned ignitions on air quality are predicted and measured accurately, State air quality regulators will be consulted to assure that proper monitoring of air quality impacts will be measured. Initiate planned ignitions on approximately 10,000 acres over the next years or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Development of landscape objectives for upland plant communities will follow the direction and policy set forth in the Rawlins Field Office (RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD) and any such amendments to that document. Please refer to the RFO RMP and ROD, Sections 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management; 2.3.4, Forest Management; and 2.3.14, Vegetation. Please see also Section 2.3.12.1 “Wilderness Study Areas” within the same document, specifically Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area (pg 2-30.) Further information on landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities can be found in the Upper Colorado River Basin Watershed Standards and Guidelines Assessment completed by the RFO Resources staff in October of 2002. Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives – Treatments will be utilized to revitalize juniper stands, to rejuvenate shrub communities, and to improve and maintain rangeland/forest health. In addition, fuel breaks associated with improvements on public and private lands would be improved and maintained. Use hazardous fuels treatments to reverse the declining trend in rangeland/forest health and reduce risk of structure loss in the WUI. Treat areas infested by noxious and invasive weeds when appropriate to allow native perennials to re-establish. Other fuel treatments in these areas may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. A portion or all of the 10,000 acres that were identified in the above planned ignitions

strategies section may also be treated with mechanical, manual, chemical or biological methods for ecosystem health and to keep fire from spreading to private lands.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site by site basis following wildland fires. Post-fire rehabilitation and restoration of wildland fires will be initiated, if necessary, to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objective is to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Work closely with mineral operators and ranchers in the FMU to develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on public lands adjacent to private lands and structures at risk in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire.

RFO 8, Great Divide Basin FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located west of U.S. Highway 287 in Carbon and Sweetwater counties north of the checkerboard and south of Cyclone Rim and Bairoil Road. This area totals approximately 483,474 acres encompassing 5,890 private acres; 455,281 BLM-managed acres; and 22,303 acres of State lands. Public lands will be managed in conjunction with State lands and private lands (see Appendix 35 for map).

Characteristics – Public lands in this FMU consist of buttes, uplifts and a land locked basin. Elevation ranges from 6,300 to 7,500 feet. The dominant vegetation community includes desert shrubs, sagebrush and grasses. Use in this FMU includes livestock grazing, mineral extraction, wild horse use, recreation, and both year round and crucial big game winter range. Air and water quality in the FMU meet national standards. This FMU is located within the Great Divide River Basin.

Soils exhibit a wide variety of depths and textures and vary according to parent material, aspect, elevation and moisture. Soils are generally sandy or clay and highly alkali. A portion of a unique alkali wetland complex is located within this FMU. Access is by a road network suitable in most places for two wheel drive vehicle traffic during good weather. Most areas will require a four wheel drive vehicle or travel by foot. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and places which may have traditional cultural significance to Native Americans, are known to occur within this FMU. Some potential site types include lithic scatters, stone circle sites, stone cairns and alignments, camp sites, rock art panels, historic inscription localities, historic mining and/or oil and gas districts, emigrant trails, and historic transportation roads. Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are not common. This FMU also includes critical T&E habitat, wild horse management units, and both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. T&E and candidate species located or potentially located in the FMU include the black-footed ferret. Examples of species on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list found in this FMU include the pygmy rabbit, white-tailed prairie dog, and burrowing owl. A complete and up-to-date list of all species on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list is available at the BLM Wyoming State Office and the BLM website. The USFWS is responsible for maintaining the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered Species. There is a small amount of WUI in this FMU.

Fire History – Fire frequency in this FMU is low. Most fires are from natural ignition. Large fire potential is low due to low fuel loads and natural fuel breaks. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 4 fires have occurred within the FMU, for a total of 11.8 acres. This represents an average of 0.4 wild fires, an average of 2.95 acres per fire, and an average of 1.18 acres burned per year. Suppression fires typically occur between June 15 and September 10. Maximum temperatures can reach 100°F during July and August in the lower elevations. Thunderstorms and associated lightning occur throughout the summer months.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RFO-08, Great Divide Basin FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	IV	37,024	80,218	6,170	123,412

RFO-08, Great Divide Basin FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211530 Greasewood Flat	IV	6,170	0	55,536	61,706
2210660 Saltbush Shrubland	V	123,412	0	0	123,412
2210802 Wyoming Big Sagebrush	IV	37,024	197,459	12,341	246,824
2210810 Low Brush/Grass	V	58,621	0	3,085	61,706
Total Acres by Condition Class		262,251	277,677	77,132	617,060

Values at Risk – Homes, ranch buildings and other improvements are located on private lands in the FMU. Significant prehistoric and historic sites that are vulnerable to wildland fire and/or related events or activities are known to exist in this FMU. This FMU also includes habitat for threatened and endangered species, species on the BLM Wyoming State Director’s sensitive species list (such as sage-grouse), and contains both year-round and crucial winter range for big game. This FMU also includes mineral developments (such as a uranium mill), wild horse habitat, and unique alkali wetlands.

Communities at Risk – There are no communities at risk within this FMU that were published in the *Federal Register*. The list may not include all the Communities at Risk located in this FMU. This list is maintained by Wyoming State Forestry and was printed in the *Federal Register*.

Safety Considerations – This FMU contains widespread incidence of both dispersed and concentrated oil and gas infrastructure, including individual and group pads, concentrated fields, pump and compressor stations, and multiple pipeline rights-of-way. Heavy truck traffic is common on all improved and many unimproved roads in the FMU. The Lost Soldier and Wertz fields (see Rawlins Field Office H2S map, Appendix 44) are known H2S producing fields.

Fire Management Objectives

Sagebrush ecosystems will be managed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and the *Wyoming Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan 2002* unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU. Restore shrub communities by allowing lightning-caused ignitions to burn as a natural ecological process. In mixed mountain shrub communities, create and maintain a mosaic of shrub age classes across the landscape. Protect alkali wetland resources.

Suppression Objectives – Firefighter and public safety will always be the top priority, while minimizing loss of property, and threats to private and state lands due to fires encroaching from adjacent BLM-administered lands. AMR would be implemented to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. AMR would emphasize the use of wildland fire for resource benefit in this FMU; however, the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices would remain options. All fires determined to be man caused or not meeting the prescription criteria to be managed as a wildland fire for resource benefit would be suppressed. These management practices

include utilizing unplanned ignitions, planned ignitions, mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. AMR strategies would be tailored to move treated areas towards the Desired Future Condition, but still address areas of critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, WUI and areas of other critical resource constraints. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 500 feet of riparian areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Create and maintain a vegetative mosaic across the landscape while meeting air quality guidelines. Management response to unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as a fire management option within this FMU based on location and time of year of the fire. The management of unplanned ignitions for resource benefit is identified as the preferred management option in this FMU. Over a 10-year period the total acres desired would not exceed 10,000 acres or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Planned ignitions as a treatment option will include broadcast burning for hazard fuel reduction as well as restoring ecosystem health. Additional fuel treatments may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. The impacts of planned ignitions on air quality are predictable and measurable. Wyoming State air quality regulators will be consulted to assure that proper monitoring of air quality impacts occurs. Initiate planned ignitions on approximately 10,000 acres over the next ten years or as developed and identified in individual activity plans.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities – Development of landscape objectives for upland plant communities will follow the direction and policy set forth in the Rawlins Field Office (RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD) and any such amendments to that document. Please refer to the RFO RMP and ROD, Sections 2.3.3, Fire and Fuels Management; 2.3.4, Forest Management; and 2.3.14, Vegetation. Further information on landscape objectives for specific upland plant communities can be found in the Great Divide Basin/Ferris and Seminoe Mountain Standards and Guidelines Assessments completed by the RFO Resources staff in September of 2003. Sagebrush ecosystem objectives will be developed with the recommendations found in the *Wyoming Guidelines for Managing Sagebrush Communities* and Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2010-149 (6/21/2010) “*Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire and Fuels Management*” unless other objectives have been set forth in Activity Plans within the FMU.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives – Treatments will be utilized to rejuvenate shrub communities and to improve and maintain rangeland health. In addition, fuel breaks associated with improvements on public and private lands would be improved and maintained. Use hazardous fuels treatments to reverse the declining trend in rangeland health and reduce risk of structure loss in the WUI. Treat areas infested by noxious and invasive weeds when appropriate to allow native perennials to re-establish. Other fuel treatments in these areas may be considered as needed by a site-specific plan. A portion or all of the 10,000 acres that were identified in the above planned ignitions strategies section may also be treated with mechanical, manual, chemical or biological methods for ecosystem health and to keep fire from spreading to private lands.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site by site basis following wildland fires. Post-fire rehabilitation and restoration of wildland fires would be initiated, if necessary, to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure. All treatments will follow the guidelines and objectives established in the DOI *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*, and BLM *Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook*.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – The objectives are to perform hazardous fuel reduction in and around the wildland Urban/Industrial interface. Work closely with home owners,

mineral operators and ranchers in the FMU to develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on public lands adjacent to private lands and structures at risk in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire.

Rock Springs Field Office

RSFO 1, Big Sandy and Steamboat Mountain FMU

Description

Location – This FMU is located in the central and northwestern portion of the RSFO. It includes the communities of Farson and Eden and that portion of the City of Rock Springs north of Interstate Highway 80. The FMU contains a total of 2,396,242 acres with 1,643,514 acres of BLM-managed land; 456,220 acres of private surface; 198,037 acres of Bureau of Reclamation; 13,981 of USFWS; 79,262 acres of State of Wyoming Trust Land; and 3,228 acres of water. The southern one-third of the FMU is characterized by a “checkerboard” land pattern where even numbered sections are public and odd numbered sections are private (see Appendix 36 for map).

Characteristics – Interstate 80 forms the southern boundary and the major drainage system in the FMU consists of the Green River and its tributaries. This FMU consists of rolling sagebrush-dominated areas to rocky ridges with aspen and juniper woodlands, active and stabilized sand dunes, playa lakes, geologic uplifts and deep canyons. Elevations range from approximately 6,600 to approximately 8,600 feet above sea-level. Vegetation within the FMU is dominated by sagebrush with smaller amounts of greasewood flats, mountain shrub, aspen, juniper, riparian and coniferous forest types. Major resource uses include livestock grazing, three wild horse management areas (Little Colorado, White Mountain, and Great Divide Basin), wildlife habitat, dispersed recreation, historical interpretation and protection, Bridger Power Plant, several communities, and oil and gas exploration and development. Two active coal mines, several abandoned coal mines, and open seams exist in this FMU. Several special management areas are included within the FMU. These are identified in Values at Risk and Fire Management Strategies. Steamboat Mountain lies within the FMU. It contains unique vegetative communities and high value wildlife habitat. The Steamboat Mountain vegetative communities include associations of sagebrush with Utah snowberry and basin wild rye, bluebunch wheatgrass, and lemon scurfpea. In these communities, the primary resource management objective is to protect wildlife habitat. Generally, wildland fire is not desirable in the Steamboat Mountain area, although there may be opportunities for the use of planned ignitions or other vegetative treatment methods.

Fire History – Although there has been limited fire activity in this FMU, lightning-caused fires account for the majority of ignitions. Human-caused fires are possible with ignitions coming from recreational users and industrial operations. Wildland fires typically occur between June 1 and October 30. From 1998 through 2008, approximately 59 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 4330.5 total acres burned. This represents an average of 5.9 wild fires per year, an average of 73.4 acres per fire, and an average of 433.05 acres burned per year. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations most months of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 100 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months, some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RSFO-01, Big Sandy and Steamboat Mountain FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210660 Saltbush Shrubland	V	499,334	0	0	499,334

RSFO-01, Big Sandy and Steamboat Mountain FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210801 Basin Big Sagebrush	II	10,700	103,433	4,756	118,889
2210802 Wyoming Big Sagebrush	II	199,733	665,770	85,600	951,103
2210810 Desert Shrub	V	63,487	0	7,846	71,333
2211060 Montane-Foothill Deciduous Shrubland	III	5,231	18,546	0	23,777
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	10,700	57,066	3,567	71,333
2211270 Semi-Desert Shrub-Steppe	V	243,248	0	18,308	261,556
2211530 Greasewood Flat	V	338,834	0	17,833	356,667
2211590 Montane Riparian Systems	III	17,357	0	6,420	23,777
Total Acres by Condition Class		1,388,624	844,815	144,330	2,377,769

Values at Risk – This fire management area contain historic trails, special recreation management areas, and six ACECs: Steamboat Mountain, Natural Corrals, Cedar Canyon, White Mountain Petroglyphs, Greater Sand Dunes, and the South Pass Historic Landscape. Four WSAs are entirely or partially inside the areas. The WSAs are Whitehorse Creek, Oregon Buttes, Buffalo Hump, and Sand Dunes. There are also important scenic resources (Class II VRM areas). These areas will be managed in accordance with specific special management area objectives. This FMU contains portions of the checkerboard land pattern, urban interface, major utility rights-of-way, and oil and gas fields. In these areas, management response to unplanned ignitions will be practiced. Constraints applied to fire management activities include protection of watershed, ACEC, and other special management area values.

Communities at Risk – There are no Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU. Communities in the FMU include Rock Springs, Farson, Eden, Superior, Reliance, and Point of Rocks.

Safety Considerations – This FMU contains several communities associated with ingress/egress limitations as well as concern over smoke impacts on population areas and major roadways and. There are significant dispersed recreational activities within this FMU as well as a high occurrence of oil and gas development and other industrial interface.

Fire Management Objectives

The primary resource management objectives for these areas – consisting largely of greasewood, desert shrub, sagebrush, riparian, and conifer vegetative communities – are to reduce conifer and sagebrush encroachment into aspen and mountain shrub communities, to promote healthy timber regeneration and

improve habitat for big game and sage-grouse, and to maintain or enhance habitat for special status species (plant and animal). Other objectives are to improve forage for livestock and wild horses, to protect range improvements, to protect public and private property by reducing hazardous fuels near urban and industrial interface areas, and to reduce fuels hazards in and around BLM-administered recreation areas.

In those areas of the FMU that are predominantly BLM-administered lands (north of the checkerboard area), management response to unplanned ignitions, planned ignitions or other types of vegetative treatment could be used to meet resource management objectives.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 20 percent of BLM-managed land could be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics will be utilized depending on resources at risk and to maintain wilderness values and visual integrity of the WSA. Retardant and foam is prohibited within 300 feet of riparian areas or other sensitive issues. This FMU contains portions of the checkerboard land pattern, urban interface, coal mines, major utility rights-of-way, and oil and gas fields. On Seedska-dee Wildlife Refuge, the BLM will follow the strategies and tactics as determined by the Refuge Manager unless or until they threaten other land ownership or policy.

Throughout the remainder of the FMU, case-by-case decisions regarding fire suppression will be made consistent with the overall management objectives for the affected areas. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at < 100 acres 95 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 150 acres 90 percent of the time. These areas will be managed in accordance with specific special management area objectives. MIST or light hand tactics listed above will be followed in these areas. In addition, landing aircraft of any type should be minimized and only used with resource advisor approval, except in life treating situations. Helipads may be used upon receiving permission of the RSFO Field Manager, but must be limited to the minimum necessary for suppression. Minimize cutting of live and burned trees and snags. In the event that a tree poses a safety hazard and needs to be cut, trees should be cut flush to the ground and naturalized, and limbs should be scattered. Refrain from making piles. Scatter limbs and burned material in a natural looking manner.

Other area specific measures include:

- Wildland fires will be suppressed to a size no larger than 15 acres in the Steamboat Mountain ACEC when possible. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-6 will be suppressed at < 15 acres 90 percent of the time.
- In the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC use natural barriers, or fuel breaks as possible, minimize visual impacts, and motorized vehicle should not be used on historic trails unless approved by the Field Manager.
- Any fires greater than 5 acres in the Steamboat Mountain, Monument Ridge, North Table Mountain, South Table Mountain, Boars Tusk, and White Mountain areas will require cultural resource advisor input.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Opportunities for treatment with planned ignitions exist in some portions of the FMU (Jack Morrow Hills planning area, Little Prospect Mountain, and Prospect Mountain). Planned ignitions fuels treatments to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, protect resources at risk, and meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be limited, but considered when planning and implementing treatments. The landscape objective for this FMU is to maintain fuel condition classes 1 and 2, to maintain and improve important wildlife habitat, to maintain the integrity of

lemon scurfpea/big sagebrush communities, to protect sensitive species and threatened or endangered species, and to prevent invasion by exotic species.

Landscape Objectives for Specific Upland Plant Communities:

- Mixed Conifer – Maintain or create a mosaic of species and age class structure and promote stand health. Limit conifer to appropriate sites in order to prevent expansion into aspen and sagebrush/mountain shrub types.
- Mountain Shrub – Mountain shrub communities may contain one or several of the following species: serviceberry, antelope bitterbrush, mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, and currants. Most mountain shrub types also contain a significant amount of sagebrush which provides competition with the mountain shrubs. The objectives for this type are to maintain and enhance areas of this type by reducing sagebrush competition, and to encourage species diversity and age class structure (25% young, 50% mature, 25% over-mature/decadent).
- Aspen – This type is very limited within the FMU. Previous attempts to encourage sprouting and reduce sagebrush competition in this type in the Steamboat mountain area were largely unsuccessful due to post-burn browsing by elk. The large stands and amount of area covered by this type necessary to successfully treat with fire do not exist in the FMU. The objectives for this type are to maintain existing aspen stands by limiting competition from conifer and sagebrush and use by ungulates and encourage a diversity of age classes in aspen stands to reflect an ideal composition of 30% saplings, 60% young to mature trees, and 10% over-mature.
- Sagebrush/grassland – Maintain healthy sagebrush stands on appropriate sites. Manage sagebrush stands to achieve an ideal cover composition of 0 to 15% canopy cover (25%), 16% to 30% cover (60%), and greater than 30% cover (15%) as measured by the line intercept method.
- Juniper – Maintain juniper stands on sites where juniper is the potential natural community (PNC) and limit expansion into non-suitable sites where sagebrush or mountain shrub is the PNC.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) could be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulations, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and restored watershed function will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. The emphasis will be to reestablish healthy native plant communities and restore watershed function.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the wildland/urban interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. There are no Communities At Risk listed in the *Federal Register* for this FMU.

RSFO 2, Sweetwater FMU

Description

Location – The FMU is located in the extreme northeastern portion of the RSFO. It includes all lands north and east of the Sweetwater River, that are within the RSFO. The FMU is adjacent to the Shoshone National forest along its northern edge. The FMU contains a total of 88,433 acres with 64,791 acres administered by the BLM; 15,008 acres of private land; 201 acres of Forest Service; and 8,433 acres of State of Wyoming Trust Land. The area is drained by the Sweetwater River and its tributaries. There are scattered ranches throughout the area, but no communities are located within the FMU (see Appendix 37 for map).

Characteristics – This FMU consists of rolling sagebrush-dominated areas to rocky ridges with limber and Lodgepole pine stands. A majority of the FMU is comprised of the toe slopes of the Wind River Mountains. The Sweetwater River forms the southern boundary and is the major drainage in the FMU. Elevations range from approximately 6,600 to approximately 8,000 feet above sea-level.

Vegetation within the FMU is dominated by sagebrush with smaller amounts of mountain shrub, aspen, juniper, riparian and coniferous forest types. Major resource uses include livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, dispersed recreation, historical interpretation and protection, and limited oil and gas exploration and development.

Several special management areas are included within the FMU including the Wind River Front SRMA, the Sweetwater River Wild and Scenic river segment, the Lander Cut-off of the Oregon Trail system, and Special Status Plant Species ACEC.

Fire History – The area has a low to moderate fire frequency. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 9 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 9.8 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.9 wild fires per year, an average of 1.09 acres per fire, and an average of 0.98 acres burned per year. Wildland fires typically occur between June 1 and October 30 with the majority of ignitions being lightning-caused. Human-caused fires (typically inadvertently started by recreational users and industrial operations) are possible. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations most months of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 100 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RSFO-02, Sweetwater FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	7,505	0	1,325	8,830
2210500 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	1,422	14,217	4,671	20,310
2210550 Mixed Conifer	V	1,543	664	2,208	4,415
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	10,066	0	530	10,596

RSFO-02, Sweetwater FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210801 Basin Big Sagebrush	II	1,589	0	177	1,766
2210802 Wyoming Big Sagebrush	II	26,227	0	2,914	29,141
2210861 Foothill Shrubland – No True Mountain	II	839	0	44	883
2211060 Montane-Foothill Deciduous Shrubland	II	795	0	88	883
2211600 Subalpine/Upper Montane Riparian Systems	III	4,415	0	0	4,415
2211660 Douglas Fir	I	1,413	5,298	353	7,064
Total Acres by Condition Class		55,814	20,179	12,310	88,303

Values at Risk – The area contains sensitive resources including one ACEC (special status plants), special recreation management areas (part of the Wind River Front SMA), and wild and scenic river values.

Communities at Risk – There are no Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU. There are several ranches within the FMU.

Safety Considerations – There is significant dispersed recreational activities. Smoke impacts on major roadways.

Fire Management Objectives

The primary resource management objectives for this areas – consisting largely of sagebrush, riparian, and conifer vegetative communities – are to reduce conifer and sagebrush encroachment into aspen and mountain shrub communities, to promote healthy timber regeneration, to improve habitat for big game and sage-grouse, and to maintain or enhance habitat for special status species (plant and animal). Other objectives are to improve forage for livestock, wildlife, to protect range improvements, to protect public and private property by reducing hazardous fuels near urban interface, and to reduce fuels hazards in and around BLM-administered recreation areas.

In those areas of the FMU that are predominantly BLM-administered lands, management response to unplanned ignitions, planned ignitions or other types of vegetative treatment could be used to meet resource management objectives.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 10 percent of BLM-administered land could be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) will be followed depending on resources at risk. This FMU contains portions of the urban interface. Full suppression will be taken in these areas. Throughout the remainder of the FMU, case-by-case decisions regarding fire suppression will be made that are consistent with the overall management objectives for the affected areas. Overall, up to 20% of BLM-managed land could be burned or treated over the next 20 years to achieve resource management objectives. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1-3 will be suppressed at < 500 acres 90 percent of the time. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 4-6 will be suppressed at < 150 acres 90 percent of the time.

This fire management unit contains the Lander Cutoff Historic Trail, Sweetwater Bridge, Sweetwater Guard Station and the Wind River Front special recreation management areas, Sweetwater Wild and Scenic River, and Special Status Plant Species ACEC. These areas will be managed in accordance with specific special management area objectives. MIST or light hand tactics listed above will be followed in these areas. Minimize cutting of live and burned trees and snags. In the event that a tree poses a safety hazard and needs to be cut, trees should be cut flush to the ground and naturalized, and limbs should be scattered. Refrain from making piles. Scatter limbs and burned material in a natural looking manner.

Other area specific measures include:

- In the Special Status Plant Species ACEC, no retardant is allowed and vehicles are prohibited in the enclosure without Field Manager approval. Landing helicopters requires resource advisor approval unless a life threatening situation occurs.
- No vehicles or equipment are allowed on the unimproved portions of the Lander Cutoff Historic Trail, unless authorized by the Rock Springs Field Manager.
- Full suppression tactics will be used within ¼ mile of the Sweetwater Bridge and Sweetwater Guard Station campground areas.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Opportunities for treatment with planned ignitions are limited in this FMU. Planned ignitions treatments to meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be limited, but considered, when planning and implementing treatments.

The landscape objective for this FMU is to maintain fuel conditions classes I and II, to maintain and improve important wildlife habitat, to protect sensitive species and threatened or endangered species, to maintain high quality view sheds and air sheds, to protect segments of historic trails and to prevent invasion by exotic species.

Landscape objectives for specific upland Plant Communities:

- Mixed Conifer – Maintain or create a mosaic of species and age class structure and promote stand health. Limit conifer to appropriate sites in order to prevent expansion into aspen and sagebrush/mountain shrub types.
- Mountain Shrub – Mountain shrub communities may contain one or several of the following species: serviceberry, antelope bitterbrush, mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, and currants. Most mountain shrub types also contain a significant amount of sagebrush which provides competition with the mountain shrubs. Maintain and enhance areas of mountain shrub by reducing sagebrush competition and encourage species diversity and age class structure (30% young, 50% mature, 20% over-mature/decadent).
- Aspen – There are large aspen stands throughout the FMU. Maintain existing aspen stands by limiting competition from conifer and sagebrush and use by ungulates and encourage a diversity of

age classes in aspen stands to reflect an ideal composition of 30% saplings, 60% young to mature trees, and 10% over-mature.

- Sagebrush/grassland – Maintain healthy sagebrush stands on appropriate sites. Manage sagebrush stands to achieve an ideal cover composition of 0 to 15% canopy cover (25%), 16% to 30% cover (50%), and greater than 30% cover (25%).
- Juniper – Maintain juniper stands on sites where juniper is the potential natural community (PNC) and limit expansion into non-suitable sites where sagebrush or mountain shrub is the PNC.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) could be used to reduce hazardous fuel accumulations, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site by site basis following wildland fires.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the wildland/urban interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. There are no *Federal Register* Communities At Risk in the FMU.

