TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION 1-1

1.1 Project Description and Location 1-1
1.2 Purpose and Need for A Revised Pinedale Resource Management Plan 1-1
1.3 Purpose and Use of the Management Situation Analysis 1-2
1.4 Synopsis of the Major Planning Process Steps 1-2
1.5 Mandates and Authorities for Preparation of the Pinedale RMP/EIS 1-2
1.6 Constraints/Consistency Requirements With Other Entities 1-3
1.7 Preliminary Planning Criteria 1-3
1.8 Management Issues 1-4

2.0 CONTINUATION OF EXISTING MANAGEMENT DIRECTION & ACTIONS 2-1

2.1 EXISTING MANAGEMENT DECISIONS FROM THE CURRENT RMP 2-1
2.1.1 Air Quality 2-1
2.1.2 Cultural Resources 2-2
2.1.3 Fires 2-3
2.1.4 Forestry 2-4
2.1.5 Hazardous Materials 2-8
2.1.6 Lands and Realty 2-8
2.1.7 Livestock Grazing 2-11
2.1.8 Minerals 2-15
2.1.9 Off-Highway Vehicle Use 2-22
2.1.10 Paleontology and Natural History 2-23
2.1.11 Recreation Resources 2-24
2.1.12 Socioeconomics 2-25
2.1.13 Soils 2-25
2.1.14 Transportation and Access 2-26
2.1.15 Vegetation 2-27
2.1.16 Visual Resources 2-27
2.1.17 Water Quality and Watershed 2-28
2.1.18 Wild Horses 2-29
2.1.19 Wildlife and Fisheries 2-29
2.1.20 Special Management Areas 2-31
2.1.21 Surface Disturbance Restriction Decisions 2-35
2.2 RMP MAINTENANCE ACTIONS 2-38
2.2.1 Air Quality 2-38
2.2.2 Cultural Resources 2-39
2.2.3 Fire 2-39
2.2.4 Forestry 2-39
2.2.5 Hazardous Materials 2-40
2.2.6 Lands and Realty 2-40
2.2.7 Livestock Grazing 2-40
2.2.8 Minerals 2-40
2.2.9 Off-Highway Vehicle Use 2-40

2.2.10 Paleontology 2-40
2.2.11 Recreation Resources 2-40
2.2.12 Socioeconomics 2-41
2.2.13 Soils 2-41
2.2.14 Transportation and Access 2-41
2.2.15 Vegetation 2-41
2.2.16 Visual Resources 2-41
2.2.17 Water Quality and Watershed 2-41
2.2.18 Wild Horses 2-41
2.2.19 Wildlife and Fisheries 2-41
2.2.20 Special Management Areas 2-41
2.2.21 Surface Disturbance Restrictions 2-41
2.3 OTHER MANAGEMENT CHANGES SINCE THE 1988 RMP 2-42
2.3.1 Air Quality 2-42
2.3.2 Cultural Resources 2-43
2.3.3 Fire Management 2-44
2.3.4 Forest Management 2-44
2.3.5 Hazardous Materials 2-44
2.3.6 Lands and Realty 2-46
2.3.7 Livestock Grazing 2-46
2.3.8 Minerals 2-46
2.3.9 Off-Highway Vehicle Use 2-50
2.3.10 Paleontology 2-51
2.3.11 Recreation Resources 2-51
2.3.12 Socioeconomics 2-51
2.3.13 Soils 2-51
2.3.14 Transportation and Access 2-52
2.3.15 Vegetation 2-52
2.3.16 Visual Resources 2-52
2.3.17 Water Quality and Watershed 2-53
2.3.18 Wild Horses 2-53
2.3.19 Wildlife and Fisheries 2-53
2.3.20 Special Management Areas 2-53
2.4 REFERENCES 2-54

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT 3-1

3.1 Air Resources 3-1
3.2 Cultural Resources 3-7
3.3 Fire 3-33
3.4 Forestry 3-34
3.5 Health and Safety Threats and Hazardous Materials 3-37
3.6 Lands and Realty 3-38
3.7 Livestock Grazing 3-41
3.8 Minerals, Geology, and Topography 3-45
3.9 Off-Highway Vehicle Use 3-50
3.10 Paleontology and Natural History 3-53

3.11 Recreation Resources 3-53
3.12 Socioeconomics 3-57
3.13 Soils 3-67
3.14 Transportation and Access 3-71
3.15 Vegetation 3-73
3.16 Visual Resources 3-85
3.17 Water Quality and Watershed 3-89
3.18 Wild Horses 3-92
3.19 Wildlife and Fisheries 3-93
3.20 Special Management Areas 3-116
3.21 References Cited and Documents Reviewed 3-119

