

# *Southwest Idaho National Priority Landscape*

## Intermountain Region

### Community Readiness and Risk Mitigation Action Plan

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July 15, 2022

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United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Intermountain Region  
Boise and Payette National Forests

### Executive Summary

The Southwest Idaho National Priority Landscape Project (SIL) encompasses 1.7 million acres, including approximately 425,000 and 505,000 acres of the Boise National Forest (BNF) and Payette National Forest (PNF), respectively, and 800,000 acres of other ownership including private, state, and other federal lands.

The SIL is a landscape scale effort to reduce the risk of catastrophic and undesirable wildfire while increasing the resiliency of the landscape to climate change and other stressors. To accomplish this, the strategy is to treat at least 230,000 acres (25%) of hazardous fuels on National Forest System (NFS) lands over the next five to seven years (i.e. 2022-2028). Treatments on NFS lands in conjunction with efforts to treat adjacent federal, state, and private land through a shared stewardship approach will aid in meeting the primary project objectives of reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire to communities, improving watershed health, sustaining industry, protecting recreation, and improving forest resilience.

Values at risk within the SIL include numerous communities (i.e. Boise, Horseshoe Bend, Idaho City, Garden Valley, McCall, Cascade, Donnelly, New Meadows, and Council), high value recreation areas (i.e. 3 ski resorts, high use mountain biking areas, developed campgrounds, snowmobile trailheads and trails, etc.), important ecosystem services (e.g. threatened steelhead, chinook salmon, and bull trout populations), and community water sources.

The plan to protect these values includes a variety of hazardous fuels reduction treatments, including: prescribed burning; non-commercial thinning; mastication; commercial timber harvest; and invasive weed treatments. This includes building on the work that has already been completed through active management and recent wildfires. Planned treatments on NFS lands include approximately 17,000 acres in Fiscal Year 2022, with approximately 35,000 acres being treated annually in Fiscal Years 2023 through 2028. These planned treatments are designed to achieve the project goals and objectives.

To complement and amplify wildfire risk reduction efforts on NFS lands, the State of Idaho and Department of Agriculture signed the nation's first Shared Stewardship Agreement in December 2018, memorializing a commitment to expand critical treatments beyond national forests onto all ownership boundaries. The BNF and PNF have been working with partners including the Idaho Department of Lands, Bureau of Land Management, county governments, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and private landowners to identify cross-boundary treatments and work collaboratively to leverage resources to reduce the threats of wildfire and improve forest and watershed health within the SIL over the past several years.

The SIL uses a variety of approaches including partnerships and agreements to meet project goals and objectives. The Intermountain Region and BNF and PNF have existing partnerships and/or agreements with numerous entities, including: Idaho Department of Lands; Americorps; Idaho Fish and Game; University of Idaho; US Fish and Wildlife Service; Bureau of Land Management; Natural Resource Conservation Service; Southern Idaho Timber Protective Association; Valley, Adams, Gem, Boise, and Ada Counties; Boise Forest Coalition; and Payette Forest Coalition. The BNF and PNF are also exploring new partnerships and/or agreements with Tribes, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Nature Conservancy, National Forest Foundation, Idaho Power, and Trout Unlimited.

Anticipated direct benefits from the SIL include reducing the risk of catastrophic and undesirable wildfires and increasing the resiliency of the landscape when wildfires do occur. Indirect benefits from the SIL project include improving watershed condition and aquatic habitat, sustaining partnerships with industry, maintaining and improving recreation infrastructure, and maintenance and improvement of wildlife habitat.