RSFO 3, Red Desert FMU

Description

Location – The FMU is located entirely within the closed Red Desert Basin. Boundaries of the FMU include the Rawlins FO boundary on the east, and the west branch of the Continental Divide on the north, west and south. The FMU contains a total of 644,490 acres with 479,855 acres administered by the BLM; 144,655 acres of private surface; and 19,980 acres of State of Wyoming Trust Land. There is no human habitation and no communities in the FMU. A small amount of natural gas development has occurred and more is expected in the future (see Appendix 38 for map).

Characteristics – The area includes some checkerboard lands, major utilities, oil and gas fields, and the Great Divide Basin wild horse herd management area. Five WSAs and one ACEC are located in the area: Honeycomb Buttes WSA, Oregon Buttes WSA, South Pinnacles WSA, Alkali Basin/East Sand Dunes WSA, Red Lake WSA, and the Oregon Buttes ACEC. Portions of the ACEC have significant wildlife habitat or cultural values that need to be protected from wildland fire. Vegetation in the FMU consists of sagebrush, greasewood, saltbush, and small amounts of juniper and aspen. There are several alkali lakes, playa lakes, sand dunes (active and stable), and special status species plants and animals including sage-grouse throughout the area.

Fire History – The area has a low fire frequency. From 1999 through 2008, approximately 5 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 237.4 total acres burned. This represents an average of 0.5 wildfires per year, an average of 47.48 acres per fire, and an average of 23.74 acres burned per year. Wildland fires typically occur between June 1 and October 30 with the majority of ignitions being lightning-caused. Human-caused fires (typically inadvertently started by recreational users and industrial operations) are possible.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RSFO-03, Red Desert FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	6,439	0	0	6,439
2210660 Saltbush Shrubland	V	109,478	0	0	109,478
2210720 Dwarf Sagebrush	V	32,199	0	0	32,199
2210801 Basin Big Sagebrush	II	3,156	41,923	0	45,079
2210802 Wyoming Big Sagebrush	II	118,815	145,219	0	264,034
2210810 Desert Shrub	V	64,398	0	0	64,398
2210861 Foothill Shrubland – No True Mountain	IV	12,880	0	0	12,880

RSFO-03, Red Desert FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2211060 Montane-Foothill Deciduous Shrubland	II	2,254	4,186	0	6,440
2211270 Semi-Desert Shrub-Steppe	V	38,639	0	0	38,639
2211530 Greasewood Flat	V	59,891	0	4,507	64,398
Total Acres by Condition Class		448,149	191,328	4,507	643,984

Values at Risk – The area includes gas fields, segments of historic trails, five WSAs, and one ACEC.

Communities at Risk – There are no Communities at Risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU. No communities exist in the FMU.

Safety Considerations – There is significant dispersed recreational activities and a moderate occurrence of oil and gas development and other industrial interface.

Fire Management Objectives

The primary fire objectives are to provide cost-effective protection from wildfire to life, property and resource values, maintain or improve wildlife habitat and livestock forage, sustain aspen communities by reducing conifer and sagebrush encroachment and stimulate aspen regeneration, promote healthy timber regeneration, protect cultural resources, and limit hazardous fuels in and around the wildland urban interface.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 5 percent of this FMU would be burned or treated in the next 20 years. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1 – 6 will be suppressed at < 10 acres 90 percent of the time. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) will be followed depending on resources at risk through a management response to unplanned ignitions.

Fire retardant drops are prohibited within 300 feet of riparian, wetland areas, and other sensitive resources. Fire retardant drops are prohibited within ¼ mile (1,320 feet) of rock art unless authorized by a Rock Springs Field Office resource advisor. Prevent surface disturbing activity and retardant drop on known special status species.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Fire occurrence in the FMU has been low historically. Fire has not been a major factor in sagebrush and juniper fuel types in most of the FMU. Planned ignitions fuels treatments to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, protect resources at risk, and meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be limited, but considered, when planning and implementing treatments.

The landscape objective for this FMU is to maintain fuel conditions classes 1 and 2, to maintain and improve important wildlife habitat, to protect sensitive species and threatened or endangered species, to maintain high quality viewshed and airsheds, to protect segments of historic trails and to prevent invasion by exotic species.

Landscape objectives for specific upland Plant Communities:

- Aspen – This type is limited within the FMU. The large stands and amount of area covered by this type, which are necessary to successfully treat with fire, do not exist in the FMU. The objectives for this type are to maintain existing aspen stands by limiting competition from conifer and sagebrush and use by ungulates and to encourage a diversity of age classes in aspen stands to reflect an ideal composition of 30% saplings, 60% young to mature trees, and 10% over-mature.
- Sagebrush/grassland – Maintain healthy sagebrush stands on appropriate sites. Manage sagebrush stands to achieve an ideal cover composition of 0 to 15% canopy cover (30%), 16% to 30% cover (60%), and greater than 30% cover (20%).
- Juniper – Maintain juniper stands on sites where juniper is the potential natural community (PNC) and limit expansion into non-suitable sites where sagebrush or mountain shrub is the PNC.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) could be used to reduce hazardous fuel accumulations, as well as treat to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines established in the DOI Interagency Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Guidebook.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the industrial interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. There are no *Federal Register* Communities At Risk in the FMU.

RSFO 4, Little Mountain FMU

Description

Location – The Little Mountain FMU encompasses all of the RSFO that lies south of Interstate Highway 80. The area is very large, extending from Adobe Town on the east to Hickey Mountain on the west (approximately 120 miles). The FMU contains a total of 2,127,565 acres with 1,411,497 acres administered by the BLM; 6,236 acres administered by the USDA Forest Service; 631,441 acres of private surface; 77,724 acres of State of Wyoming Trust Land; and 758 acres of water (see Appendix 39 and Appendix 40 for maps).

Characteristics – Because of the large area represented by the FMU, the character of the area is highly variable. Land types range from largely un-vegetated badland to lushly vegetated high mountains. Elevations range from approximately 6,000 feet above sea level to nearly 10,000 feet at the summit of Pine Mountain. Major vegetation types include sagebrush/grassland, grassland, juniper woodland, riparian, mountain shrub, salt desert shrub, aspen woodland, coniferous forest and greasewood.

Within the FMU are four subunits: Little Mountain, Pine Mountain, Aspen Mountain, and Pine Butte. These areas were segregated for increased management attention due to fuel types, critical resource values, high recreational use, T&E species, and high value communications concentration in the Wildland Urban Interface on Aspen Mountain. The predominant fuel type in the Pine Mountain, Little Mountain and Pine Butte areas is coniferous forest. The common species in this type are lodgepole and limber pine, sub-alpine fir and Douglas fir. In Aspen Mountain, the predominant fuel type is grassland with a minor component of sagebrush /grass and aspen woodland.

The area provides important habitat to a wide variety of wildlife species including pronghorn antelope, elk, mule deer, moose, sage-grouse, white-tailed prairie dogs, other rodents and mammalian predators, raptors and songbirds, amphibians, reptiles, and fish. The Colorado River cutthroat trout is well represented in streams in the Little Mountain and Pine Mountain areas. Existing land uses include dispersed recreation, livestock grazing, oil and gas exploration and development, and wildlife habitat.

Fire History – From 1999 through 2008, approximately 425 fires have occurred within this FMU, accounting for 93,591.6 total acres burned. This represents an average of 42.5 wild fires per year at an average of 220.22 acres per fire, and an average of 9,359.16 acres burned per year. Wildland fires typically occur between June 1 and October 30 with the majority of ignitions being lightning-caused. Fire occurrence in this FMU is high, especially in and around the Little and Pine Mountain areas. Human-caused fires (typically inadvertently started by recreational users and industrial operations) are possible. Historical weather data indicates frost could occur in the higher elevations most months of the year. Maximum temperatures for the FMU rarely exceed 100 degrees during the fire season. Throughout the summer months some lightning storms bring wetting rain.

Fire Regime (FR) / Condition Class (CC) Analysis Area

RSFO-04, Little Mountain FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
2210110 Aspen Forest Woodland	III	3,860	36,027	3,002	42,889
2210500 Lodgepole Pine Forest	IV	5,575	14,797	1,072	21,444
2210550 Mixed Conifer	III	8,579	0	12,867	21,446
2210720 Dwarf Sagebrush	V	21,445	0	0	21,445
2211260 Mountain Sagebrush	II	260,551	0	61,117	321,668
2210801 Basin Big Sagebrush	II	3,002	36,457	3,431	42,890
2210802 Wyoming Big Sagebrush	IV	266,341	289,502	23,160	579,003
2210160 Pinyon-Juniper	III	320,382	65,620	0	386,002
2210660 Saltbush Shrubland	V	150,112	0	0	150,112
2210810 Desert Shrub	V	85,778	0	0	85,778
2210861 Foothill Shrubland – No True Mountain	IV	35,169	7,720	0	42,889
2210862 Foothill Shrubland – True Mountain Mahogany	IV	18,872	2,573	0	21,445
2211060 Montane-Foothill Deciduous Shrubland	II	113,227	0	15,440	128,667
2211270 Semi-Desert Shrub-Steppe	V	171,556	0	0	171,556
2211530 Greasewood Flat	V	64,334	0	0	64,334
2211600 Subalpine/Upper Montane Riparian Systems	III	8,578	12,867	0	21,445
2211590 Montane Riparian Systems	III	16,728	0	4,717	21,445

RSFO-04, Little Mountain FMU					
Biophysical Setting	Historic Fire Regime Group	Condition Class 1 (Acres)	Condition Class 2 (Acres)	Condition Class 3 (Acres)	Total Acres
Total Acres by Condition Class		1,554,089	465,563	124,806	2,144,458

Values at Risk – The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area, administered by the Forest Service, borders this fire management area along with the Wasatch-Cache and Ashley National Forests. There are three WSAs within this fire management area: Devils Playground/Twin Buttes, Red Creek, and Adobe Town. There are also three ACECs: Pine Springs, Greater Red Creek, and a portion of the Special Status Plant Species ACEC. The objectives for the Pine Springs ACEC include maintaining or enhancing important cultural, historic, and prehistoric values (see page 4-5 in the Green River RMP). Objectives for Greater Red Creek include maintaining or enhancing fragile soils, Colorado River cutthroat trout habitat, and water quality (see Green River RMP page 34 for objectives). The objectives for the Special Status Plant Species ACEC include maintaining or enhancing plant species and their habitats. There are several gas and oil plants, pipelines, and associated facilities throughout the FMU.

Three other special management areas also exist in this area: Monument Valley, Pine Mountain, and Sugarloaf Basin. The primary objective for these special management areas is to protect wildlife, geologic, cultural, watershed, and scientific values.

Communities at Risk – This fire management area contains urban interface including the communities of Rock Springs and Green River and their surrounding residential areas, Table Rock, McKinnon, and Lonetree. None of these communities are listed in the *Federal Register*.

Safety Considerations – This FMU contains several scattered residences associated with ingress/egress limitations as well as concern over smoke impacts on population areas and major roadways and. There is significant dispersed recreational activity. There is a high occurrence of oil and gas development and other industrial interface. In addition, beetle kill and previously burned timber pose specific hazards. The Sweetwater County-Rock Springs Airport is within this FMU.

Fire Management Objectives

The primary fire objectives are to provide cost-effective protection from wildfire to life, property and resource values, maintain or improve wildlife habitat and livestock forage, sustain aspen communities by reducing conifer and sagebrush encroachment and stimulate aspen regeneration, promote healthy timber regeneration, protect cultural resources, and limit hazardous fuels in and around the wildland urban interface.

Suppression Objectives – No more than 25 percent of this FMU would be burned or treated in the next 20 years. Provide for human health and safety first, while minimizing loss of property, threats to private land, and maximizing the ecological benefit of wildland fire. On private lands, full suppression tactics will occur unless an agreement or MOU is in place with the landowner allowing other management responses to unplanned ignitions. Roads and natural fuel breaks should be used in association with indirect tactics to stop the fire, in place of new fire line construction whenever possible. Fire retardant drops are prohibited within 1/4 mile (1,320 feet) of rock art sites unless authorized by a Rock Springs Field Office resource advisor, and 300 feet of riparian, wetland areas, and other sensitive resources.

Prevent surface disturbing activity and retardant drop on known special status species. All fires occurring at Fire Intensity Levels (FILs) 1 – 6 will be suppressed at < 2500 acres 90 percent of the time.

Special suppression considerations are required in the following areas:

- In the Special Status Plant Species ACEC, within the McKinnon enclosure, no vehicles are allowed. In the remaining portions of the ACEC, vehicles are limited to existing roads and trails.
- Any fires greater than 5 acres in the Little Mountain, Teepee Mountain, and Aspen Mountain areas will require cultural resource advisor input.

The landscape objective for this FMU is to maintain or achieve fuel conditions classes I and II, to maintain and improve watershed condition and important wildlife habitat, to protect sensitive species and threatened or endangered species habitats, to maintain high quality viewshed and airsheds, to protect segments of historic trails and to prevent establishment of invasive species.

Planned and Unplanned Ignition Objectives – Planned ignitions and fuels treatments will be utilized in order to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation, to protect resources at risk, and to meet vegetation objectives of improving plant community health will be implemented.

Landscape objectives for specific upland Plant Communities:

- Mixed Conifer – Maintain or create a mosaic of species and age class structure and promote stand health. Limit conifer to appropriate sites to prevent expansion into aspen and sagebrush/mountain shrub types.
- Mountain Shrub – Mountain shrub communities may contain one or several of the following species: serviceberry, antelope bitterbrush, mountain mahogany, snowberry, chokecherry, and currants. Most mountain shrub types also contain a significant amount of sagebrush which provides competition with the mountain shrubs. The objectives for this type are to maintain and enhance areas of this type by reducing sagebrush competition and encourage species diversity and age class structure (30% young, 50% mature, 20% over-mature/decadent).
- Aspen – This type is abundant in the Little Mountain and Pine Mountain areas and the potential for increased acreage of this type with the use of fire exists. The large stands and amount of area covered by this type, which are necessary to successfully treat, do exist in the FMU. The objectives for this type are to maintain existing aspen stands by limiting competition from conifer and sagebrush and use by ungulates and encourage increased acreage of this type and a diversity of age classes in aspen stands to reflect an ideal composition of 30% saplings, 60% young to mature trees, and 10% over-mature.
- Sagebrush/grassland – Maintain healthy sagebrush stands on appropriate sites and manage sagebrush stands to achieve an ideal cover composition of 0 to 15% canopy cover (30%), 16% to 30% cover (50%), and greater than 30% cover (20%).
- Juniper – Maintain juniper stands on sites where juniper is the potential natural community (PNC) and limit expansion into non-suitable sites where sagebrush or mountain shrub is the PNC.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments Objectives – The implementation of non-fire fuel treatments (mechanical and chemical) could be used to help reduce hazardous fuel accumulations, as well as treat vegetation to reach vegetative resource objectives.

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Objectives – Emergency stabilization and/or rehabilitation actions will promote the reestablishment of healthy native plant communities and will be evaluated on a

site-by-site basis following wildland fires. All treatments will follow the guidelines established in the DOI Interagency Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Guidebook.

Community Protection/Community Assistance Objectives – Fuels treatments and management responses to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the wildland/urban interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. Fuels treatments and management response to unplanned ignitions will be implemented in the wildland urban interface to minimize threats to resources at risk. Communities at risk identified in the *Federal Register* in this FMU consist of Rock Springs and Green River, Reliance, Superior, Jamestown, Table Rock, McKinnon, and Lonetree, and Point of Rocks.

Chapter 4 – Wildland Fire Operational Guidance

4.1 Management of Unplanned Ignitions

“Fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and legal consequences of fire. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to fire” (1995/2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy).

4.1.1 Preparedness

Qualifications and Fireline Refresher

Training and fitness requirements for all personnel involved in fire suppression/support can be found in the annual *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations*, and the Office of Fire and Aviation website at www.fire.blm.gov. Attendance at the annual fireline refresher training along with successful completion of the work capacity test, at the appropriate level, is a prerequisite for issuance of an Incident Command Qualification System certificate (Red Card) prior to June 30th of each year. Agency administrators will ensure that their employees are trained, certified, and made available to participate in the wildland fire program locally, regionally and nationally as the situation demands. Employees with operational, administrative, or other skills support the wildland fire program as necessary. Agency administrators are responsible and will be held accountable for making employees available. After the fireline refresher is complete, a pack test will be given to personnel seeking a red card. The pack test is administered at three levels. The arduous test consists of carrying 45 pound pack for 3 miles in 45 minutes or less. The moderate test consists of carrying a 25 pound pack for 2 miles in 30 minutes or less. The light/walk test consists of walking 1 mile with only the individual’s body weight in 16 minutes or less. The arduous pack test requires a medical exam that needs to be approved and set up by the District Fire Management Officer or his/her representative. For the moderate and light/walk test, the Health Screen Questionnaire (HSQ) must be completed and on file prior to taking the test.

Fire Season Readiness

Requirements for preparedness and operational plans can be found in the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations*. They may also be found in the *High Desert District Initial Attack and Aviation Plans*. The High Desert District participates in an annual fire readiness review either at the local, state, or national level. This review ensures appropriate agency fire suppression readiness throughout the District and also validates the management direction and operational focus of the District’s Fire Program. Operations typically begin in April with planned ignitions implementation and will last until late October. District personnel training needs include qualifications for Engine Operator (ENOP), Engine Boss (ENGB), Incident Commander Type 4 and 3 (ICT4, ICT3), Strike Team (STEN)/Task Force (TFLD) Leaders, Ignition Specialists (FIRB, BLM FIRB), Burn Boss (RXB2, RXB1) and various aviation positions.

Agency Administrators will ensure employees are trained, certified and available to participate in the wildland fire program locally, regionally, and nationally as the situation demands, and as described in the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations*.

4.1.2 Incident Management

The High Desert District will prioritize all wildland fire incidents based upon the following criteria:

- Firefighter and public safety
- Property conservation

- Resource protection

A qualified Incident Commander (IC) will be assigned to each wildland fire incident whose training, qualifications, and experience are commensurate for the complexities and risk assessment of his or her assigned incident. Each IC will have the responsibility to determine the proper staffing and logistical support for the assigned incident and will coordinate resource and support requests through the HDD Operational Duty Officer (HDD ODO) and the Rawlins Interagency Dispatch Center (RWC).

The Fire Management Officer is responsible for the management of all incidents and the safe transition of all incidents. On ALL Type 1 and 2 incidents, a delegation of authority, team briefing, Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS), and a debriefing of the current incident commander will be done. The appropriate Field Manager or their acting must sign and approve all actions during large fire operations. A guide to help in transition and incident management is located in Chapter 11 of the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations*.

The HDD ODO will be notified per run card and IA plan direction of all dispatch actions affecting fire resources within the HDD.

Dispatch will use pre-planned dispatching guides that contain initial attack strategies for each of the predefined dispatch areas. During the time between the dispatch and the arrival of the first unit the HDD ODO will be the IC responsible for the mobilization and coordination of initial attack resources and logistical needs. Once resources arrive on scene, the IC will be identified and assume command of the incident.

A management response to unplanned ignitions will be used in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. A response can vary from an aggressive initial action to using MIST tactics and natural barriers in sensitive areas. Response to wildland fire strategies will be tailored to address each area's management considerations such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), critical habitat for T&E species, areas of soil instability, areas of cultural heritage resources, and areas of other critical resource constraints. HDD ODO will coordinate with the appropriate Field Manager to fill all resource advisor requests. Resource advisors will be ordered through Rawlins Interagency Fire Dispatch.

Requirements for fire operations/suppression plans can be found in the *Interagency Standard for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations* (Red Book) and at the Office of Fire and Aviation website at <http://www.fire.blm.gov/>. More information can be found in the High Desert District Initial Attack Plan, and all plans for fire and resource personnel use can be accessed at each High Desert District Field Office and at Rawlins Interagency Dispatch Center.

4.2 Burned Area Emergency Response

All Emergency Stabilization and rehabilitation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. All actions will be implemented in accordance with BLM Handbook H-1742-1 (Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook) and the DOI Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook, Manual 620 DM 3. The guidance provided in the above listed documents incorporates all pertinent information from the Interagency Burned Area Response and the Interagency Burned Area Rehabilitation Guidebooks.

4.3 Management of Planned Fuels Treatments

The Wyoming High Desert District currently employs one Assistant Fire Management Officer – Fuels and one Prescribed Fire and Fuels Specialist that are primarily responsible for the implementation portion of planned projects. Each Field Office employs a Natural Resource Specialist/Fuels Technician who is

responsible for the planning of projects to be implemented. The Rawlins Field Office employs a fuels crew. The Fuels program takes an interdisciplinary approach to fuels management. The Fuels Specialists work for the Assistant Fire Management Officer – Fuels and the Natural Resource Specialists work for the AFM Resources. By working as an interdisciplinary group, the projects can utilize expertise from personnel with varied backgrounds. Primary burn windows in the High Desert District are spring and fall. During winters with light snow pack, burning can be successfully conducted as early as February. The District Fire Management Officer or the qualified Burn Boss will determine if the prescribed fire prescription is being met when ignition operations are taking place. Prior to these burning windows, the public is made aware of upcoming projects through general media releases and formal notifications in accordance with the burn plans. The winter season is dedicated to planning future projects, developing and supervising contracts, evaluating monitoring information, pile burning, and equipment maintenance.

At the individual treatment level, planning will take place using the following process:

1. All of the applicable elements in the Job Planning check list in the Interagency Prescribed Fire Guide will be addressed for both prescribed fire and non-fire projects. Project maps will be produced using GIS and their storage location will be documented in the project file.
2. Planning efforts will follow the NEPA process. The interdisciplinary team will identify the purpose and need for the treatment, determine objectives, propose treatment alternatives, and develop monitoring protocols to evaluate if objectives are met or not. The team will consist of a combination of resources and support services staff for all prescribed fire projects.
3. The public, permittees, state, local, and federal agencies will be consulted during the NEPA process in accordance with the collaborative framework identified in the National Fire Plan's 10 Year Comprehensive Strategy.
4. An appropriate decision document will be prepared depending on the level of NEPA documentation that is required. For example, a Decision Record for an EA, and Record of Decision for an EIS.
5. For prescribed fire projects, Prescribed Open Burn Permits, Wyoming State Land Board approval, private land releases, grazing agreements and all other necessary permits and approvals will be completed prior to any ignition. Preferably, these permits, agreements and approvals will be obtained in the winter well before the spring burning period.
6. For all prescribed burn projects, a prescribed burn plan will be completed consistent with the Interagency Prescribed Fire Implementation Guide.
7. All prescribed burns will be conducted in accordance with the approved burn plan. Consultation will occur between the fire staff and Resource Advisor (READ) during the implementation phase, and will work together to make needed adjustments to ensure project objectives are met for both fire and non-fire projects.
8. All prescribed fire and non-fire treatments will have a monitoring protocol in accordance with the HDD Monitoring Plan. The intensity of monitoring will vary depending on the project and post treatment land use. For example, an intensive monitoring protocol might include vegetation sampling before and after the treatment, grazing studies, and fuels surveys.
9. All completed projects will be mapped in GIS.
10. Acres treated will be reported in the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS), the Range Improvement Project System (RIPS), and PMDS. The original project files will be stored with the project proponent at each field office. A copy of the project planning file and implementation file will be kept at the District Office.
11. Reporting acres and maintenance of GIS data is a field office responsibility.
13. All treatments for the upcoming fiscal year will be entered in NFPORS by April 15 each year.

4.4 Prevention, Mitigation, and Education

Community Risk Assessments and Mitigation Plans are being developed for communities in the *Federal Register*. Completed Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) are located in the office of the Wyoming State Forester. Work is being done to assist these communities by the BLM and in conjunction with cooperating counties, federal agencies, and Wyoming State Forestry Department. This is being accomplished by assisting in hazardous fuels reduction, cooperative prevention, education, and technical assistance. Structural fire suppression is the responsibility of Tribal, State, or Local governments as described in the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations*. Federal agencies may assist with exterior structural protection activities under formal Fire Protection Agreements that specify the mutual responsibilities of the partners, including funding. Agencies and cooperators will work together and with other affected groups and individuals to prevent unauthorized ignition of wildland fires.

There has not been a Fire Prevention Position established within the High Desert District, although fire staff members are engaged in community education and prevention activities. Industrial operations, Precautions and Orders and Closures are covered in the Wyoming Interagency Fire Restriction Plan. All orders and closures are done in coordination with local cooperators and adjoining agencies. They are recommended by the District Fire Management Officer, and approved by the Field Manager. This information can be obtained from the respective BLM Field Office or from Rawlins Interagency Dispatch Center located at www.fs.fed.us/r2/fire/rwc.htm.

Chapter 5 – Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation of the Fire Management Plan

Annual Monitoring Requirements

The High Desert District will monitor the effectiveness of this FMP in meeting fire and resource management objectives as outlined in land use plans, area RMPs, and associated activity plans. Any shortages or conflicts will be resolved and the FMP will be revised as needed. Project level plans will be evaluated to ensure that the treatment/action meets the purpose and need for the project. The effectiveness of the FMP will be evaluated for both the fuels and fire suppression programs.