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE CONTINUATION OF EXISTING MANAGEMENT DIRECTION 4-1

4.1 Air Resources 4-2
4.2 Cultural Resources 4-3
4.3 Fire 4-4
4.4 Forestry 4-5
4.5 Health/Safety and Hazardous Materials 4-6
4.6 Lands and Realty 4-7
4.7 Livestock Grazing 4-8
4.8 Minerals, Geology, and Topography 4-9
4.9 Off-Highway Vehicle Use 4-10
4.10 Paleontology and Natural History 4-10
4.11 Recreation Resources 4-10
4.12 Socioeconomics 4-11
4.13 Soils 4-12
4.14 Transportation and Access 4-13
4.15 Vegetation 4-14
4.16 Visual Resources 4-15
4.17 Water Quality and Watershed 4-17
4.18 Wild Horses 4-18
4.19 Wildlife and Fisheries 4-18
4.20 Special Management Areas 4-20

LIST OF TABLES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Table 1.1-1. Land and Mineral Ownership and Administrative Jurisdictions Within the Pinedale Field Office Administrative Area

SYNOPSIS OF THE MAJOR PLANNING PROCESS STEPS

Table 1.4-1. Land Use Planning Process Steps

2.0 CONTINUATION OF EXISTING MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

FORESTRY

Table 2.1.4-1. Timber Acreage Allocations
Table 2.1.4-2. Timber Harvest and Thinning Levels per Decade
Table 2.1.4-3. Timber Harvest Levels by Management Classifications and Acreage

LIVESTOCK GRAZING

Table 2.1.7-1. Habitat Guidelines for Brush Control

MINERALS, GEOLOGY, AND TOPOGRAPHY

Table 2.1.8-1. Restrictions for All Surface-Disturbing Activities

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE USE

Table 2.1.9-1. Off-Road Vehicle Designations

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Table 2.1.14-1. Access Needs

VISUAL RESOURCES

Table 2.1.16-1. Visual Resource Management Classifications and Acreage

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Table 2.1.19-1. Vegetative Manipulation Opportunities

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Table 2.1.20-1. Wild and Scenic Rivers Criteria

3.0. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE AND AIR QUALITY

Table 3.1-1. Concentrations of Criteria Pollutants.
Table 3.1-2. Summary of Air Quality in the Vicinity of the Pinedale RMPPA.

FORESTRY

Table 3.4-1. Scientific Names for Plants and Animals within the Pinedale RMPPA
Table 3.4-2. Acreage and Volume Distributions by Species for Forests within the Pinedale RMPPA

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND HEALTH/SAFETY

Table 3.5-1. List of Hazardous Constituents Potentially Used or Produced During Construction, Drilling, Production, and Reclamation Operations Associated with Oil and Gas Production

LIVESTOCK GRAZING

Table 3.7-1. Vegetation Manipulations Since 1988.

PALEONTOLOGY

Table 3.10-1. Paleontological Resources Contained Within Each Geologic Unit

SOCIOECONOMICS

Table 3.12-1. Geographic Characteristics of Study Area
Table 3.12-2. Population Centers
Table 3.12-3. Change in Civilian Labor Force 1991-2000
Table 3.12-4. Measure of Economic Diversity Using Sources of Personal Income
Table 3.12-5. Estimated Oil and Gas Tax Revenues as Percentage of Total County Property Taxes – FY 2001
Table 3.12-6. Total Severance Tax Distributions for Government Entities in the Study Area – FY 2001
Table 3.12-7. Severance Taxes Generated by Product
Table 3.12-8. PILT Payments to Counties 1991-2001
Table 3.12-9. Estimated Value of Grazing within Pinedale RMPPA - 1997
Table 3.12-10. Population Distribution (Percentage) by Race and Hispanic by County
Table 3.12-11. Estimated Poverty Rates by Geographic Area

VEGETATION

Table 3.15-1. Acreage of Vegetation Communities within the Pinedale Field Office Area
Table 3.15-2. Riparian Proper Functioning Condition Summary (Grouped by Allotment)
Table 3.15-3. Noxious Weeds as Designated by the Wyoming Weed and Pest Control Act

VISUAL RESOURCES

Table 3.16-1. Visual Resource Management Classifications and Acreage

WATERSHED AND WATER QUALITY

Table 3.17-1. Water Use in the Planning Area

WILDLIFE AND FISH

Table 3.19-1. Big Game Population Status

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE CONTINUATION OF EXISTING MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

Table 4.0-1. Assumptions for MSA Impact Analysis.

LIST OF MAPS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Map 1.1-1. General Location Map
Map 1.1-2. RMP Planning Area Base Map

3.0 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE AND AIR QUALITY

Map 3.1-1. Air Quality Prevention of Significant Deterioration Class I Areas.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Map 3.2-1. Historic Aboriginal Occupancy Areas

LANDS, REALTY AND RIGHT-OF-WAYS (ROWS) INCLUDING UTILITY AND COMMUNICATION CORRIDORS

Map 3.6-1. Land Ownership Map
Map 3.6-2. Mineral Ownership and Leased Federal Lands
Map 3.6-3. Land Withdrawals

LIVESTOCK GRAZING

Map 3.7-1. Allotments by Standard and Guidelines Assessments

MINERALS, GEOLOGY, AND TOPOGRAPHY

Map 3.8-1. Major Oil and Gas Field Locations

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES (OHV)