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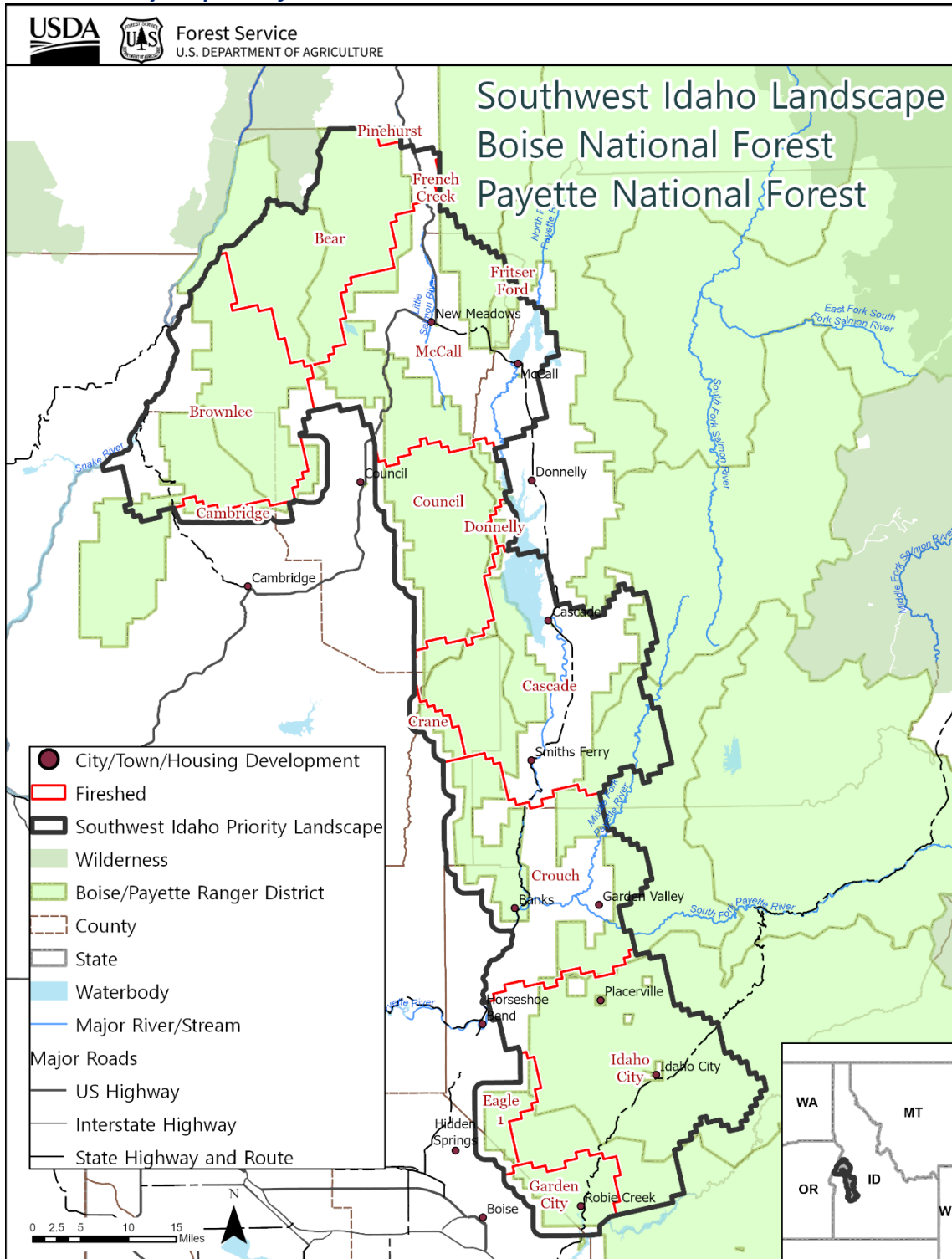
*Disclaimer:*

*All acreages are GIS estimates and many have been rounded.  
Discrepancies in summaries of acres and costs addition are due to rounding.*

## Landscape Context

### The Need – Why here, why now?

Figure 1 - SIL: vicinity map with fireshed boundaries



The SIL contains all or portions of fifteen priority firesheds. The SIL also encompasses one of two Shared Stewardship priority areas in Idaho. These priority areas were identified in coordination with the Idaho Department of Lands in 2019 using multiple analytical tools including the Idaho Forest Action Plan and the USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station's (RMRS) Scenario Investment Planning (SIP) tool.

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The population of the Treasure Valley (i.e. Boise and the greater metropolitan area) continues to grow at a rapid rate. In fact, the State of Idaho population growth leads the nation, with the majority of that growth occurring in the Boise Metropolitan Statistical Area. This population growth combined with vast expanses of public lands in the SIL creates a situation where continued expansion of infrastructure in the wildland-urban interface and increased public use and demands for recreation, water supply, and other natural resources continues to increase.

The SIL is a fire adapted ecosystem where much of the area historically burned at relatively frequent intervals, primarily with non-lethal and mixed fire severity. Ownership patterns in the SIL are mixed with approximately fifty-four percent of the SIL being National Forest System (NFS) lands. Other ownership includes private, state, other federal ownership. Much of the non-NFS land is managed for grazing, timber production, recreation, and/or developed for housing.