Wildland Fire Suppression

Fire suppression direction is to protect life, property, and resource values from wildland fire in a cost-efficient and safe manner. The following criteria will be evaluation measurements:

- Budget and program are based on an analysis of efficiency.
- Wildland fire suppression organization reflects the analysis based on current year funding.
- Wildland fire suppression is based on least-cost plus damages with consideration for policy concerns.
- Management response to unplanned ignitions is commensurate with RMP direction.
- In addition to RMP standards and guidelines, each incident will be monitored for effectiveness of the planned strategies and tactics; District wildland fires may have fire management staff document site visits to review tactics and rehabilitation.

Monitoring and Evaluation of HDD Goals and Objectives

It is important that baseline monitoring efforts in the High Desert District take place prior to any planned ignitions, mechanical, biological, chemical, and rehabilitation treatments. Post treatment monitoring is required to determine if direct treatment objectives and resource management objectives were met. Direct treatment objectives are usually attributes such as plant mortality, fuel consumption, burn pattern (mosaic) and total acreage. Resource objectives concern post treatment attributes such as cover, frequency, production, density, and stocking level of a desired species.

The minimum monitoring standard when conducting planned ignitions is weather, smoke, observed fire behavior, and fire treatments objectives such as fuel consumption, fire severity, burn pattern, and burned acres. If fuel moisture values, such as live fuel moisture or soil moisture, are included in the prescription, then those parameters should be outlined in the planned ignition burn plan.

Although not required for every project, more detailed vegetative, soils and other resource data is desirable. This is particularly true of treatment methods which have not been widely used in the district. An effort should also be made to conduct monitoring on treatments which were completed prior to this fire plan.

For additional Monitoring standards see the High Desert District Monitoring Plan.

Fuels Treatment

The fuels treatment program involves reduction of natural fuels, activity-generated fuels such as slash, and restoration of fire adapted ecosystems.

Reporting Requirements

All wildland fires are currently entered into the BLM Fire Reporting system (DI-1202).

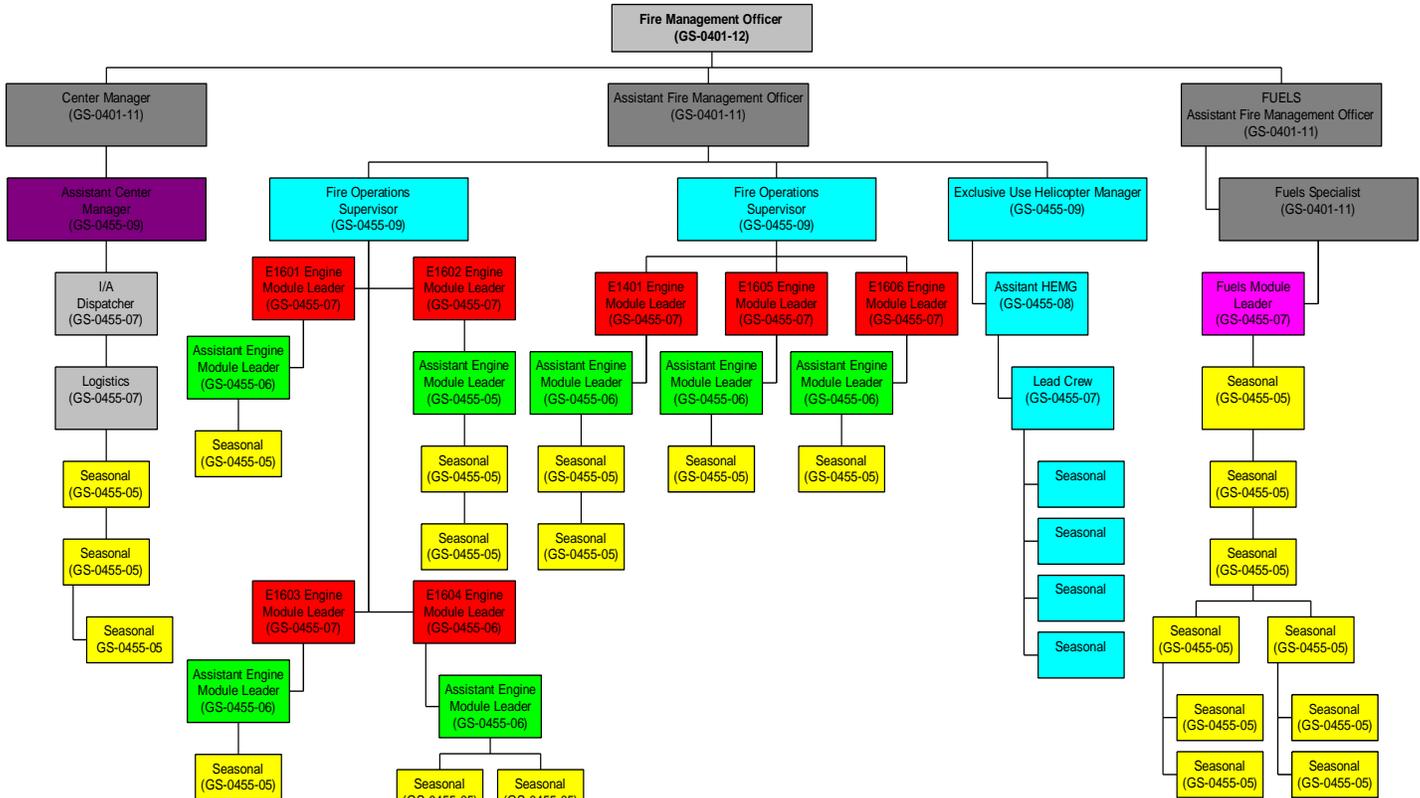
Fuels and fire rehabilitation accomplishment and reporting are currently entered into the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS), and Management Information System (MIS).

Appendix

Appendix 1. Wyoming High Desert District Organization Chart

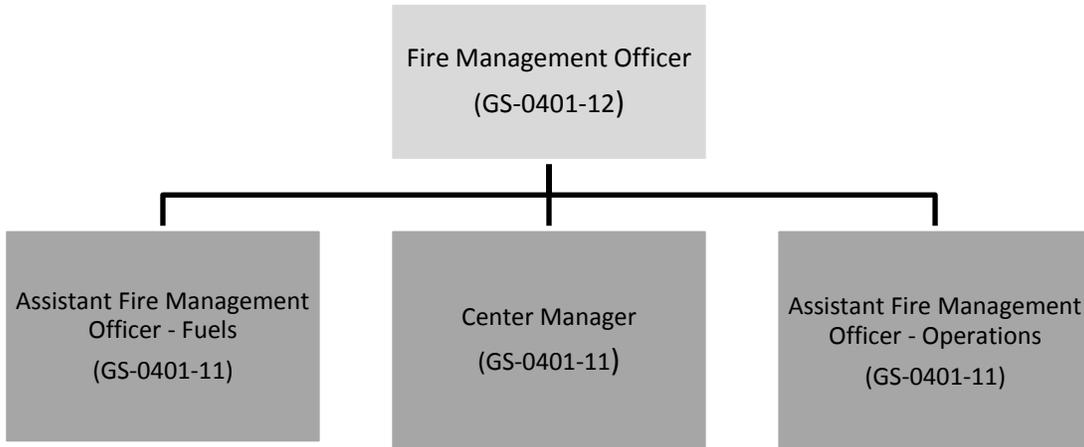
A.1.1 Fire Staff

High Desert District Table of Organization

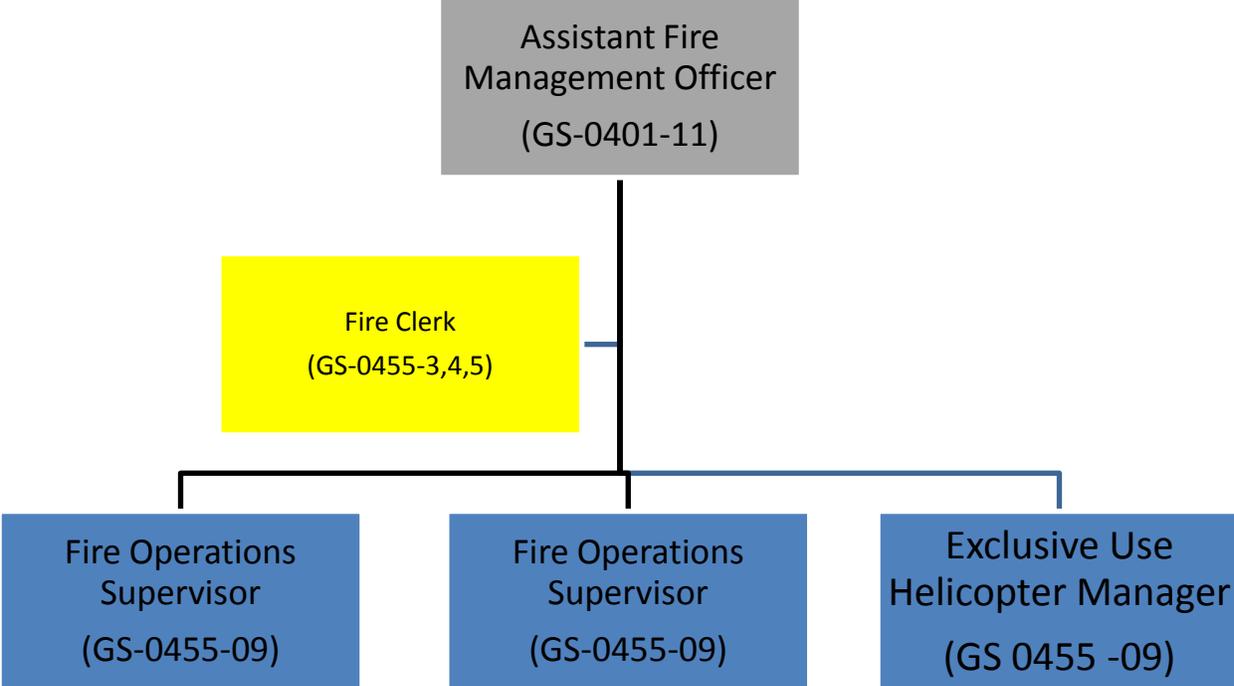


LEGEND	
	Fire Management Officer
	Staff members supervised by the Fire Management Officer
	Fire Operations Supervisor
	Assistant Exclusive Use Helicopter Manager
	Assistant Center Manager
	Fuels Module Leader
	Module Leader (Engine, Helicopter)
	Assistant Engine Module Leader
	Dispatch (I/A, Logistics)
	Seasonal Employee (Fire, Fuels, Dispatch)

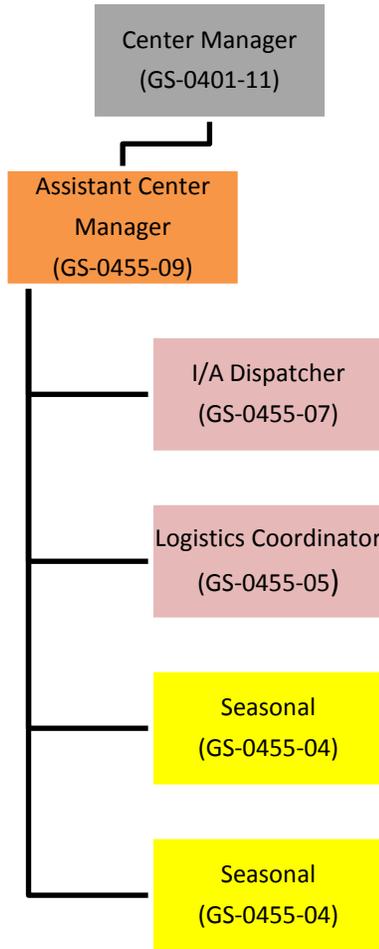
A.1.2 Fire Management Staff



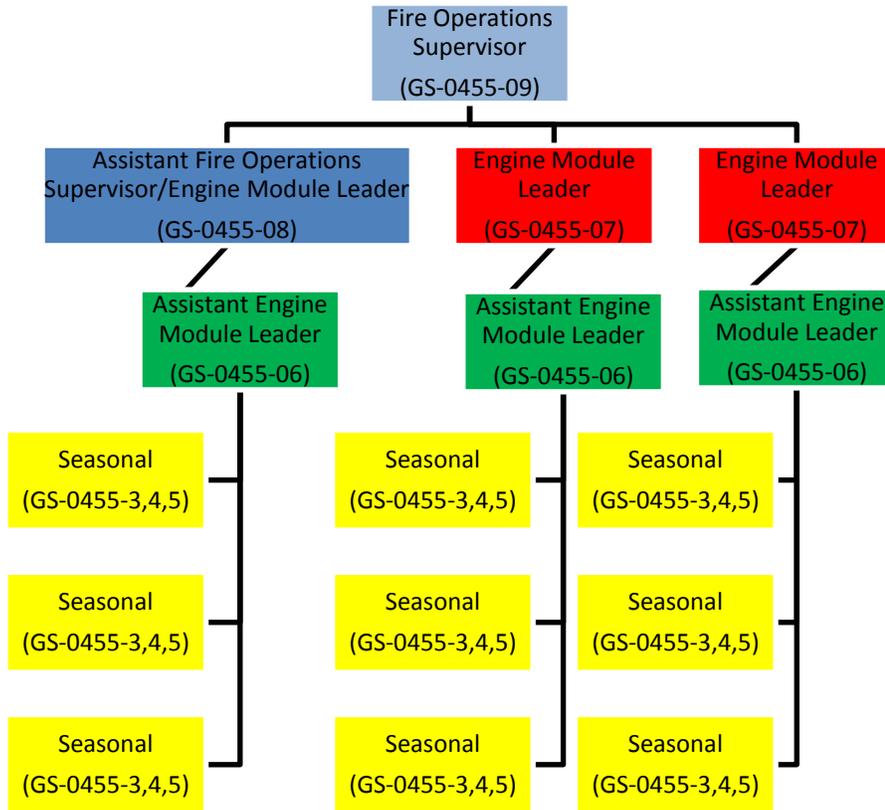
Appendix 2. Fire Operations Staff



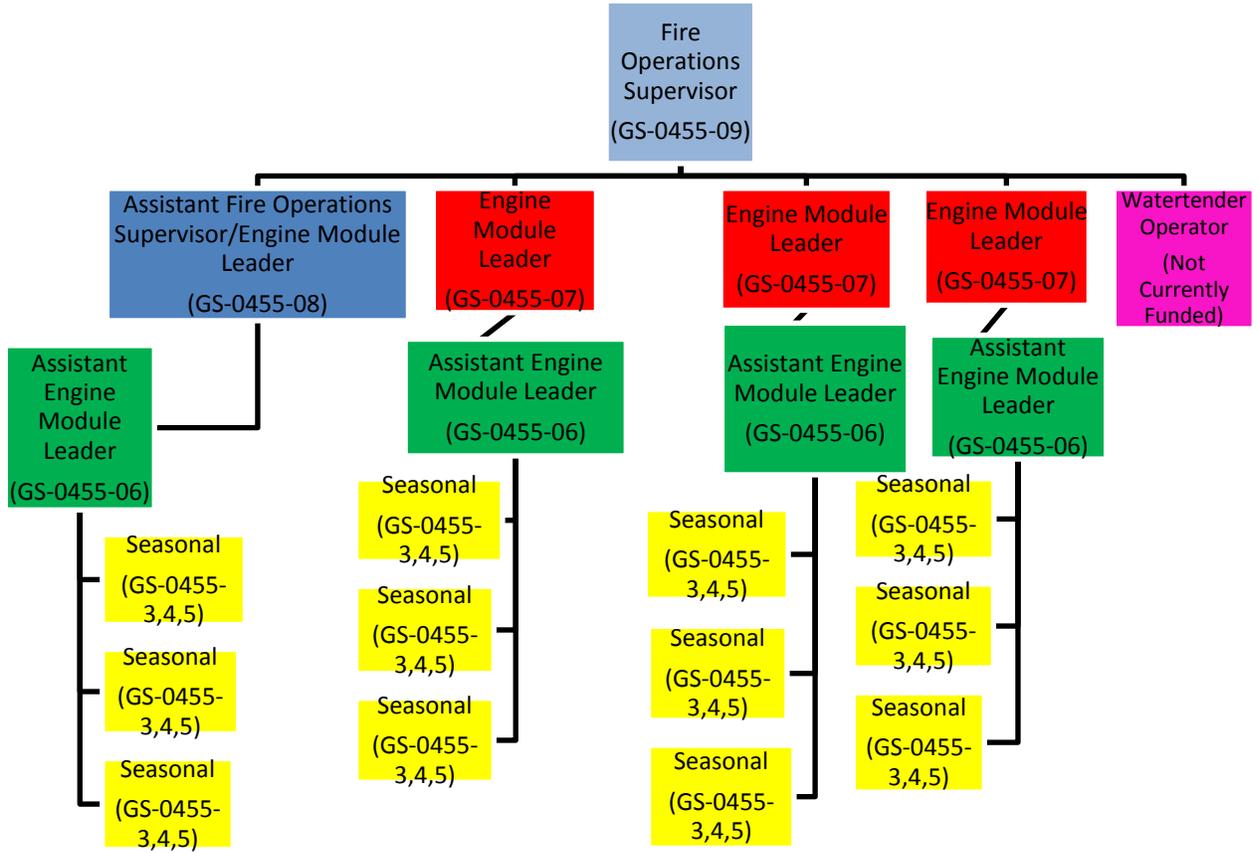
Appendix 3. Rawlins Dispatch



Appendix 4. Rawlins Operations



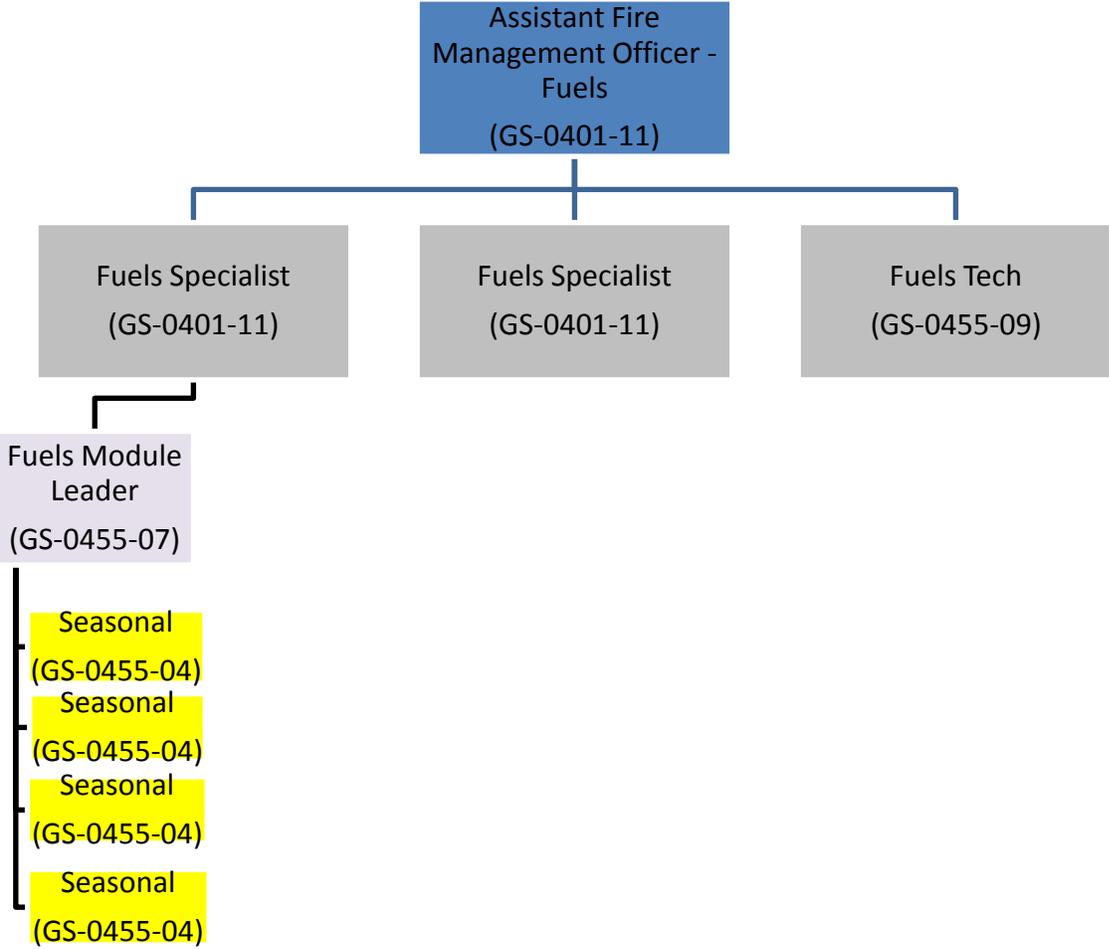
Appendix 5. Rock Springs Operations



Appendix 6. Helitack



Appendix 7. Fuels



NOTE – Staffing will be based on Red Book Policy.

NOTE – The Rawlins Fuels crew will vary in size based on yearly project funding.

Appendix 8. Fire Intensity Level (FIL)

Fire Intensity Level is an expression of fire line intensity, based on typical flame length or Burning Index value of a fire behavior condition, used in the analysis to reflect differences in difficulty of suppression and fire effects on resource outputs. The FILs are as follows:

FIL	Flame Length (feet)	Burning Index (BI)
1	0 – 2	0 – 20
2	2.1 – 4	21 – 40
3	4.1 – 6	41 – 60
4	6.1 – 8	61 – 80
5	8.1 – 12	81 – 120
6	12.1 and over	121 and over

Base line figures for fire regimes and FRCC are derived from the FEIS (Fire Effects Information System) and FRCC (Fire Regime Condition Class) web sites. These have then been tailored to specific climatological conditions within the zone. It is important to remember that within the FEIS there is some discrepancy within the intervals presented. Two websites for the FEIS and the FRCC are listed.