Map 3.9-1. OHV Designations

RECREATION

Map 3.11-1. Developed Recreation Resources, Special Recreation Management Areas, and Historic Trails
Map 3.11-2. Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

SOCIOECONOMICS

Map 3.12-1. Socioeconomic Study Area

SOILS

Map 3.13-1. Soil Survey Locations

VEGETATION

Map 3.15-1. Vegetation Communities

VISUAL RESOURCES

Map 3.16-1. Visual Resource Management Classes

WATERSHED AND WATER QUALITY

Map 3.17-1. Watershed Boundaries
Map 3.17-2. 100-yr Floodplain

WILDLIFE AND FISH

Map 3.19-1. Pronghorn Antelope Seasonal Use Areas
Map 3.19-2. Mule Deer Seasonal Use Ares
Map 3.19-3. Elk Feedgrounds & Seasonal Use Areas
Map 3.19-4. Moose Seasonal Use Areas
Map 3.19-5. Sage Grouse Leks Buffers

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Map 3.20-1. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Wilderness Study Areas

LIST OF FIGURES

3.0 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE AND AIR QUALITY

Figure 3.1-1a. Mean Monthly Temperatures in the Pinedale Region.
Figure 3.1-1b. Mean Monthly Maximum Temperature Trend in Pinedale, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-1c. Mean Monthly Maximum Temperature Trend in Big Piney, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-2a. Mean Monthly Precipitation in the Pinedale Region.
Figure 3.1-2b. Mean Monthly Precipitation Trend in Pinedale, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-2c. Mean Monthly Precipitation Trend in Big Piney, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-2d. Mean Annual Precipitation Trend in the Pinedale Region.
Figure 3.1-2e. Mean Monthly Snowfall in the Pinedale Region.
Figure 3.1-3. Capacity to Disperse Air Pollutants in Rock Springs, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-4. Wind Rose for Pinedale, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-5a. Mean Annual Concentrations of Nitrogen Compounds in Pinedale, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-5b. Mean Annual Concentrations of Nitrogen Compounds in Yellowstone National Park.
Figure 3.1-6a. Weekly Concentrations of Nitrate.
Figure 3.1-6b. Weekly Concentrations of Ammonium.
Figure 3.1-7a. Mean Annual Concentrations of Sulfur Compounds in Pinedale, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-7b. Mean Annual Concentrations of Sulfur Compounds in Yellowstone National Park.
Figure 3.1-8a. Weekly Concentrations of Sulfur Dioxide.
Figure 3.1-8b. Weekly Concentrations of Sulfate.
Figure 3.1-9. Mean Annual Ozone Concentrations in the Pinedale Region.
Figure 3.1-10. Visibility in Bridger Wilderness.
Figure 3.1-11. Mean Annual Precipitation pH in the Pinedale Region.
Figure 3.1-12a. Mean Annual Wet Deposition in Pinedale, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-12b. Mean Annual Wet Deposition in Yellowstone National Park.
Figure 3.1-13a. Mean Annual Dry Deposition in Pinedale, Wyoming.
Figure 3.1-13b. Mean Annual Dry Deposition in Yellowstone National Park.
Figure 3.1-14a. Total Nitrogen Deposition near Pinedale, Wyoming
Figure 3.1-14b. Total Sulfur Deposition near Pinedale, Wyoming

SOCIOECONOMICS

Figure 3.12-1. Employment by Industry – 1999
Figure 3.12-2. Percentage of Gross Earnings by Industry, 1999
Figure 3.12-3. Historical Natural Gas Production
Figure 3.12-4. Historical Oil Production

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A – Laws, Regulations and Policy
Appendix B – Preliminary Planning Criteria
Appendix C – Standard Practices Applied to Surface-Disturbing Activities
Appendix D – Standards For Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for the Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the State of Wyoming
Appendix E – Wyoming BLM Mitigation Guidelines for Surface-Disturbing and Disruptive Activities
Appendix F – Cultural Resources Management Process
Appendix G – Supplemental Mitigation Measures Specific to Wildlife and Fire
Appendix H – Disposal Criteria
Appendix I – Lands Suitable For Consideration For Disposal, Exchange, and Acquisition
Appendix J – Acres and AUMs by Land Stutus by Allotment
Appendix K – Allotment Categorization
Appendix L – Allotment Development
Appendix M – Standard Operating Procedures for Range Improvements and Vegetation Manipulations
Appendix N – Design of Range Improvements
Appendix O – Rangeland Monitoring Plan for the Pinedale Resource Area
Appendix P – Oil and Gas Operations
Appendix Q – Elk Feedground Locations
Appendix R – Criteria for Determining Depth of Fresh Water and Surface Casing Requirements
Appendix S – State Protocol Agreement Between BLM and WSHPO
Appendix T – Executive Order 13112 Invasive Species
Appendix U - Use of Visual Resource Management Class I Designation in Wilderness Study
Appendix V – Air Quality Regulations
Appendix W – Progress and Accomplishments