<http://www.frcc.gov/>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/>

Appendix 9. Fire Regimes

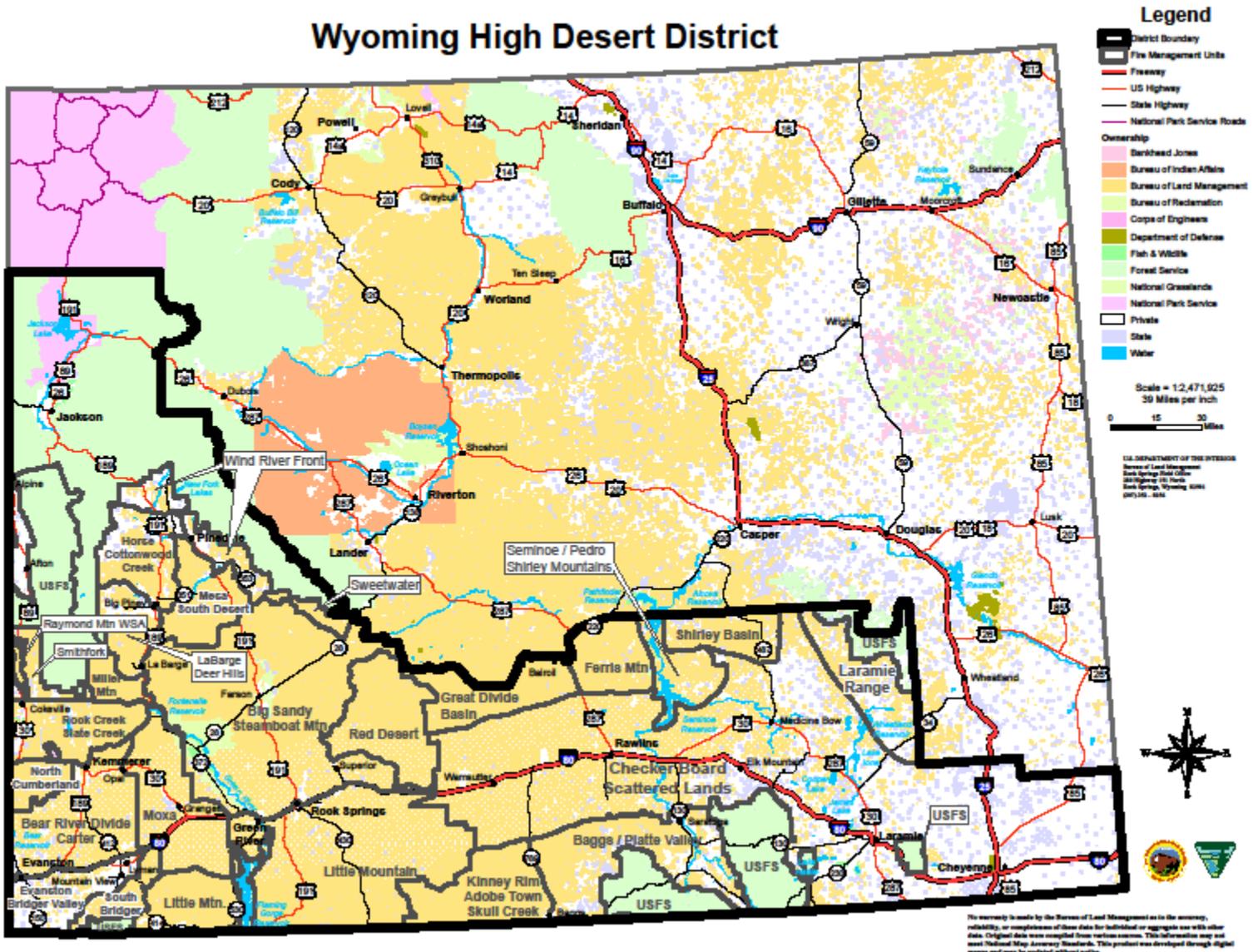
Group	Frequency	Severity
I	0-35 years	Low
II	0-35 years	Replacement
III	35-100+ years	Mixed
IV	35-100+ years	Replacement
V	200+ years	Replacement

Appendix 10. Fire Regime Condition Class

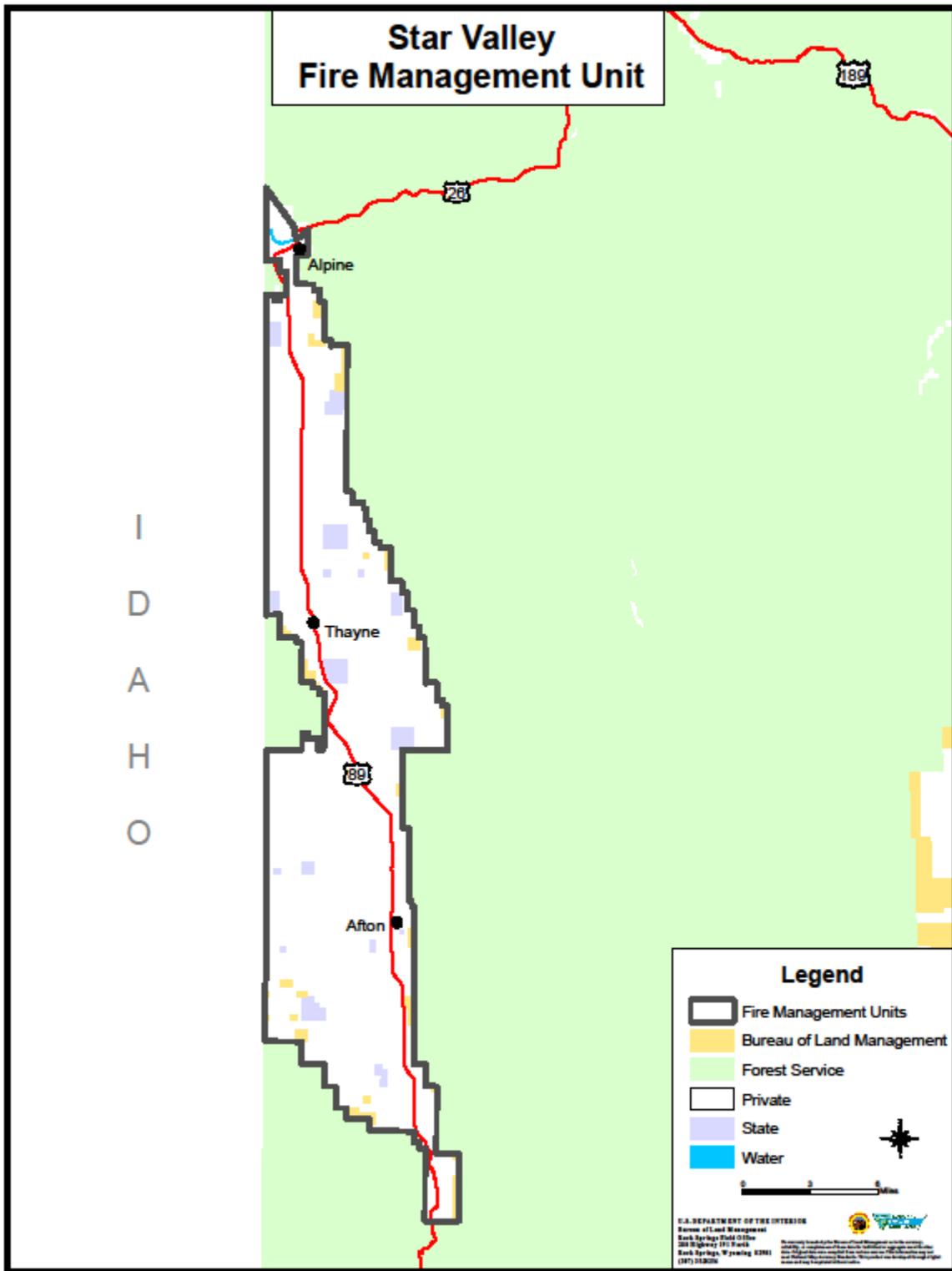
Fire Regime Condition Class	Description	Potential Risks
Condition Class 1	Within the natural (historical) range of variability of vegetation composition; fire frequency, severity and pattern; and other characteristics; fuel associated disturbances.	<p>Fire behavior, effects, and other associated disturbances are similar to those that occurred prior to fire exclusion (suppression) and other types of management that do not mimic the natural fire regime and associated vegetation and fuel characteristics.</p> <p>Composition and structure of vegetation and fuels are similar to the natural (historical) regime.</p> <p>Risk of loss of key ecosystem components (e.g., native species, large trees, and soil) is low.</p>
Condition Class 2	Moderate Departure from natural (historical) regime of vegetation characteristics; fuel composition; fire frequency, severity and pattern; and other associated disturbances.	<p>Fire behavior, effects, and other associated disturbances are moderately departed (more or less severe).</p> <p>Composition and structure of vegetation and fuel are moderately altered.</p> <p>Uncharacteristic conditions range from low to moderate.</p> <p>Risk of loss of key ecosystem components is moderate.</p>
Condition Class 3	High departure from the natural (historical) regime of vegetation characteristics; fuel composition; fire frequency, severity and pattern; and other associated disturbances.	<p>Fire behavior, effects, and other associated disturbances are highly departed (more or less severe).</p> <p>Composition and structure of vegetation and fuel are highly altered.</p> <p>Uncharacteristic conditions range from moderate to high.</p> <p>Risk of loss of key ecosystem components is high.</p>

Appendix 11. Wyoming High Desert District Map

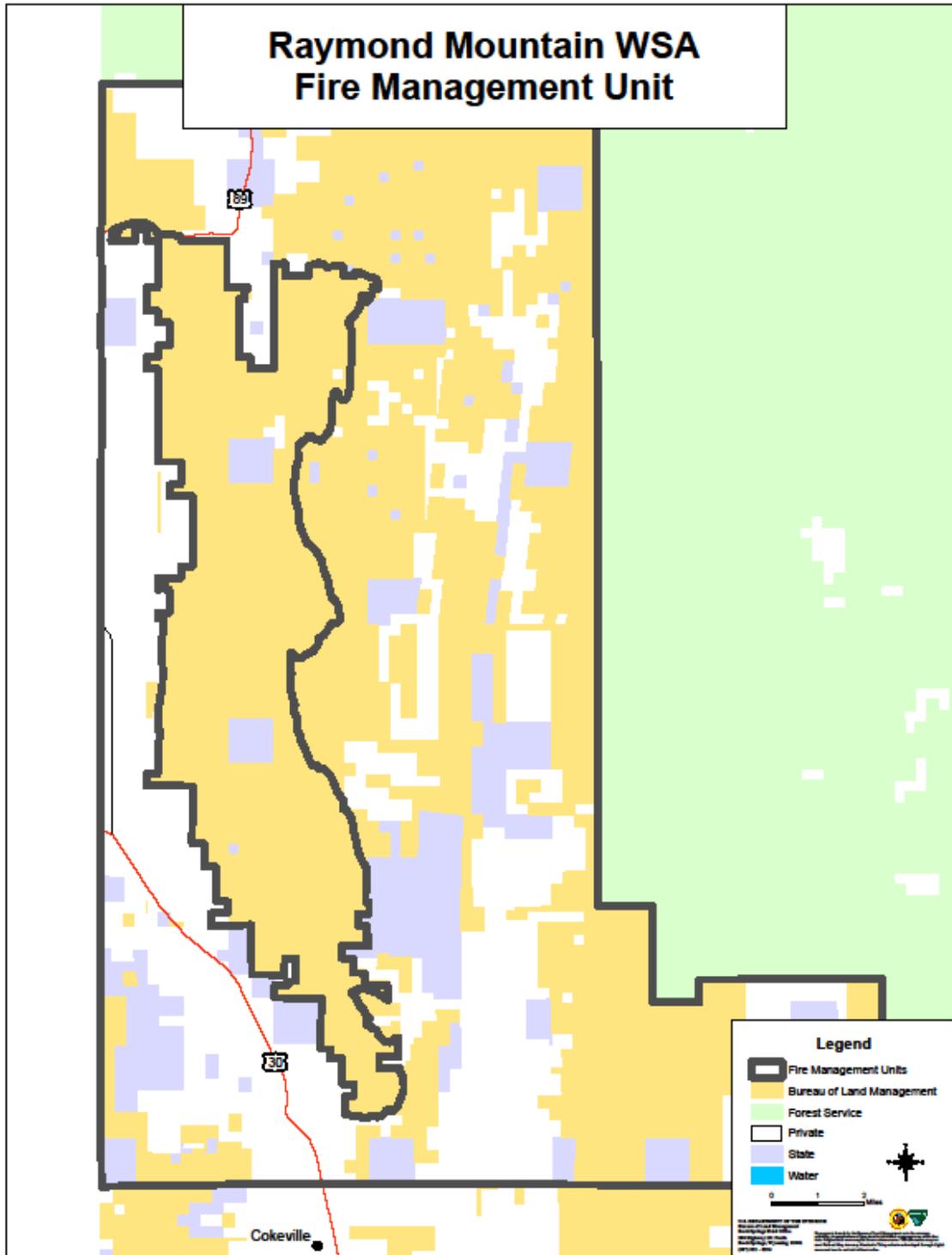
Wyoming High Desert District



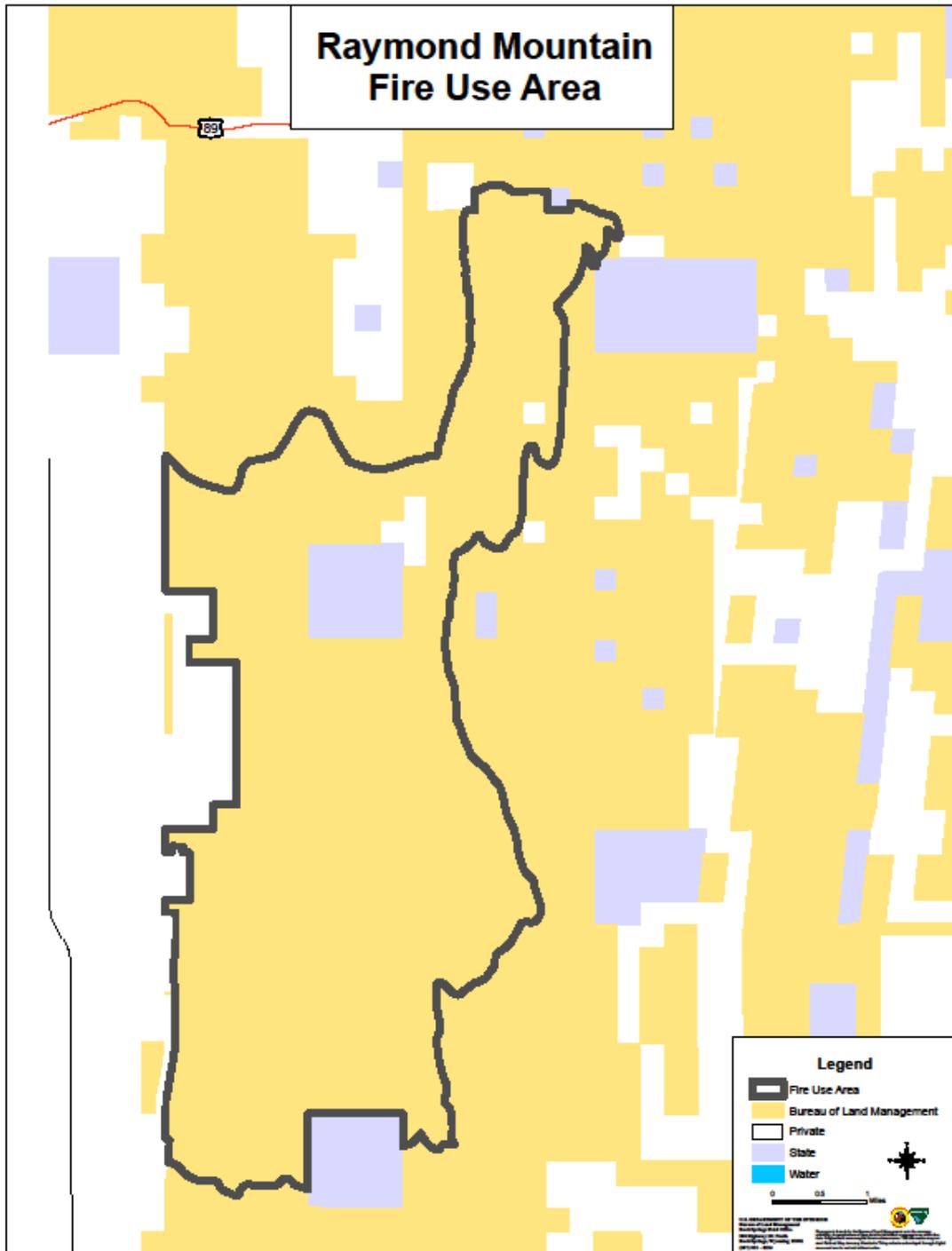
Appendix 12. Star Valley (KFO)



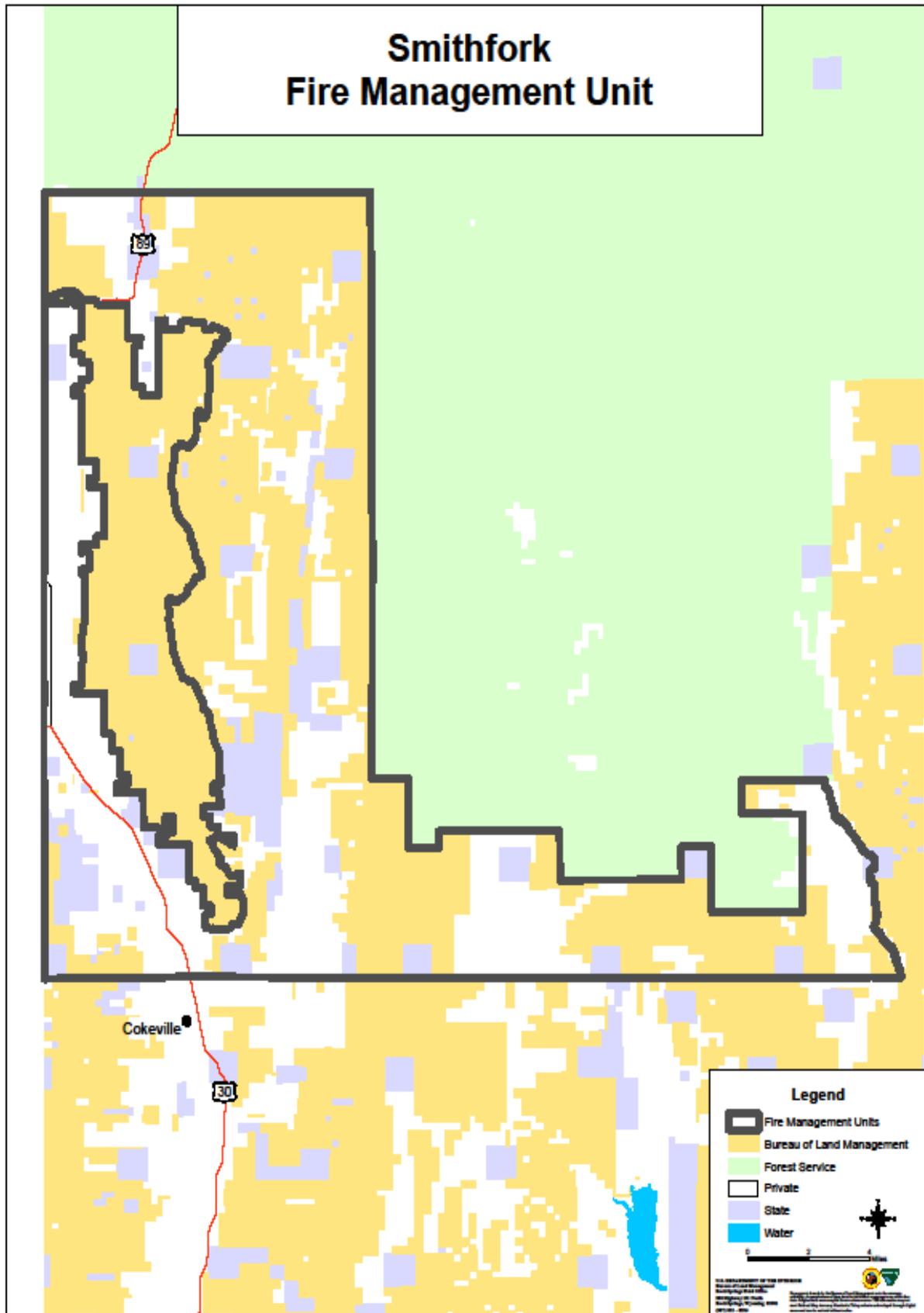
Appendix 13. Raymond Mountain FMU Map (KFO)



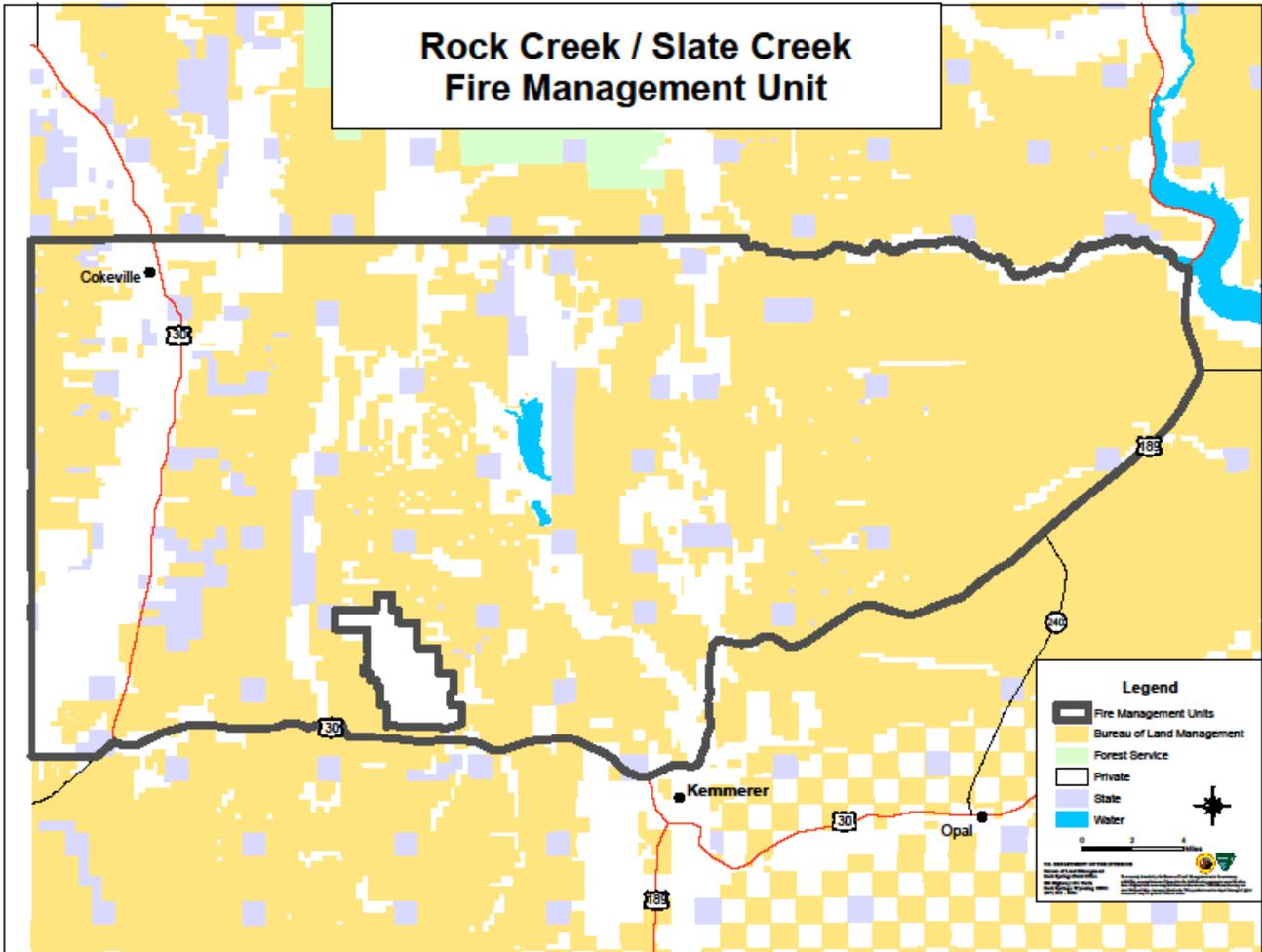
Appendix 14. Raymond Mountain Fire Use Area Map (KFO)



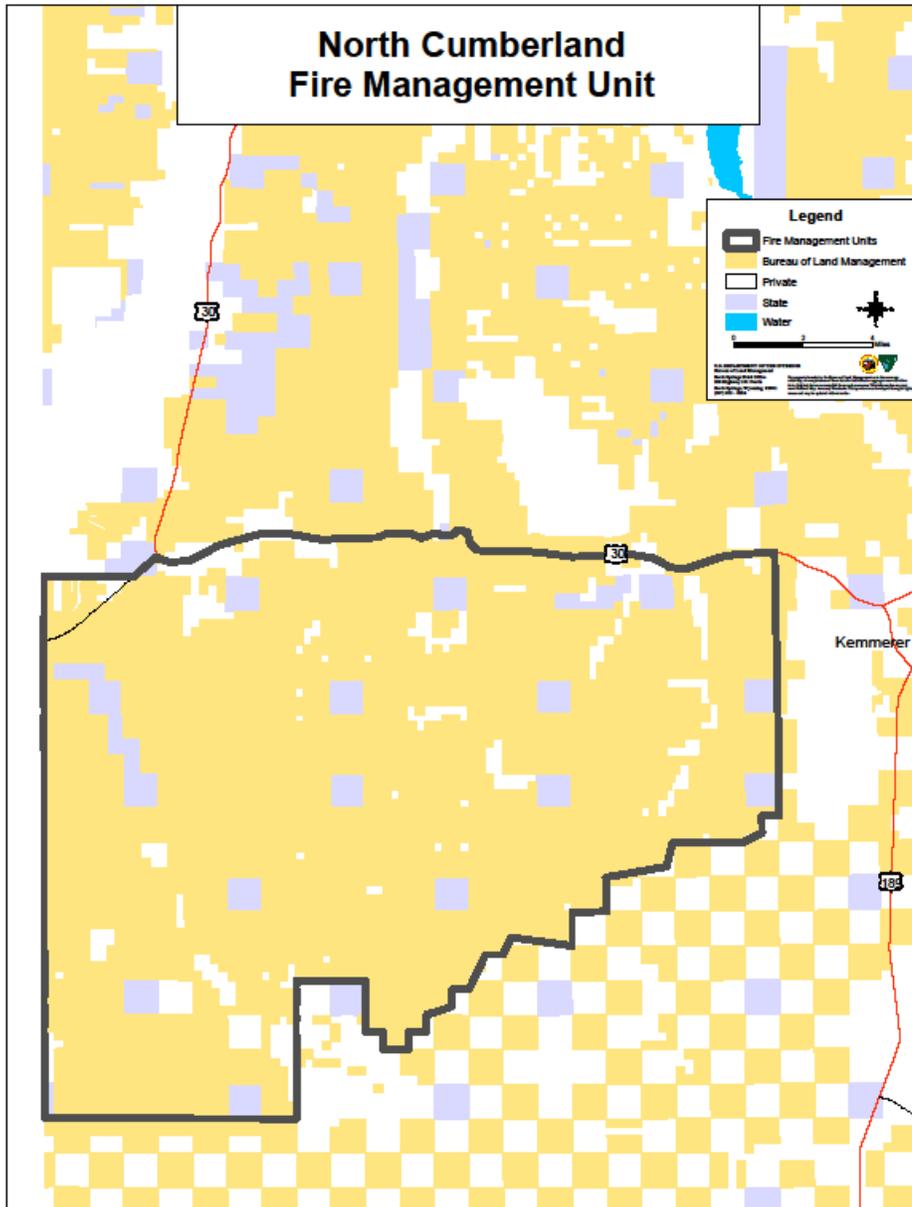
Appendix 15. Smiths Fork FMU Map (KFO)



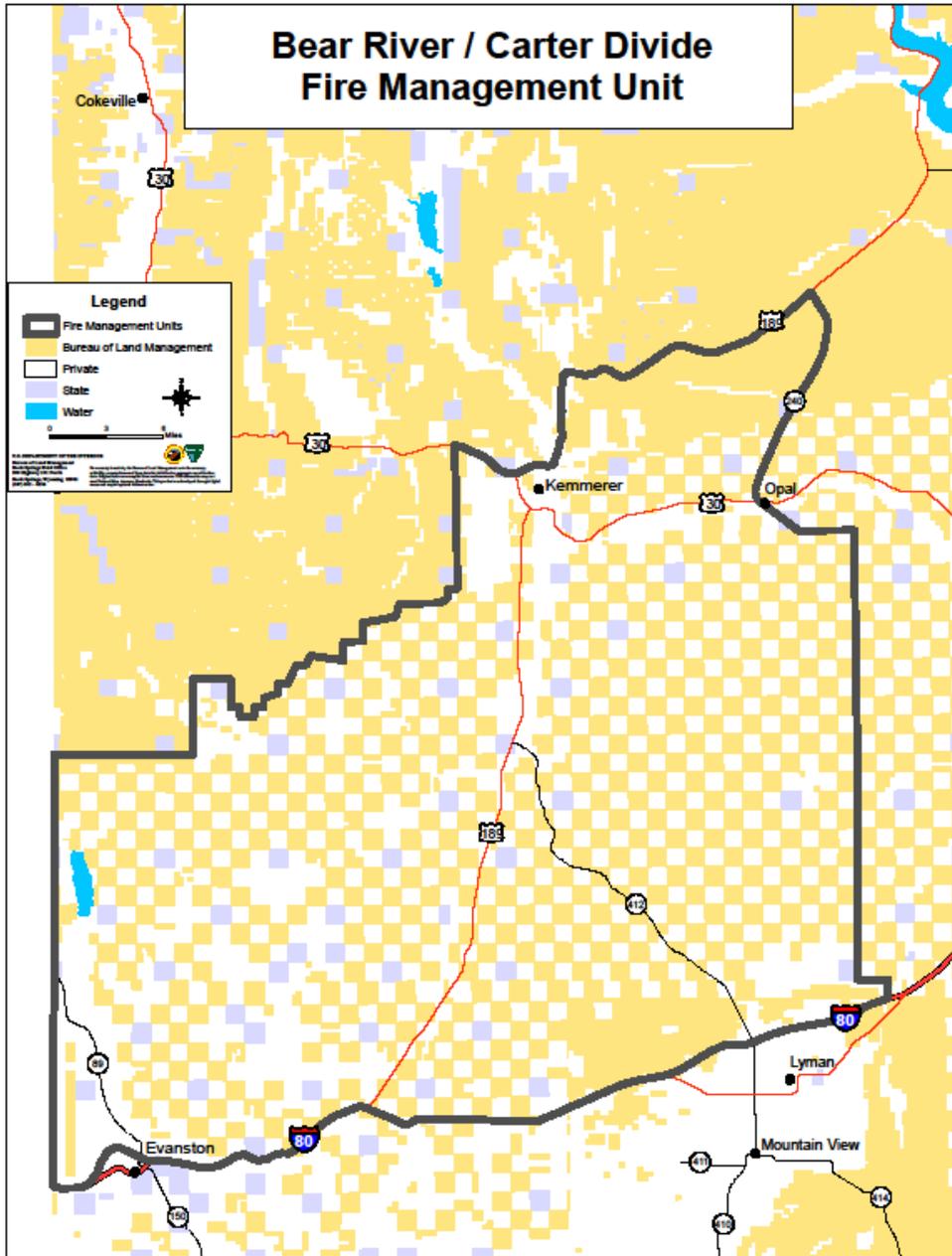
Appendix 16. Rock Creek/Slate Creek FMU Map (KFO)



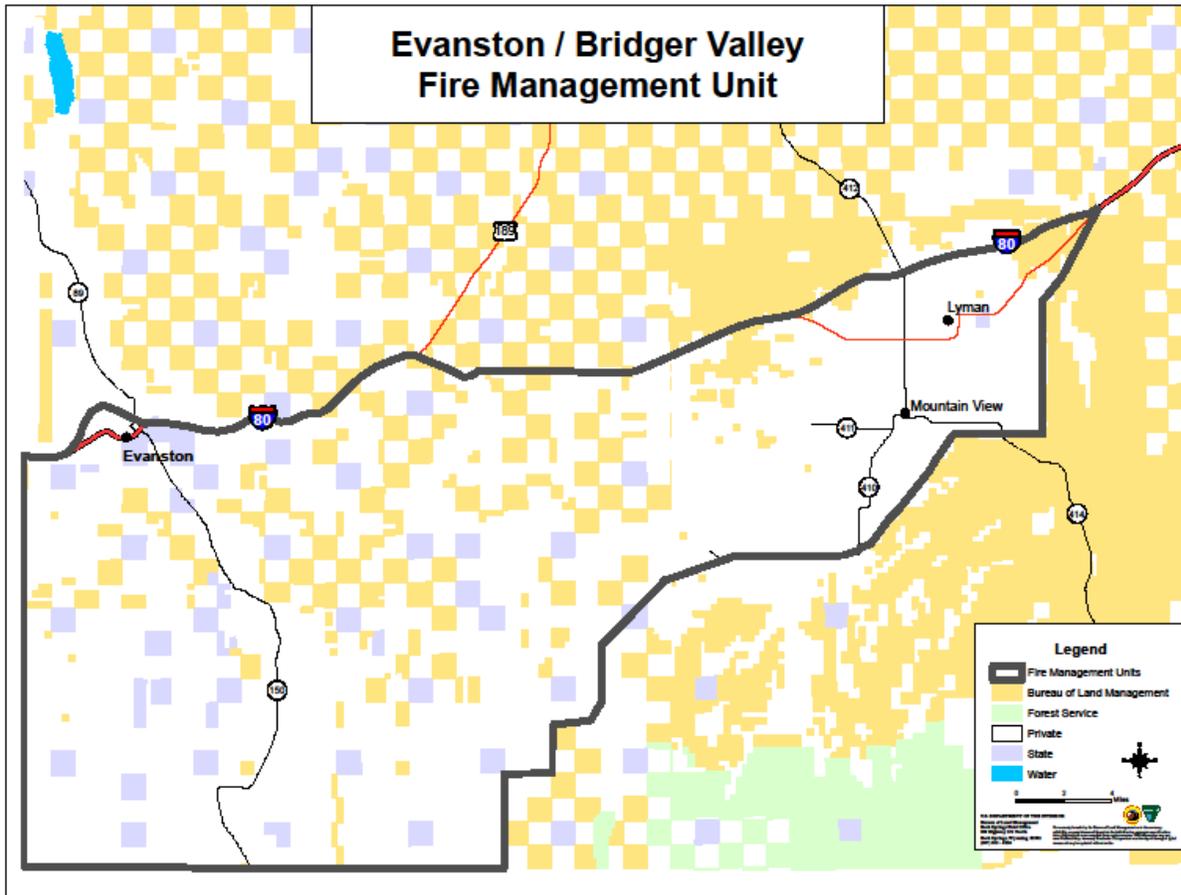
Appendix 17. North Cumberland FMU Map (KFO)



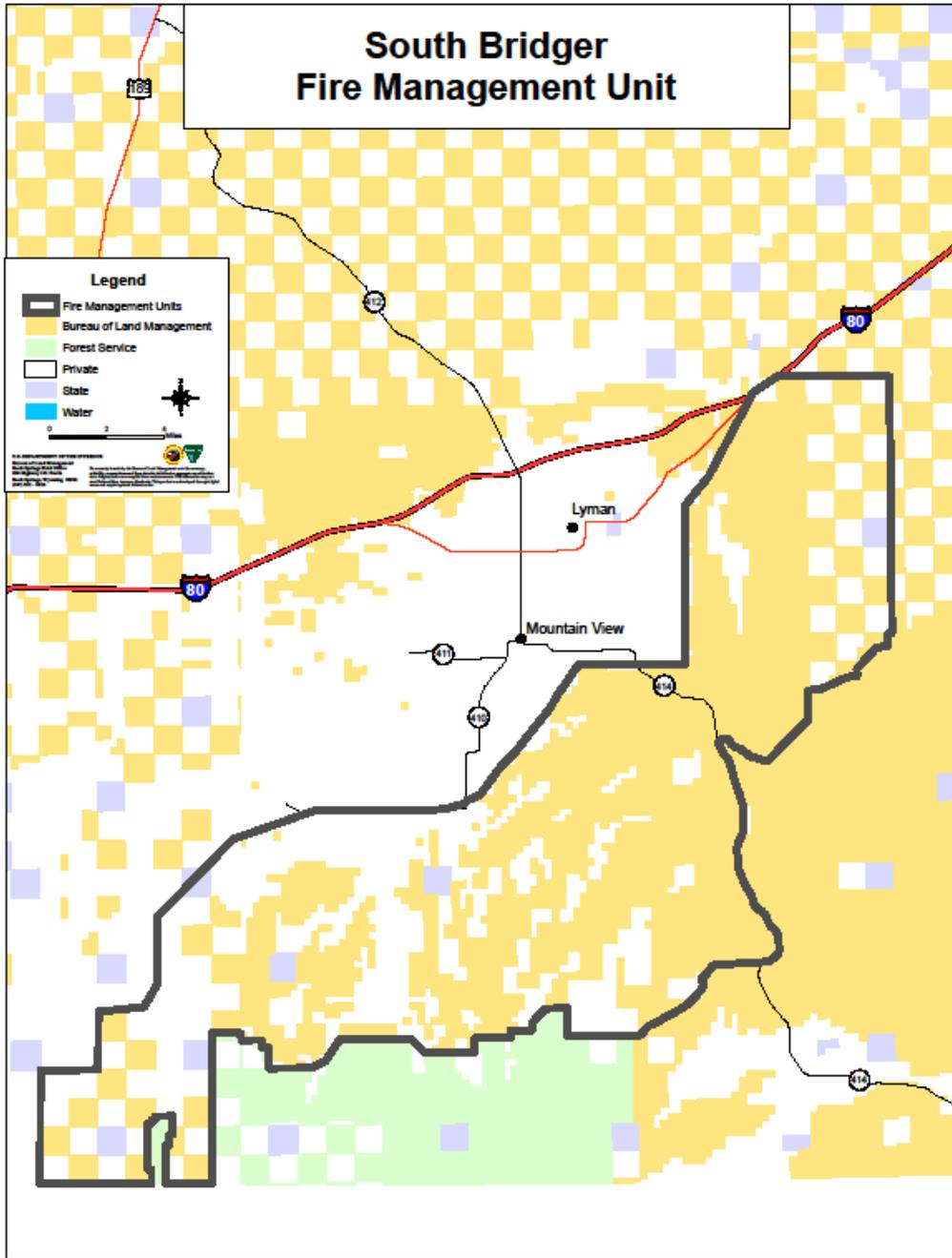
Appendix 18. Bear River/Carter Divide FMU Map (KFO)



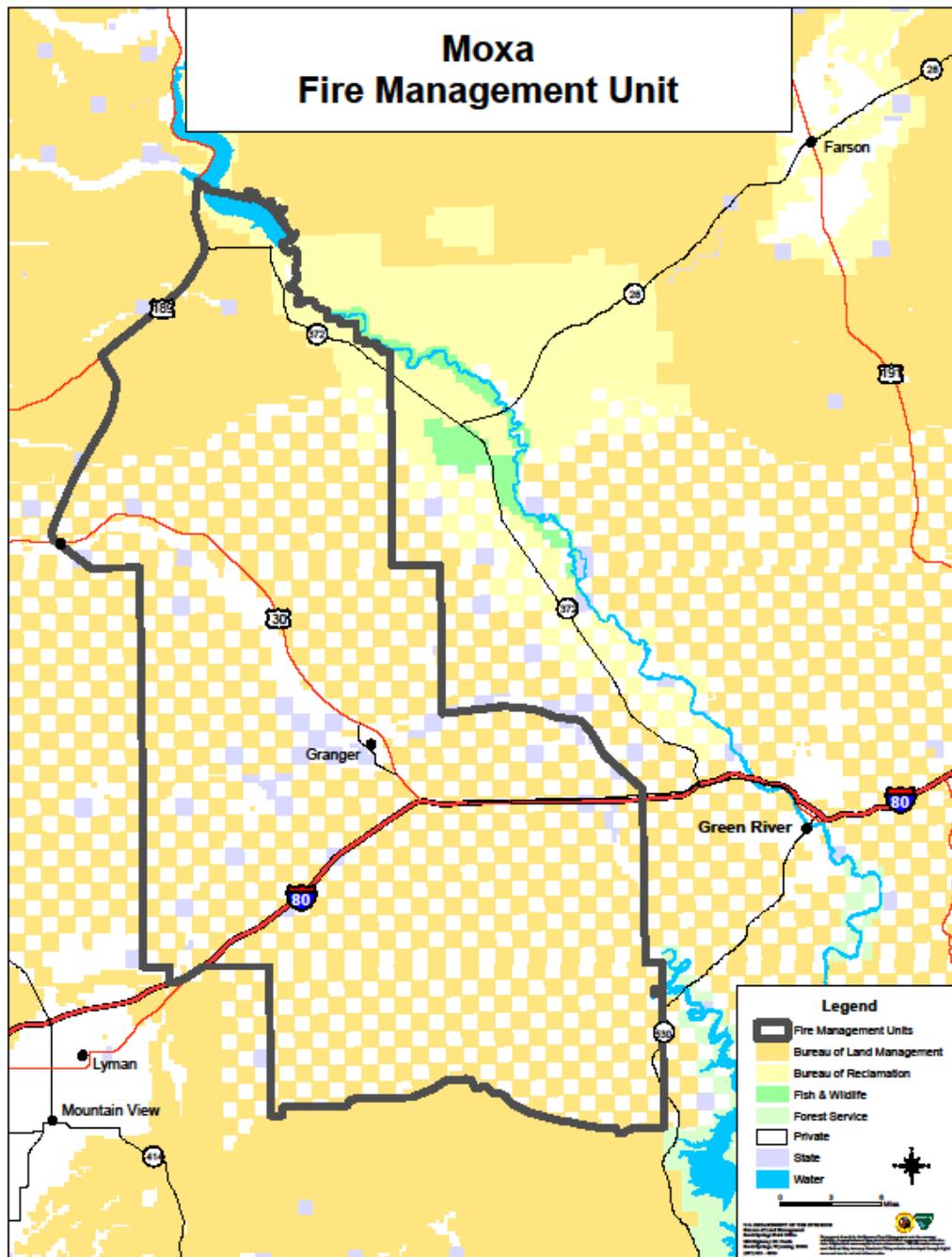
Appendix 19. Evanston/Bridger Valley Map (KFO)



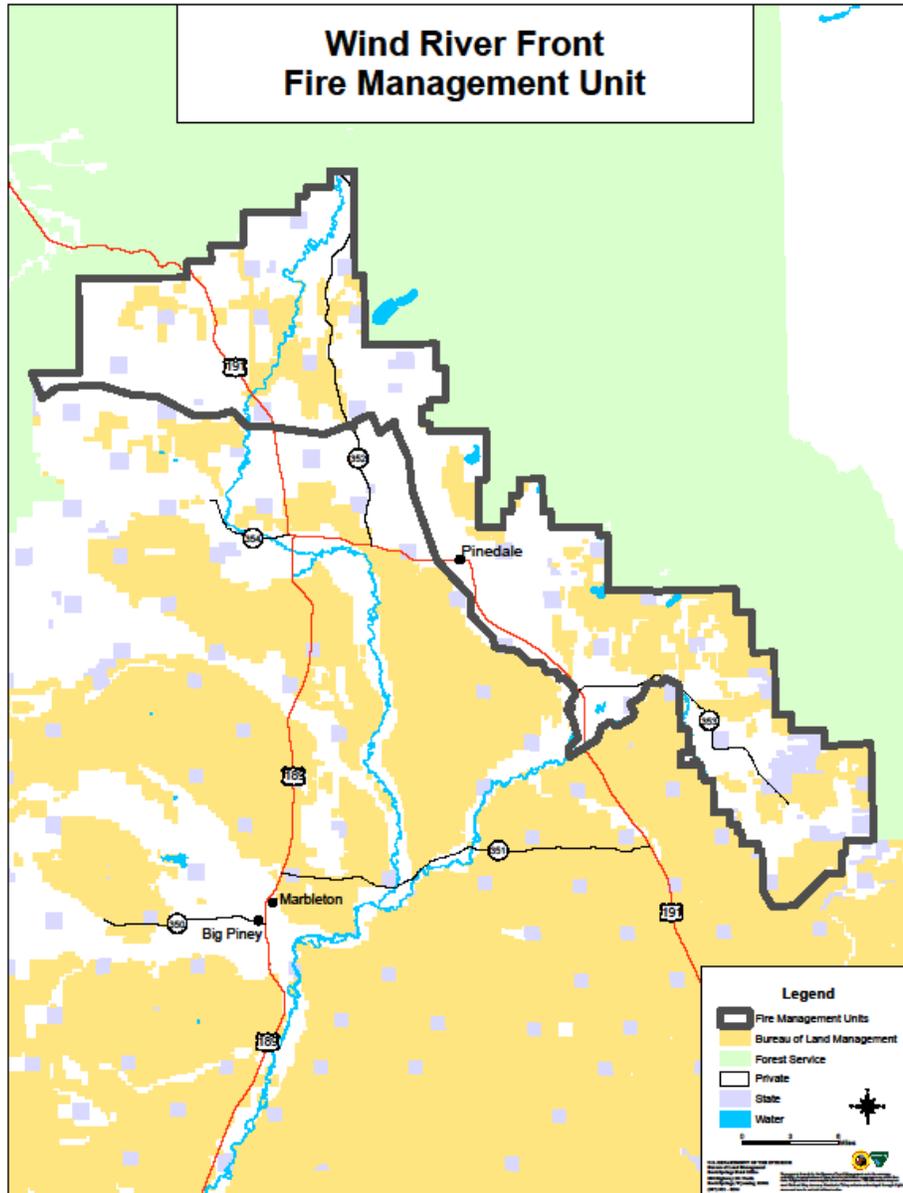
Appendix 20. South Bridger FMU Map (KFO)



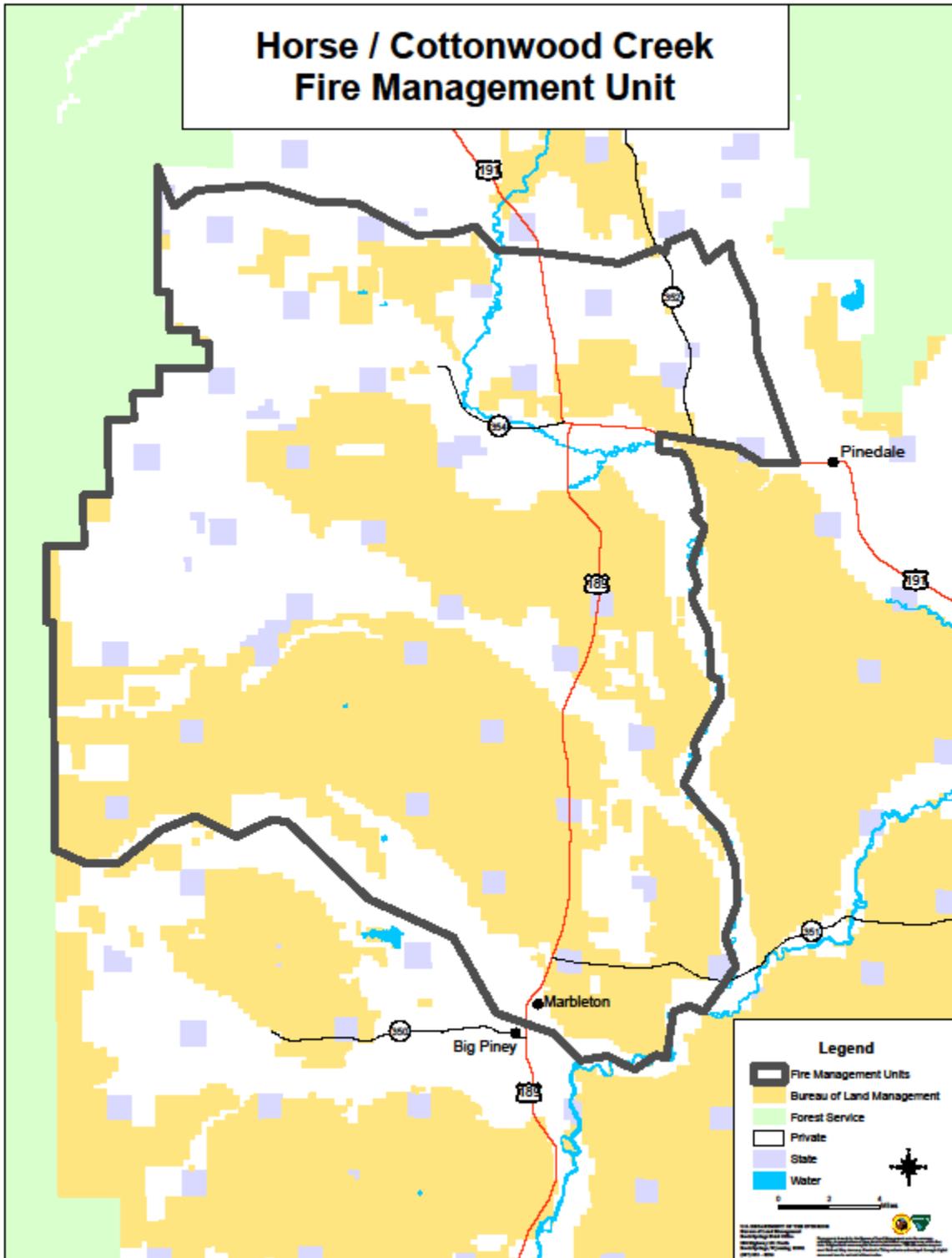
Appendix 21. Moxa FMU Map (KFO)



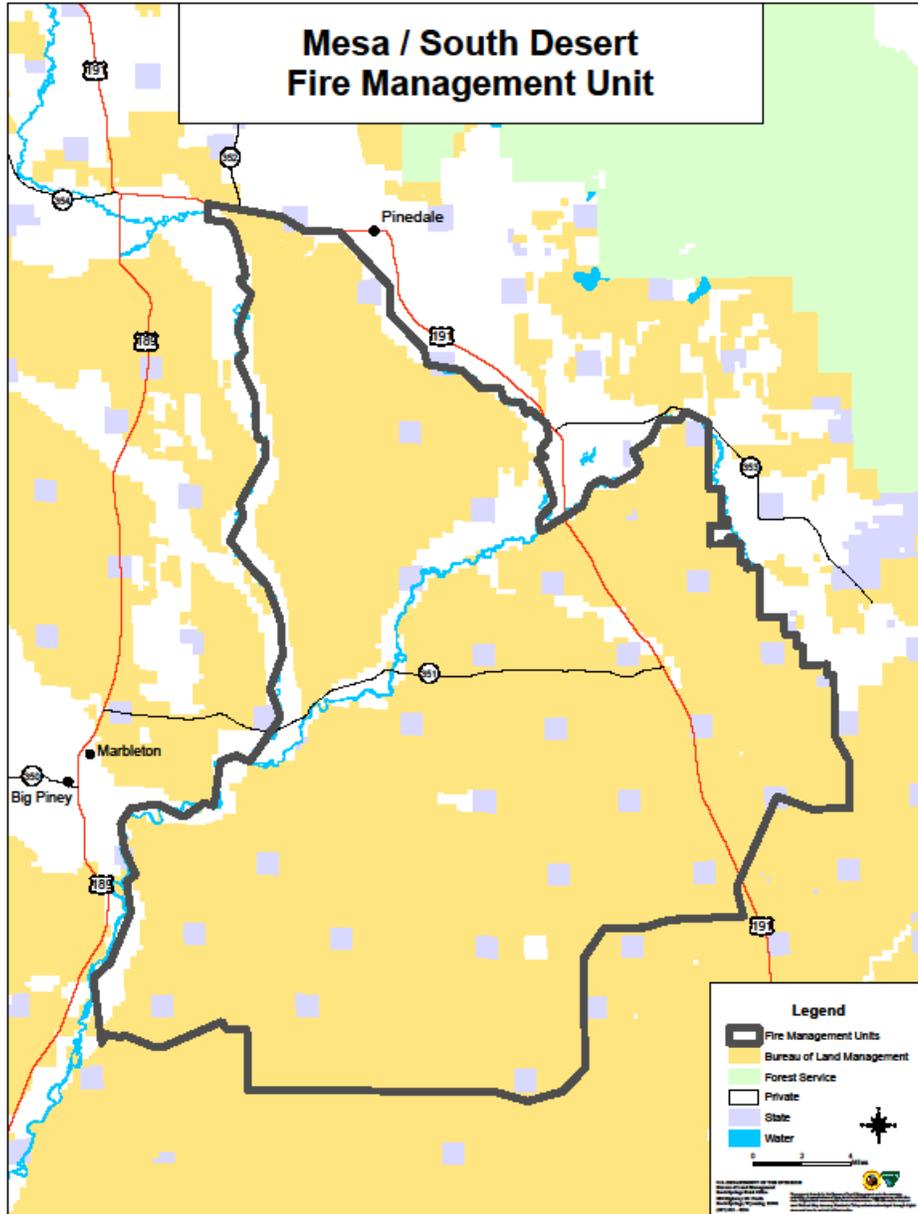
Appendix 22. Wind River Front FMU Map (PFO)



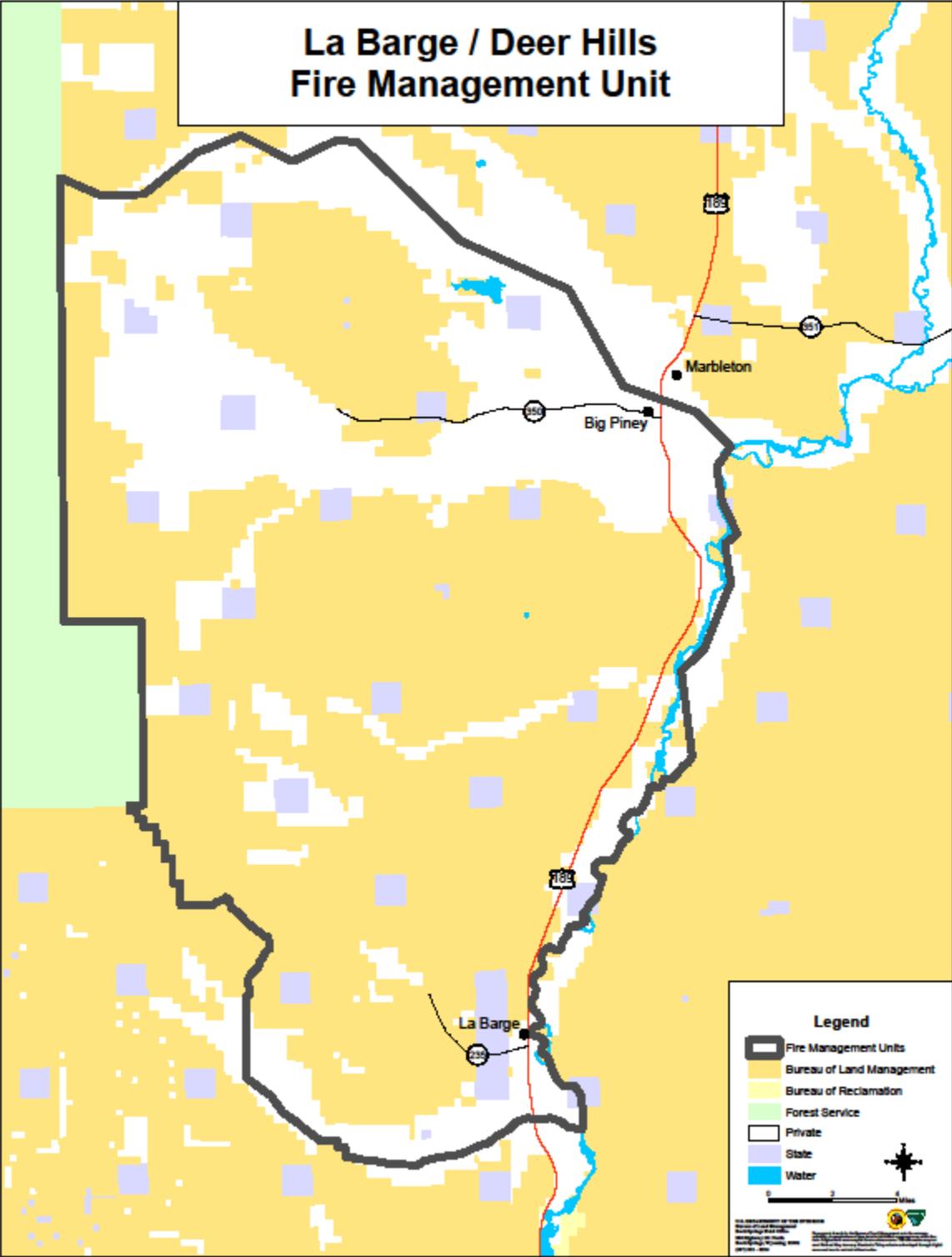
Appendix 23. Horse/Cottonwood Creek FMU Map (PFO)



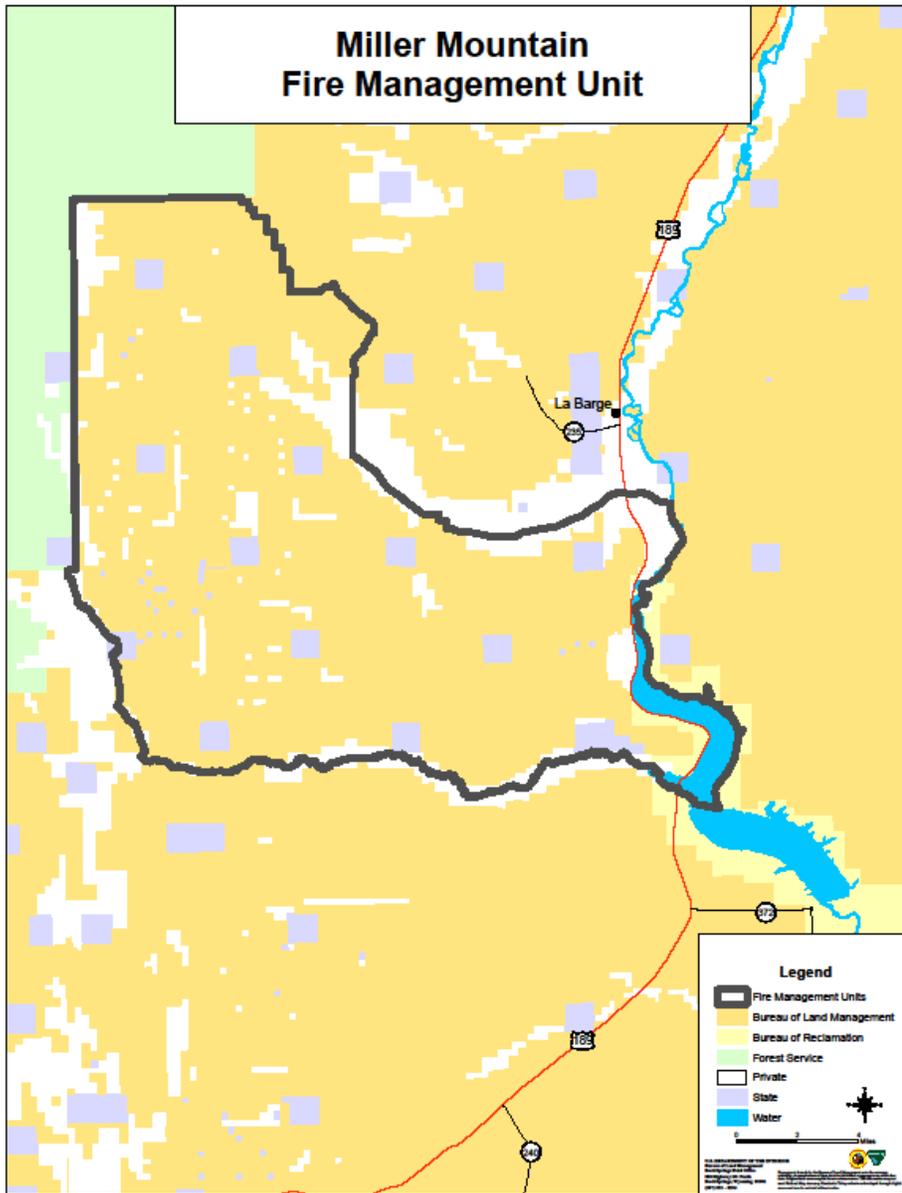
Appendix 24. Mesa South Desert FMU Map (PFO)



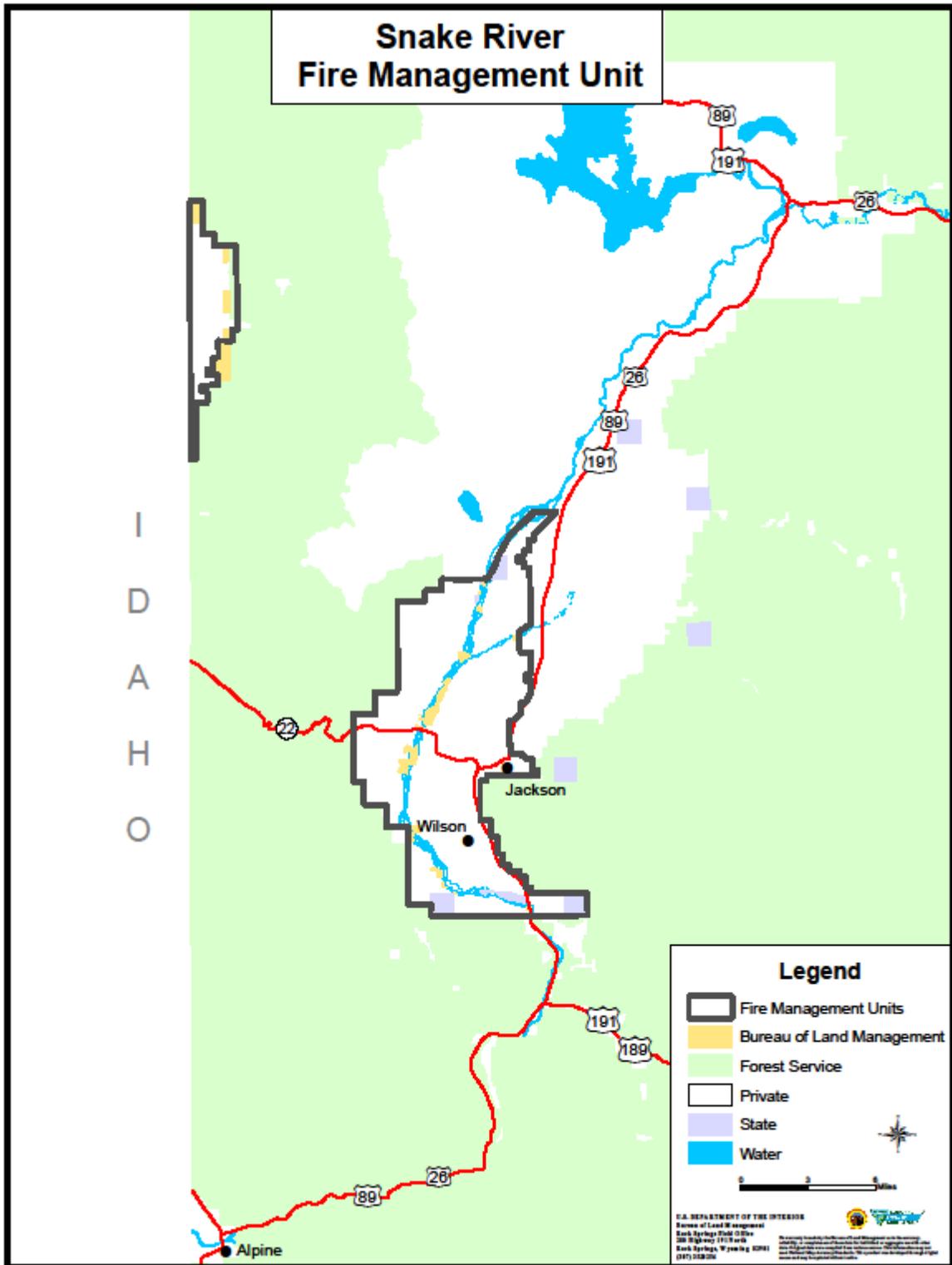
Appendix 25. LaBarge FMU Map (PFO)



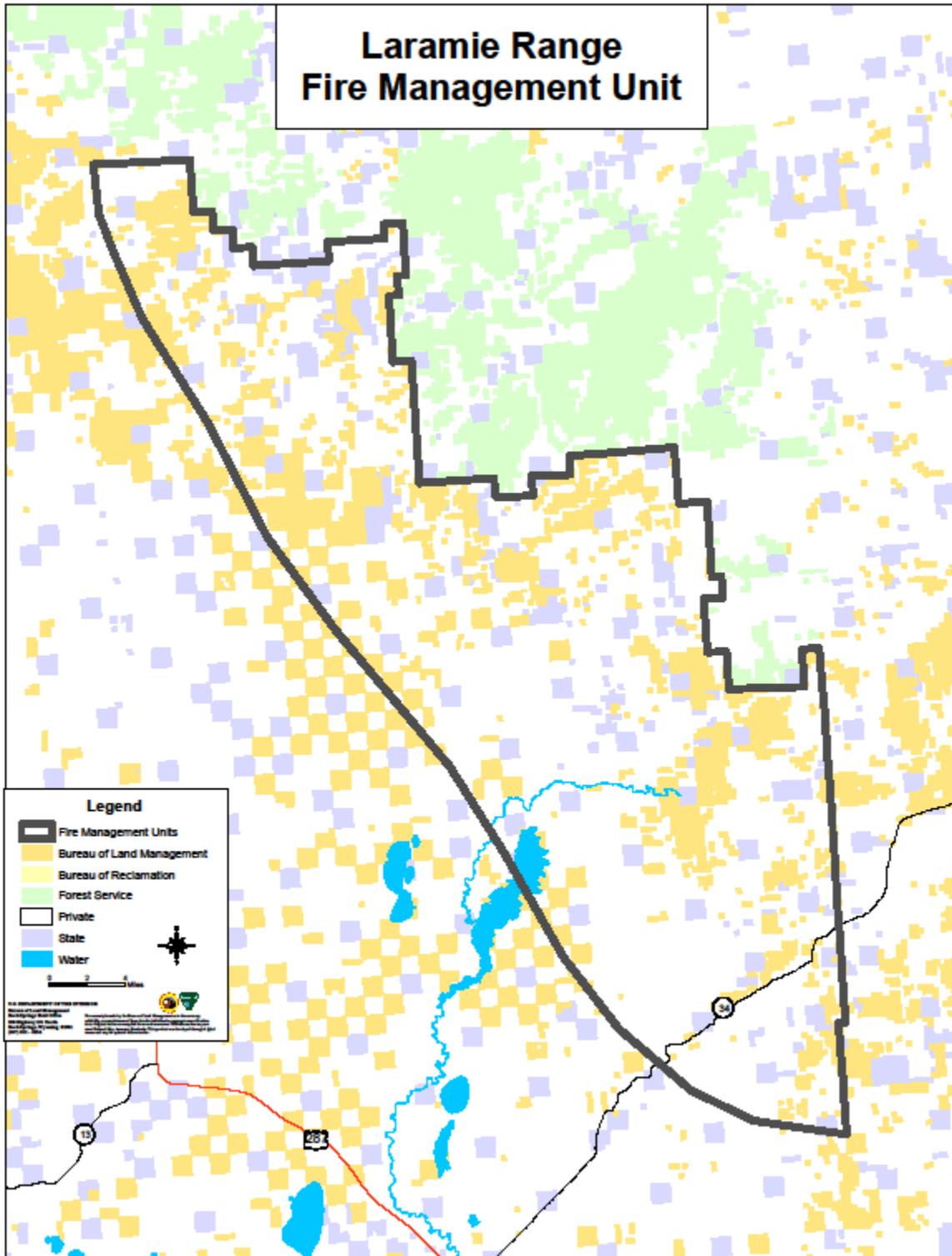
Appendix 26. Miller Mountain FMU Map (PFO)



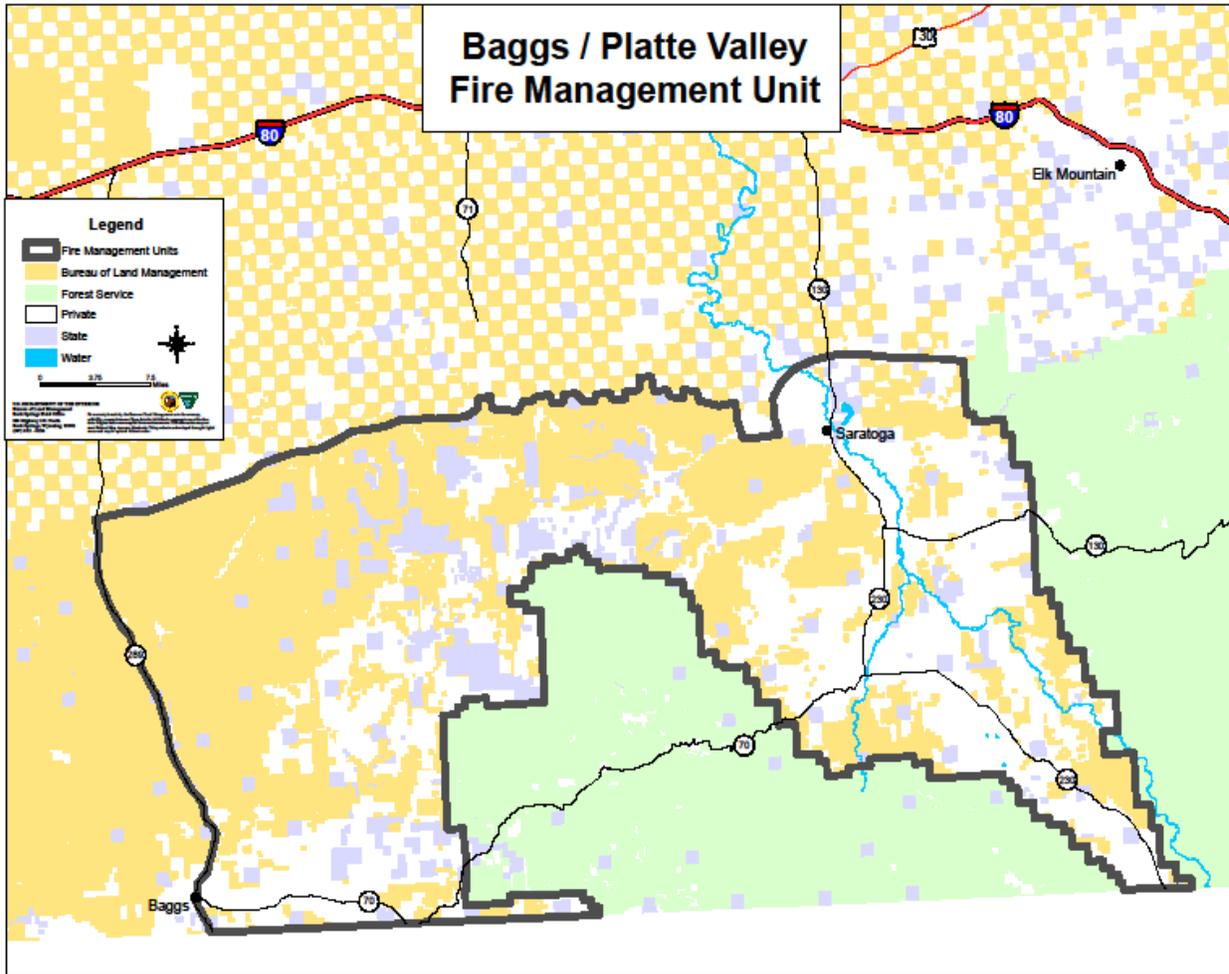
Appendix 27. Snake River FMU Map (PFO)



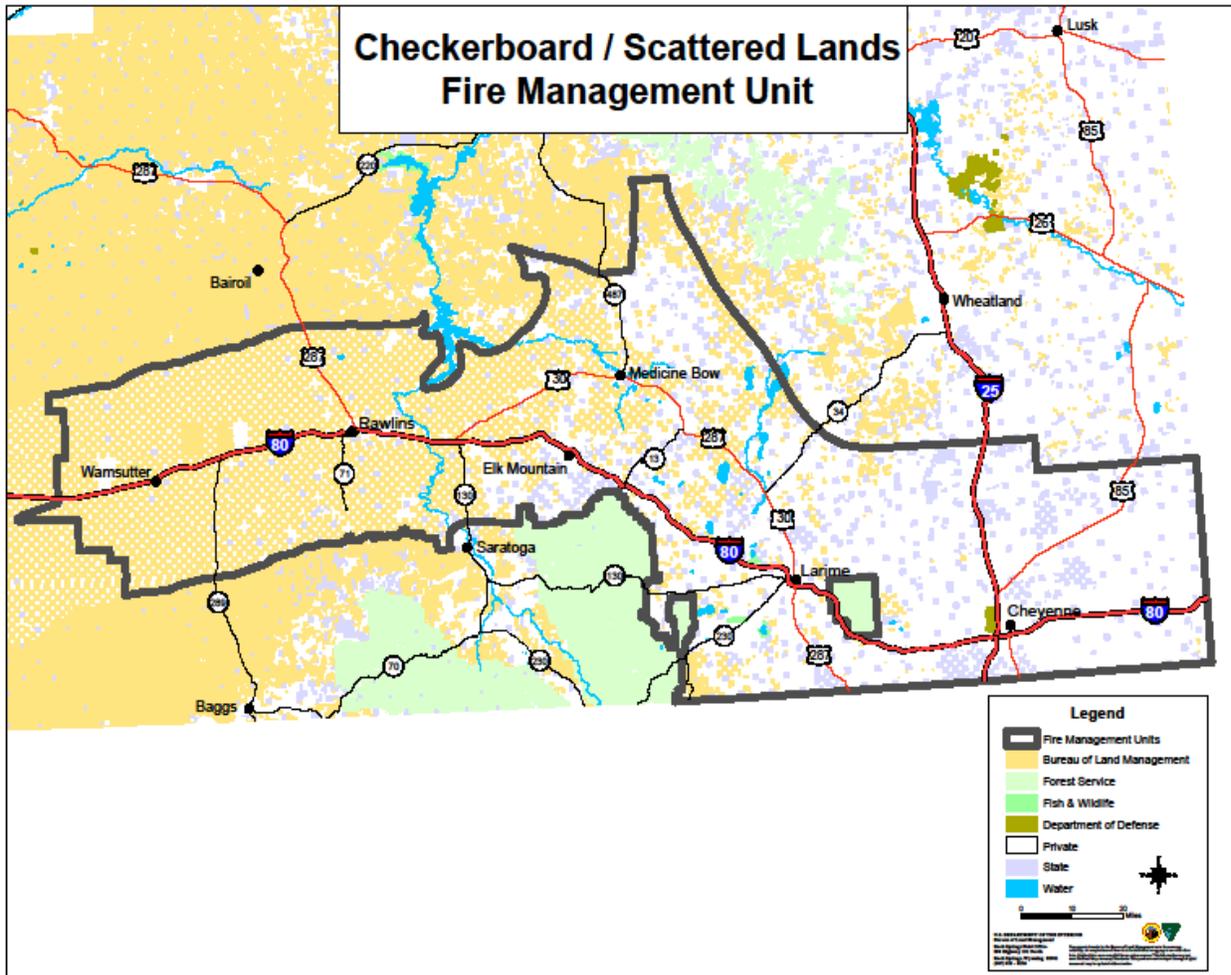
Appendix 28. Laramie Range FMU Map (RFO)



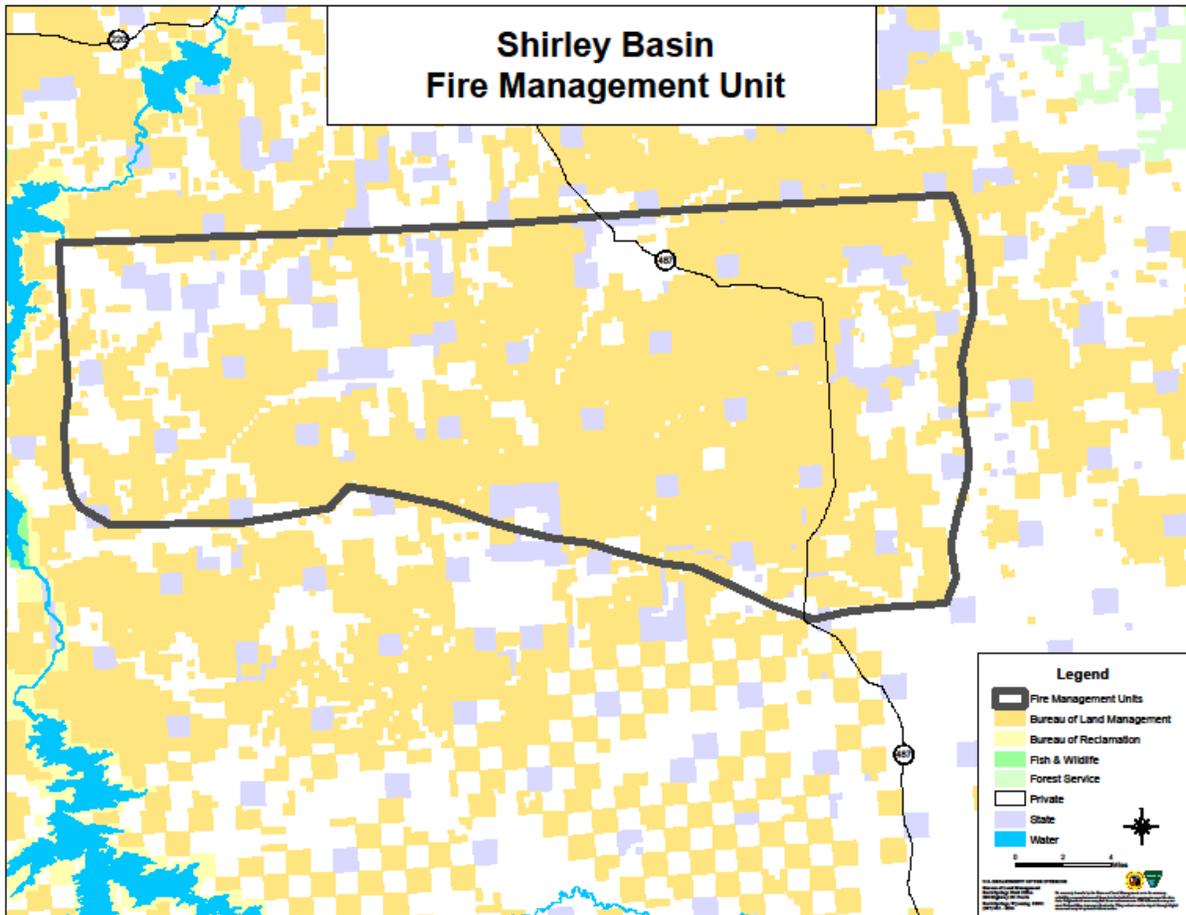
Appendix 29. Baggs/Platte Valley FMU Map (RFO)



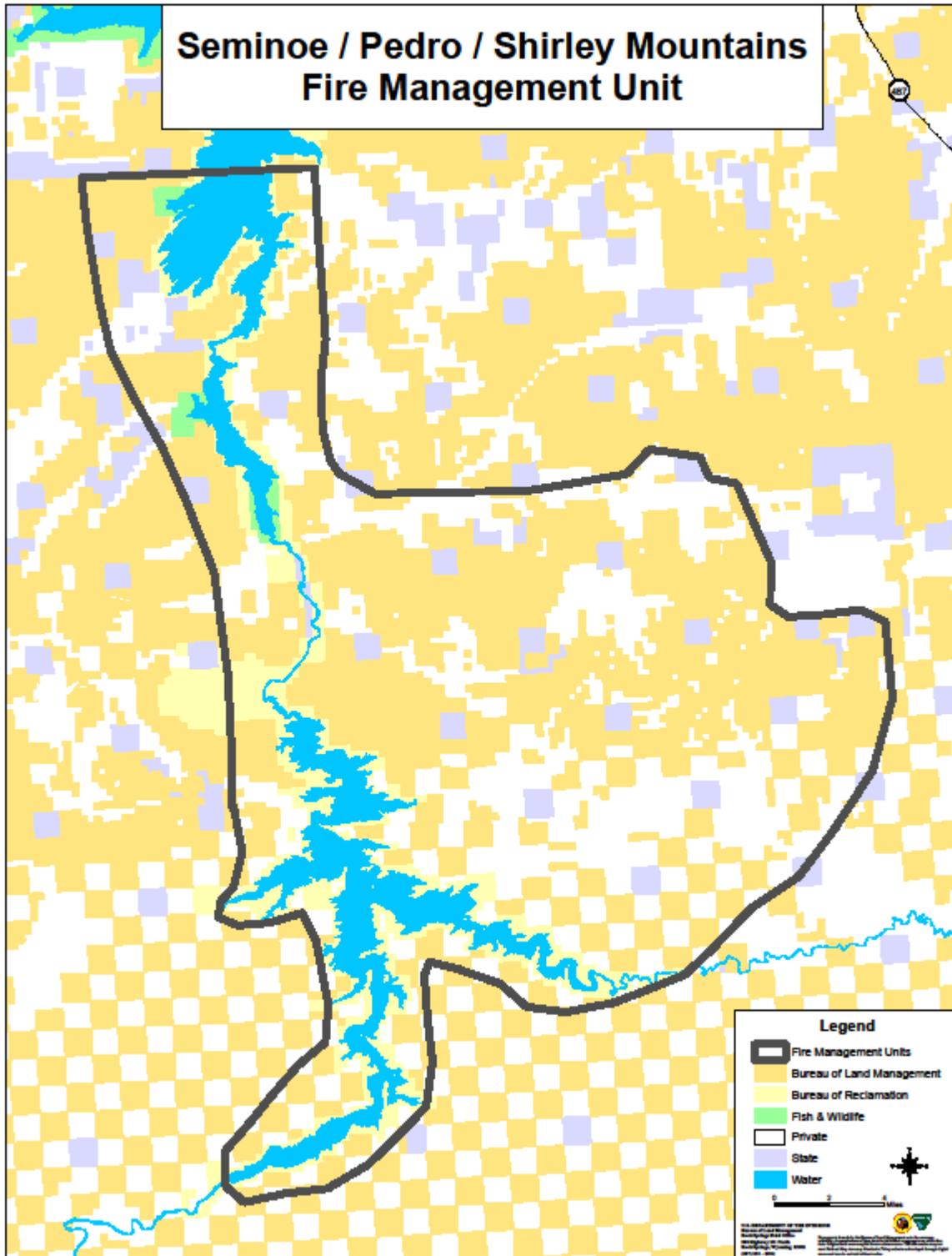
Appendix 30. Checkerboard/Scattered Land FMU Map (RFO)



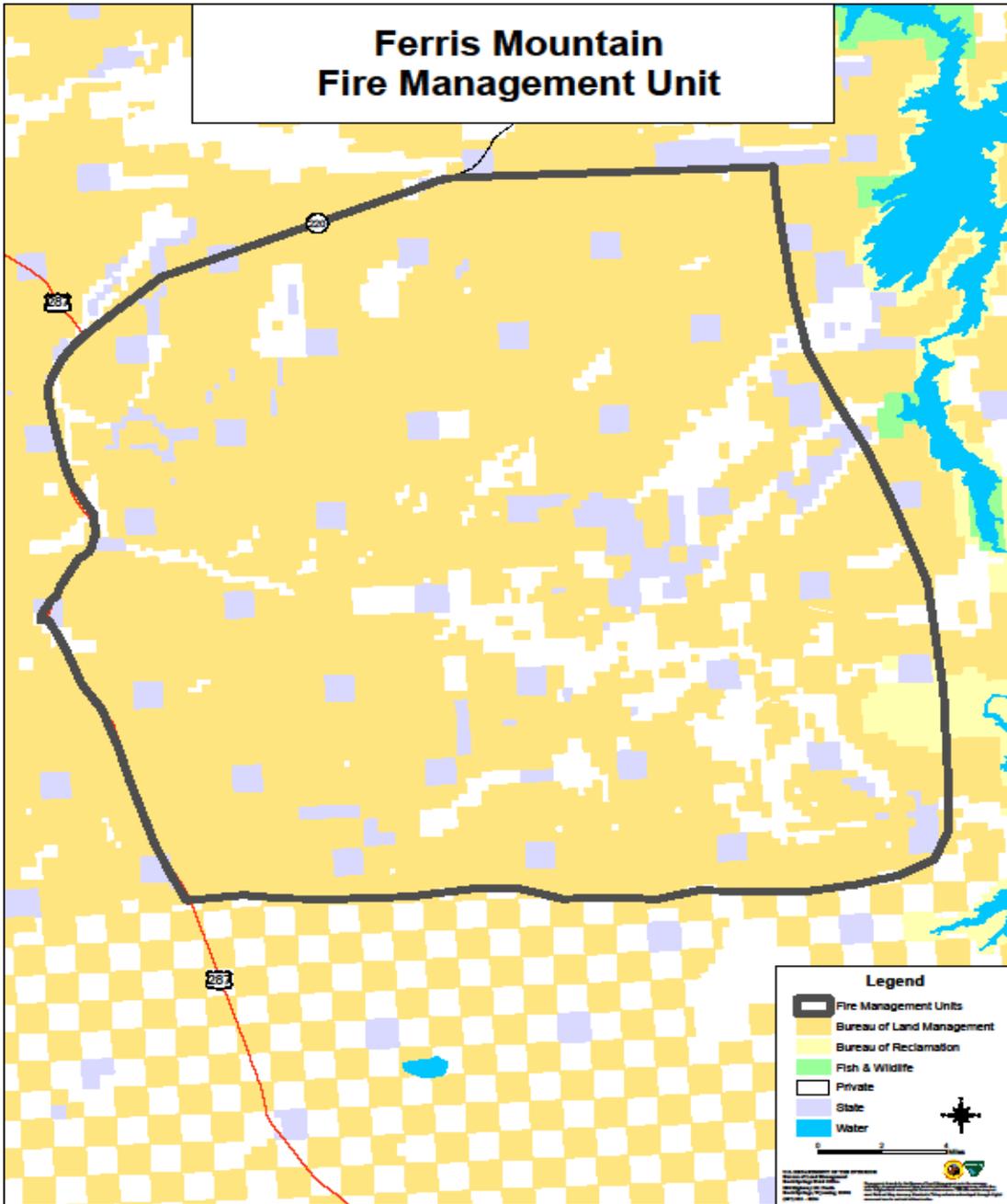
Appendix 31. Shirley Basin FMU Map (RFO)



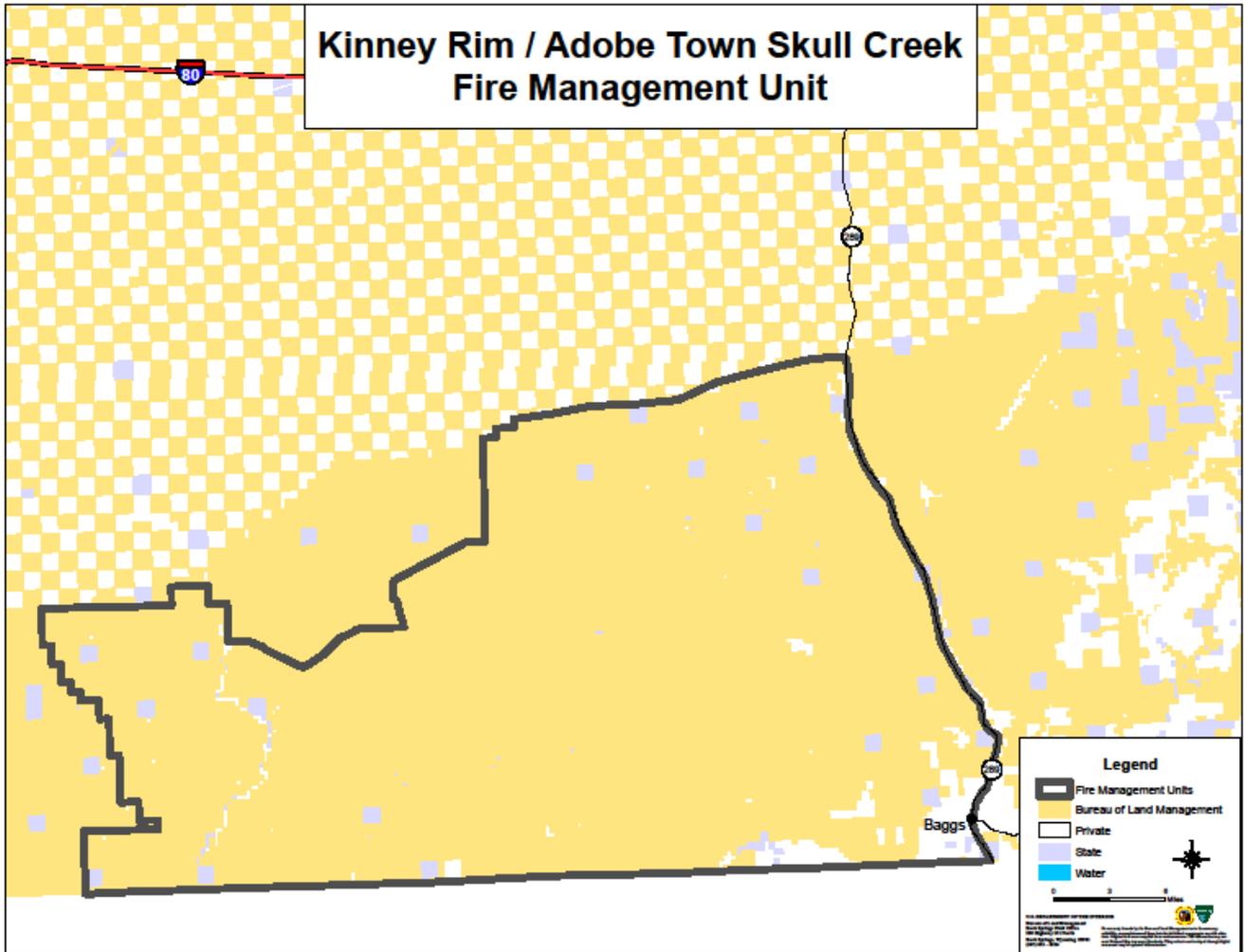
Appendix 32. Seminole/Pedro/Shirley Mountains FMU Map (RFO)



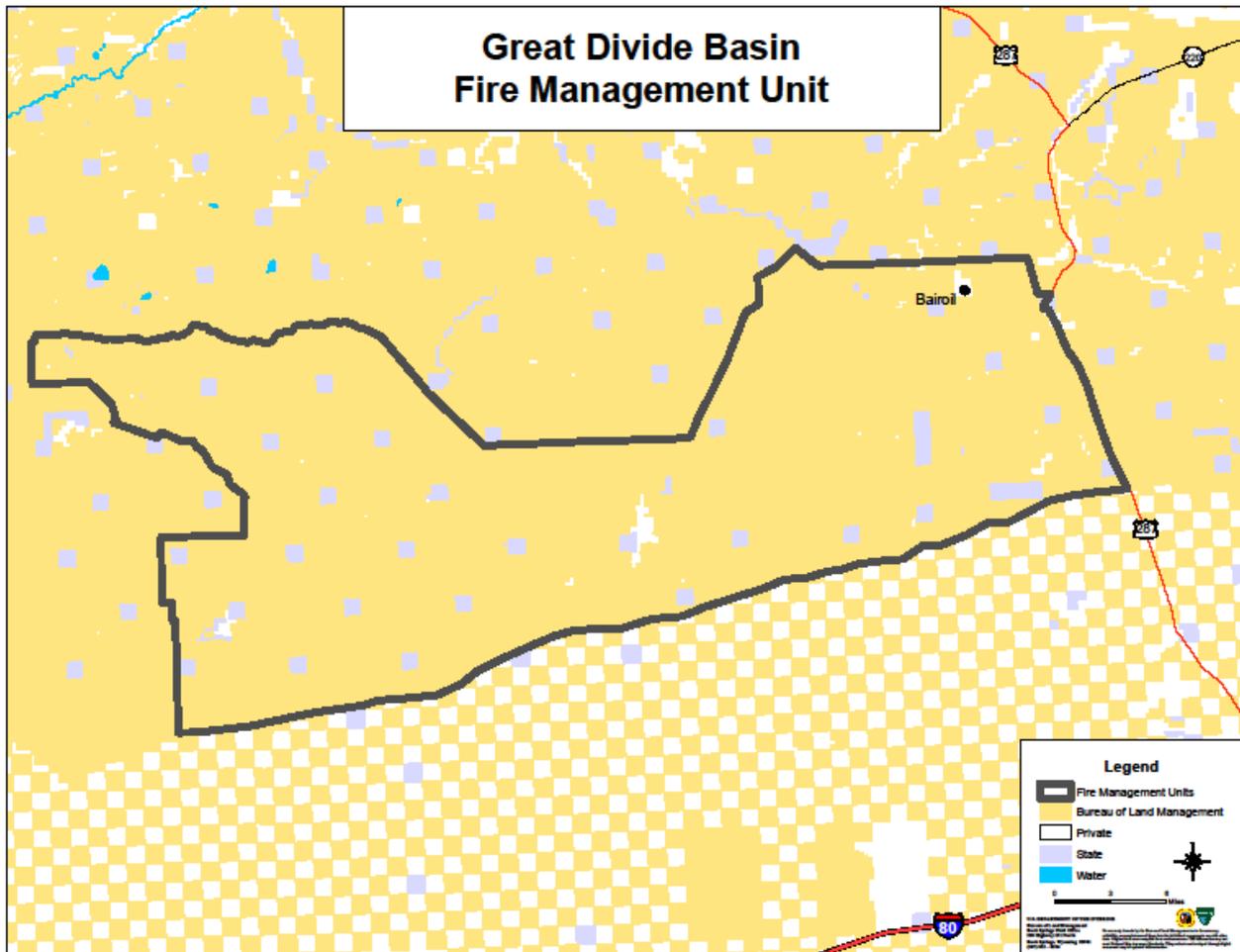
Appendix 33. Ferris Mountain FMU Map (RFO)



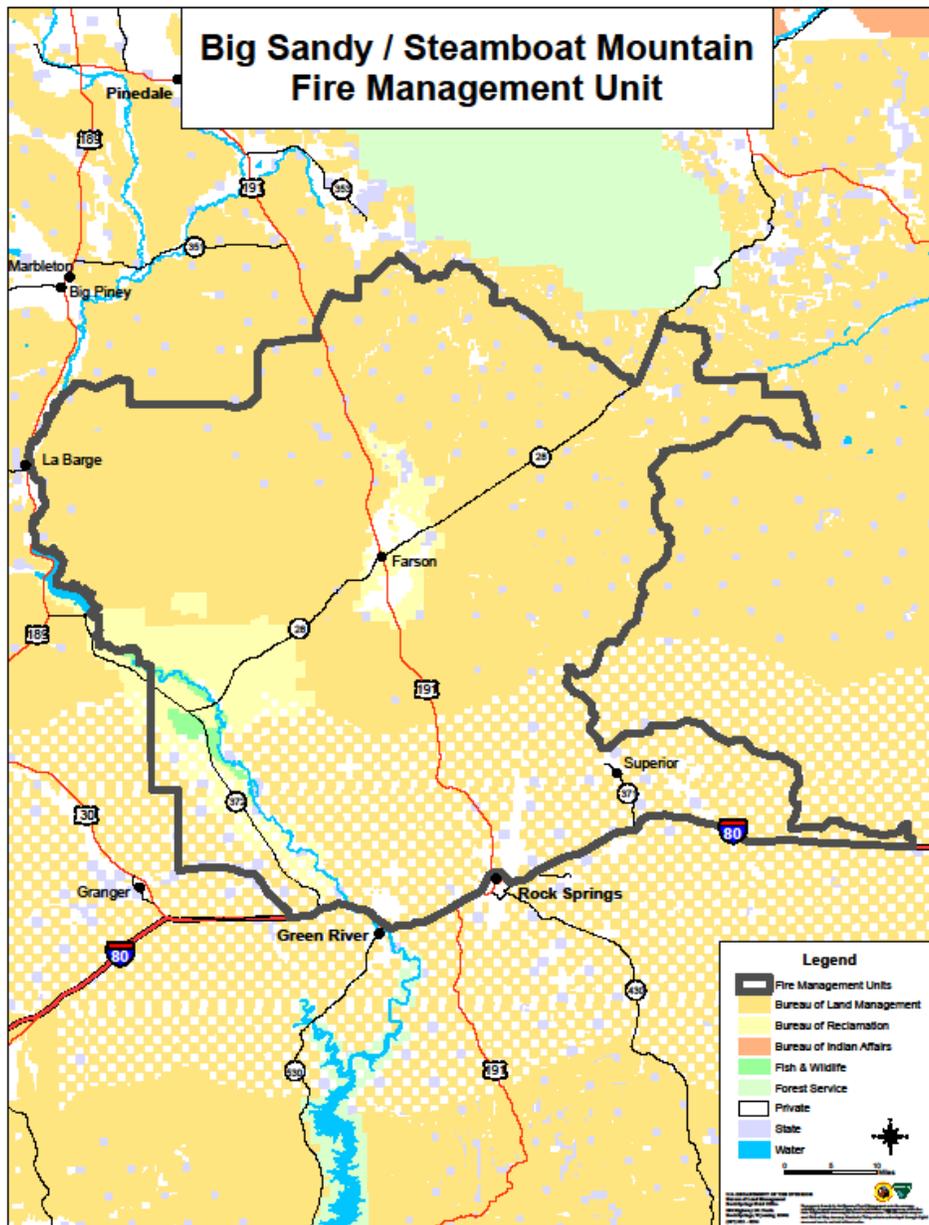
Appendix 34. Kinney Rim/Adobe Town/Skull Creek FMU Map (RFO)



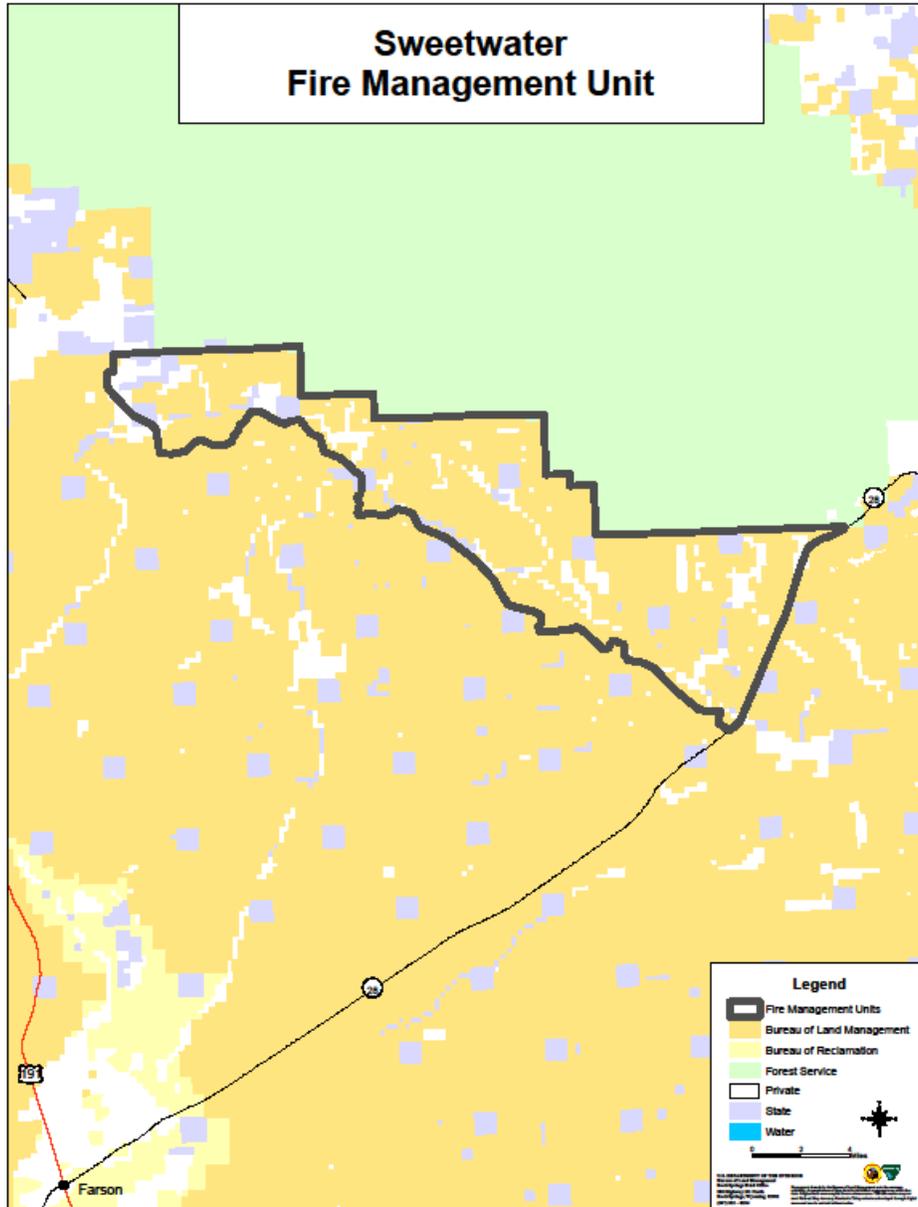
Appendix 35. Great Divide Basin FMU Map (RFO)



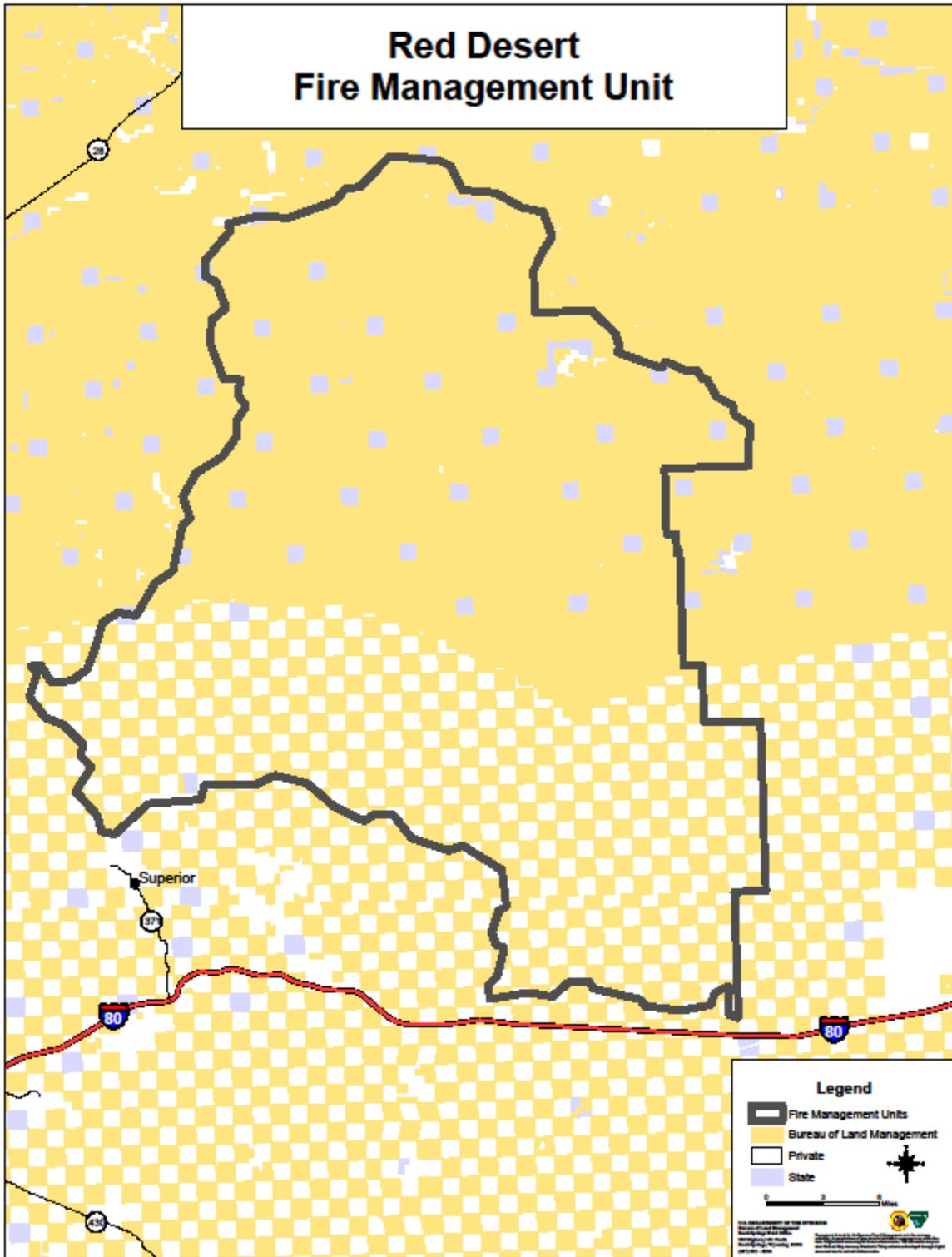
Appendix 36. Big Sandy and Steamboat Mountain FMU Map (RSFO)



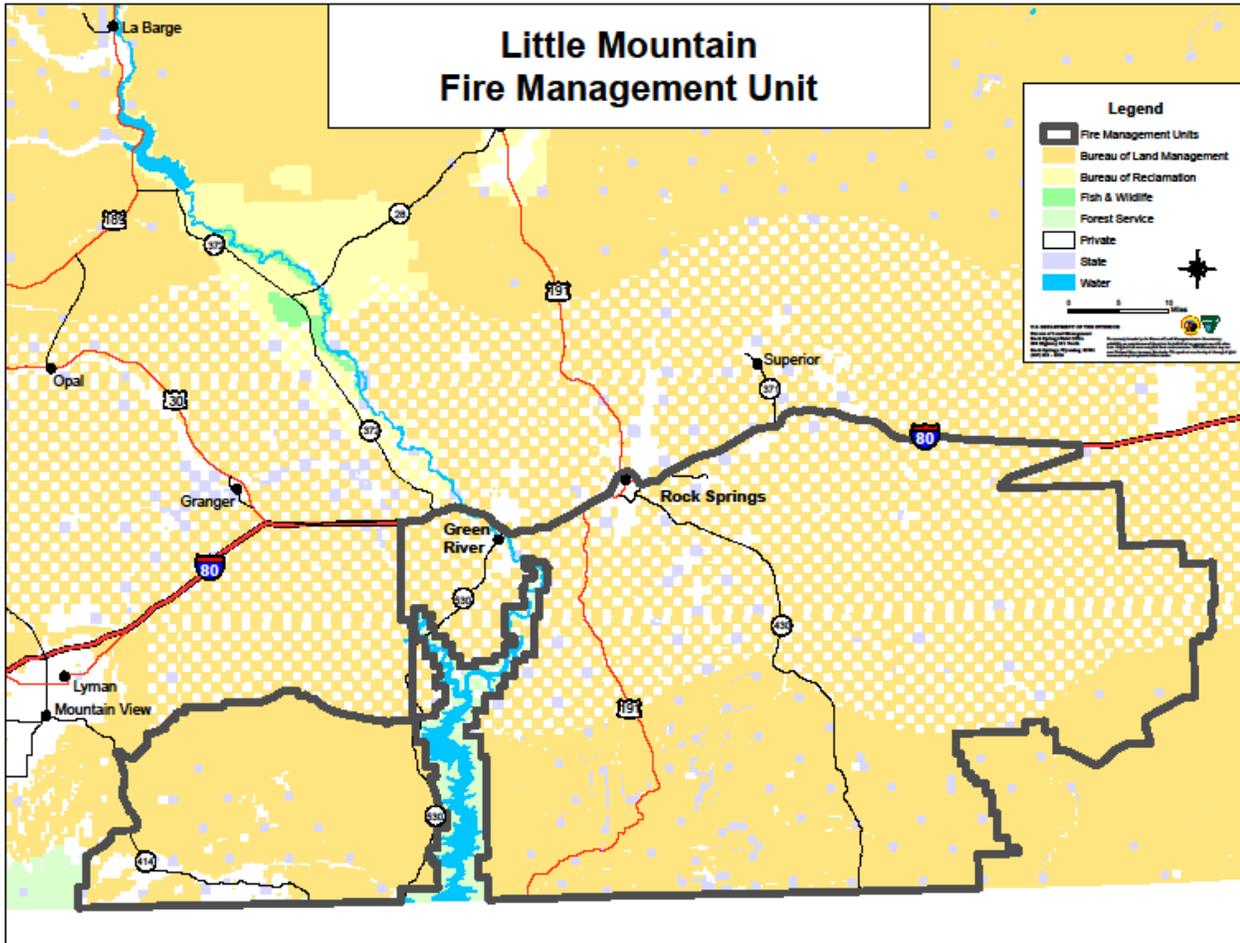
Appendix 37. Sweetwater FMU Map (RSFO)



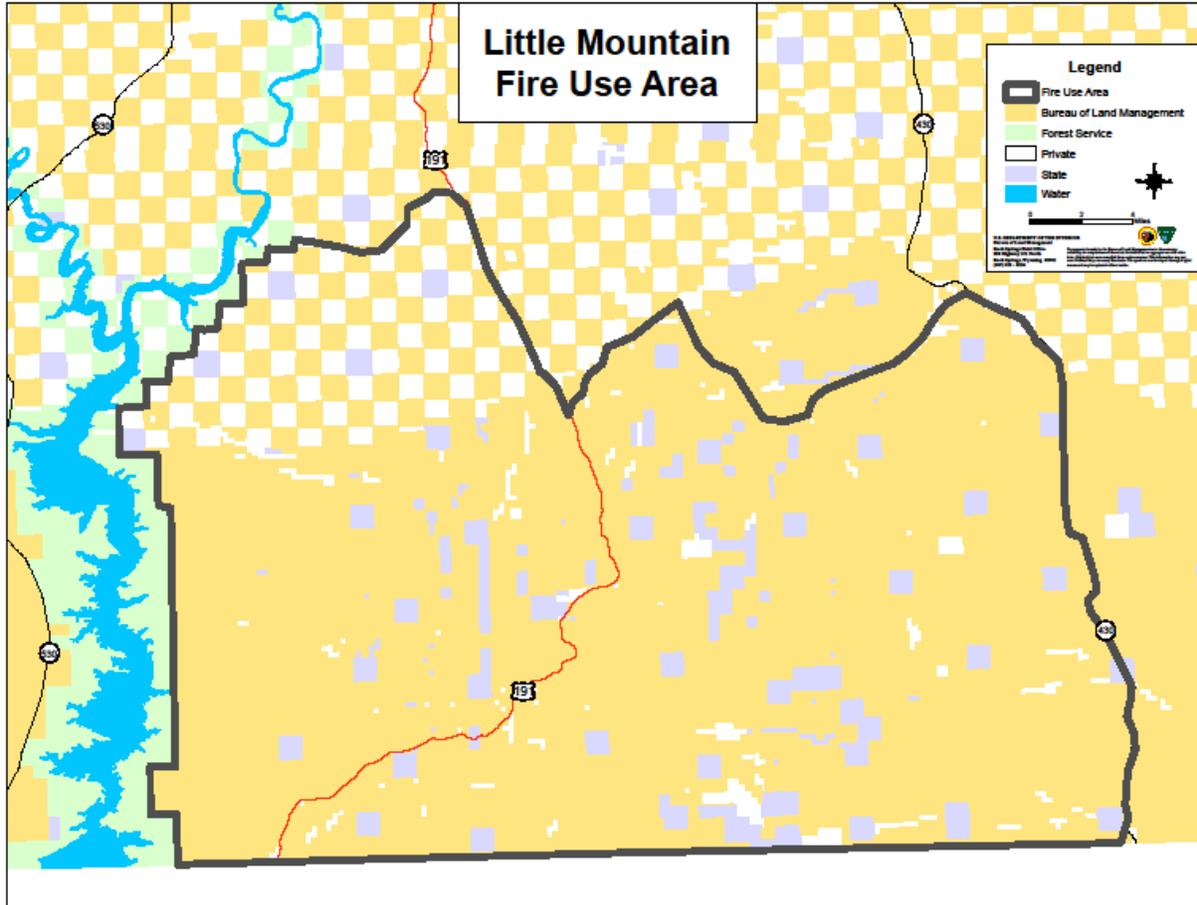
Appendix 38. Red Desert FMU Map (RSFO)



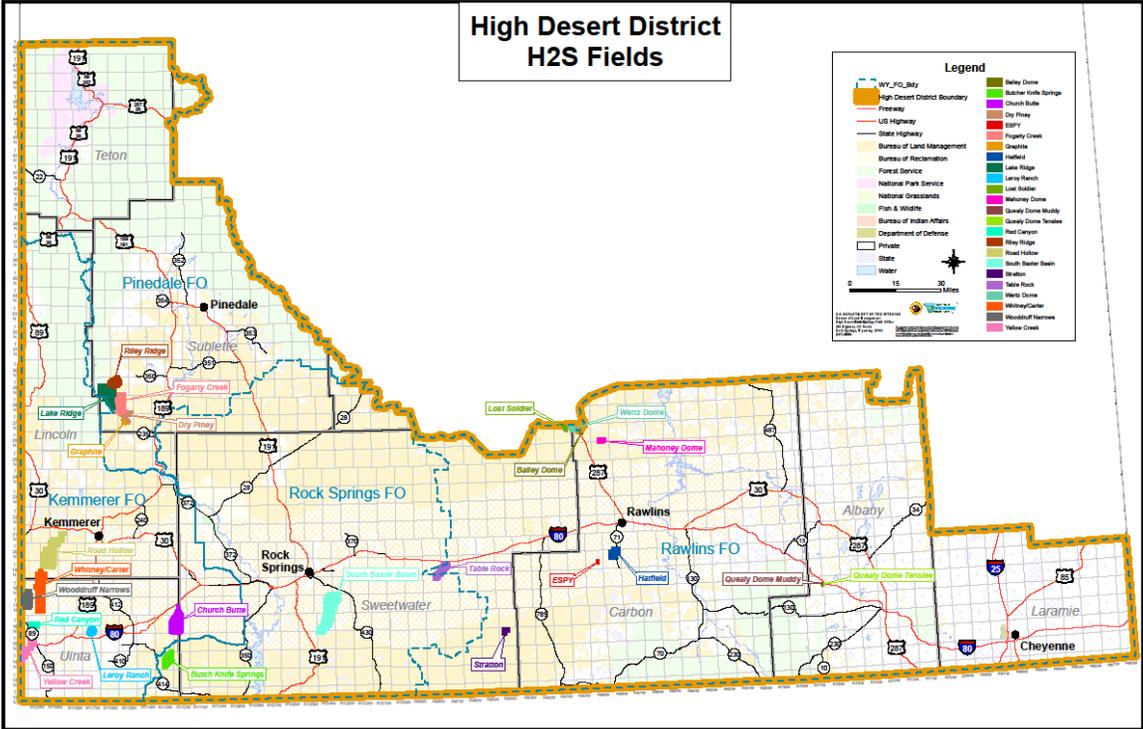
Appendix 39. Little Mountain FMU Map (RSFO)



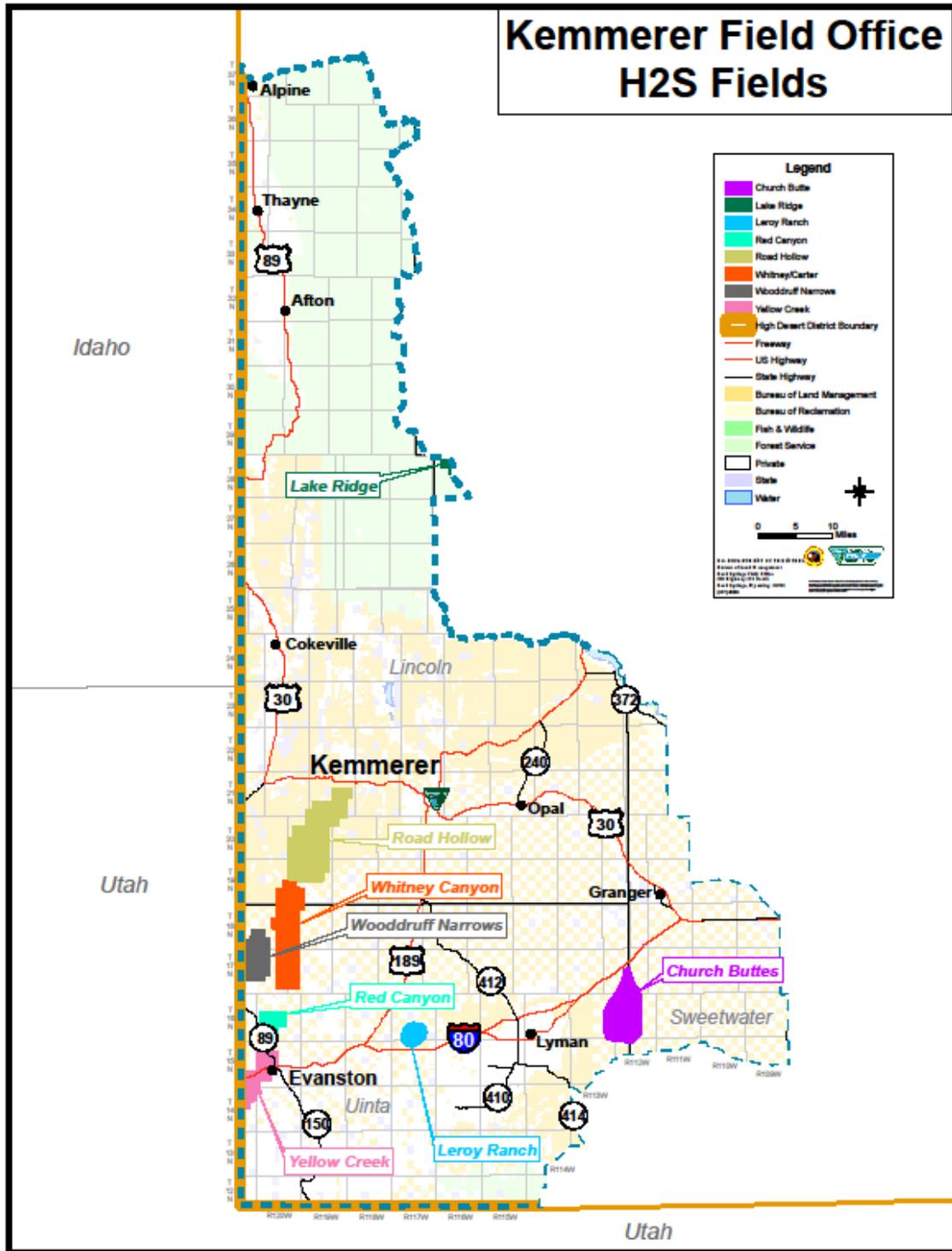
Appendix 40. Little Mountain Fire Use Area Map (RSFO)



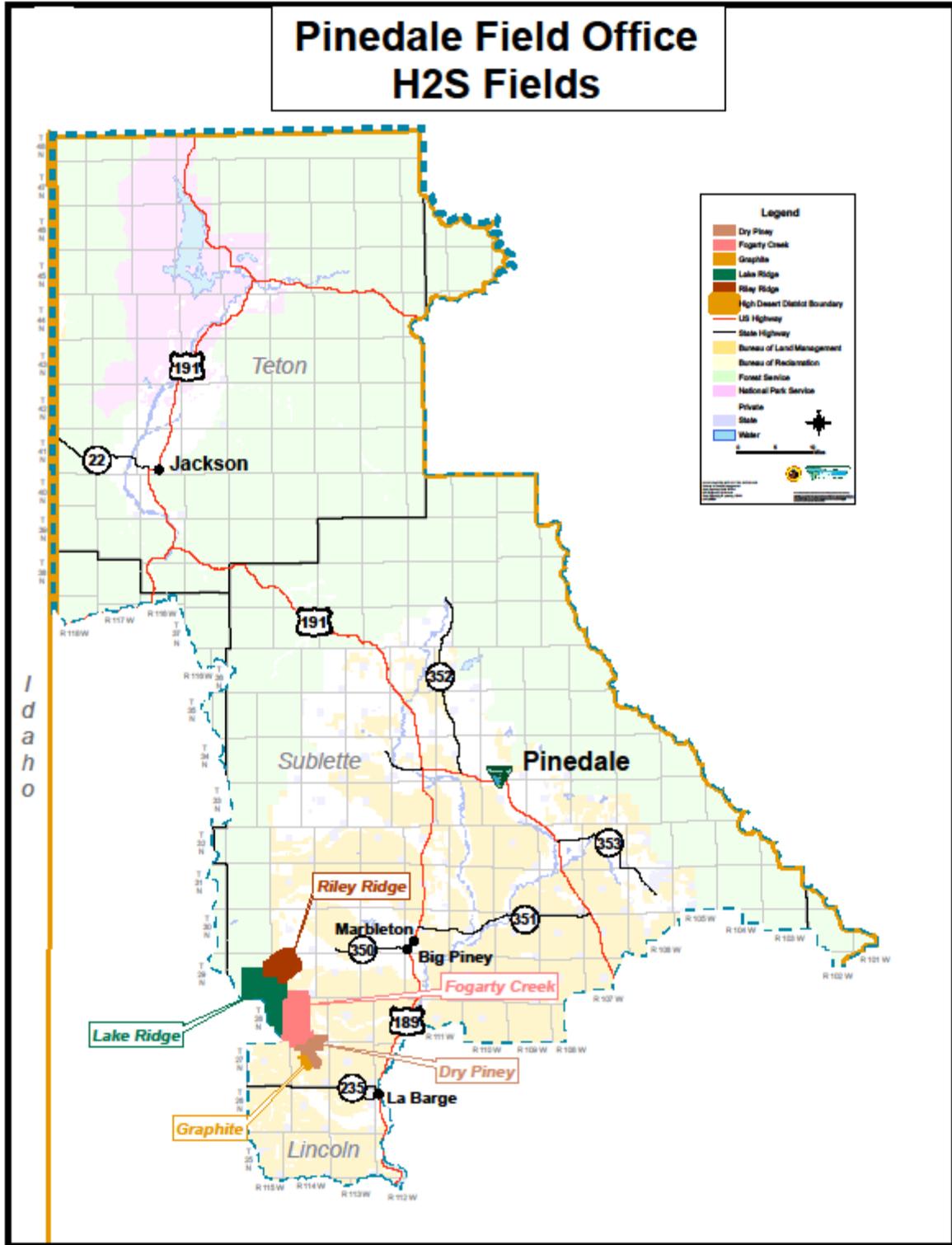
Appendix 41. High Desert District H₂S Fields



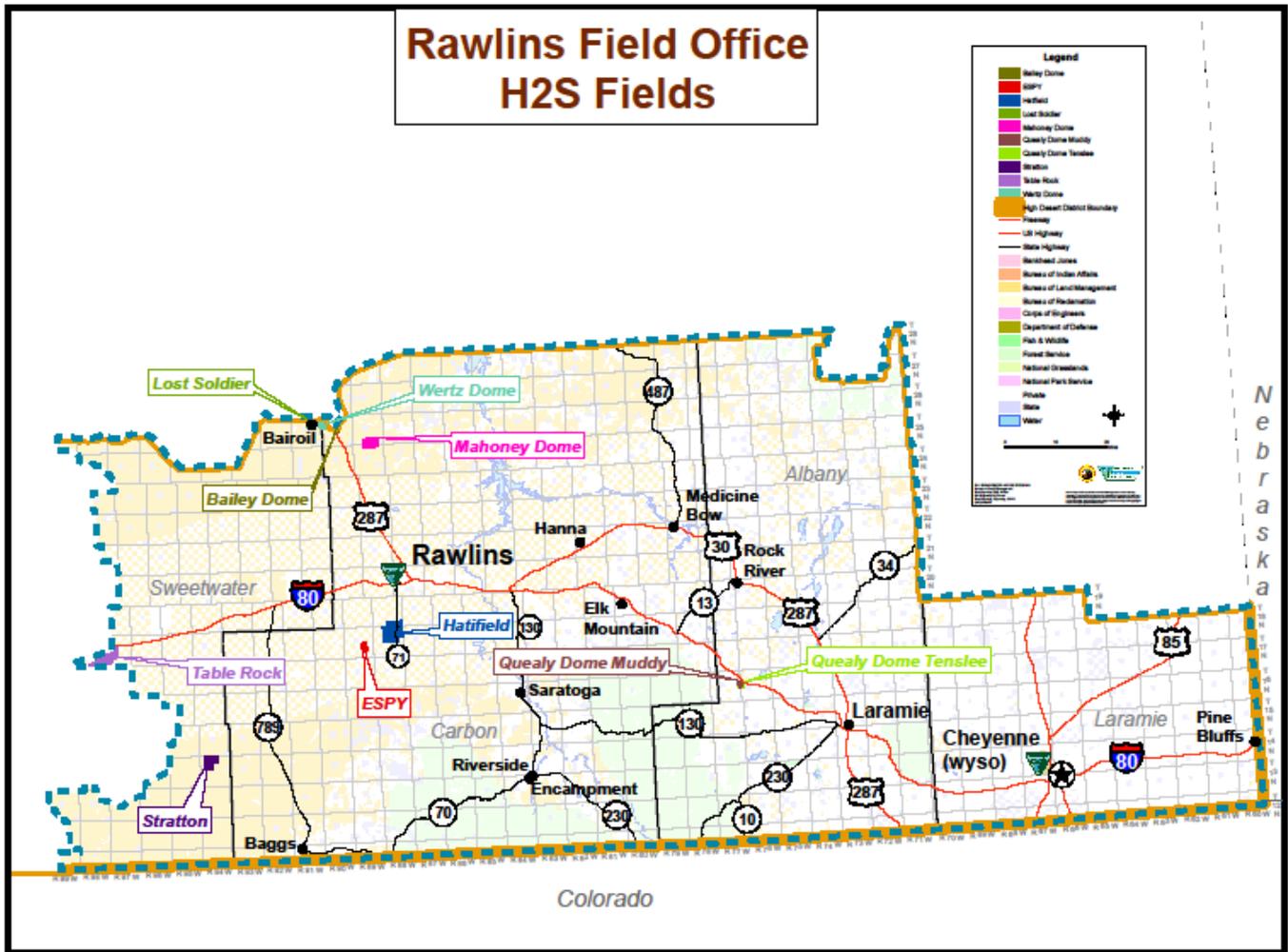
Appendix 42. Kemmerer Field Office H₂S Fields



Appendix 43. Pinedale Field Office H₂S Fields



Appendix 44. Rawlins Field Office H₂S Fields



Appendix 45. Rock Springs Field Office H₂S Fields