Fire-dependent ecosystems include vegetation communities consisting of Douglas-fir, aspen, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, Engelmann spruce, and whitebark pine. Also included are low-elevation ponderosa pine forest and deciduous shrubland. Over half of the landscape can be characterized as being moderately or very highly departed from its natural (historical) regime of vegetation characteristic, fuel composition, and fire frequency, severity, and pattern. In departed areas, there is an appreciable risk of loss of key ecosystem components. This project would build a manageable and sustainable framework for addressing landscape-scale wildland fire.

The primary goal of the SIL project is to reduce the risk of catastrophic and undesirable wildfire while increasing the resiliency of the landscape to climate change and other stressors.

### What does success look like?

Success within the SIL will be defined by significantly reducing the threat of catastrophic wildfire to communities and other high value infrastructure across the landscape. This will be accomplished by reducing tree densities, ladder fuels, and surface fuels allowing fire managers to have greater success suppressing unwanted wildland fire and protecting values-at-risk. Success in this landscape will be calculated using standard metrics, such as acres treated, through empirical monitoring and analysis, and through modeling pre- and post-treatment outcomes. The goals will have been reached when the landscape is resilient to disturbance, communities and other highly valued infrastructure and resources can be protected from undesirable wildfire, and the communities and stakeholders within the landscape support our management actions and engage by treating their own contributing landscapes.

The development of strategic fire control features can help mitigate risk as we increase the pace and scale of prescribed burning to improve resiliency of existing vegetation groups, improve proper ecological function to native vegetation communities and wildlife habitats, reduce hazardous fuels, and improve firefighter and public safety. The development and maintenance of these control features will contribute to the long-term success of our actions within the landscape.

Relationships within and adjacent to the SIL will be established and improved by creating partnerships and agreements with interested stakeholders. This will include local governments, tribes, and other organizations. Support for the work completed within the Landscape will be required to meet the goals of the project. Success will be defined by having additional support and improved relationships with our partners.

The SIL will provide products and revenues to maintain and increase capacity of industry and contractors. This capacity will aid in completing desired treatments into the future. Success will continue to include the utilization of industry in many of the treatments needed to meet the goals of the SIL.

Success will require the support of the communities for all treatment activities. A robust education and public outreach program will be required to build social acceptance to both mechanical and prescribed fire



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applications. Short term impacts to communities and the ecosystems are to be expected with increased smoke from prescribed fire and more activities on the landscape. Success will be defined by having more social acceptance for fuels treatments into the future.

Table 1 provides a summary of acres of treatment and timber outputs expected in the SIL over the next 5-7 years. It should be noted that this is the BNF and PNF's best estimate with currently available information and may be adjusted in the future. In addition, the BNF and PNF will continue to work with partners (e.g. tribal, state, county, city and other federal governments and non-governmental organizations) to identify cross boundary treatments. The acres treated, identified in Table 1, includes active management (i.e. prescribed burning, non-commercial thinning, and commercial timber harvest) implemented to reduce hazardous fuels.

**Table 1 - SIL: Planned Accomplishments**

Planned Activity	Fiscal Year							Total
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
Acres treated	17,300	33,800	38,900	37,300	38,100	33,500	33,300	232,000
Timber volume (CCF: Hundred Cubic Feet)	59,900	87,000	91,000	84,100	92,300	85,000	85,000	584,300

The SIL project will also result in a number of other accomplishments not captured in Table 1 including: watershed restoration (e.g. aquatic organism passage and road decommissioning), invasive species treatments, road and trail improvement and maintenance, and reforestation that will make conditions more resilient to future wildfires. In addition, maintenance treatments after 2028 will be necessary to continue to keep the landscape in a state that is resilient to future disturbance.

## Overall Strategy

The SIL overlaps with 15 firesheds, seven of which will be discussed in detail which cover over 93% of the landscape, see Table 2. Figure 1, above, displays the SIL project boundary and the fireshed boundaries.

The other 8 firesheds will not be discussed in detail, as they represent less than 8 percent of the SIL, but there is a need for and will be treatments to meet the project goals and objectives.

**Table 2 - SIL: Fireshed Acreage**

Fireshed Name	Area (ac)
Bear	178,900
Brownlee	220,100
Cascade	279,700
Council	148,600
Crouch	218,000
Idaho City	284,200
McCall	280,400
Other 8	119,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,729,100</b>

# Southwest Idaho National Priority Landscape

## Land Ownership

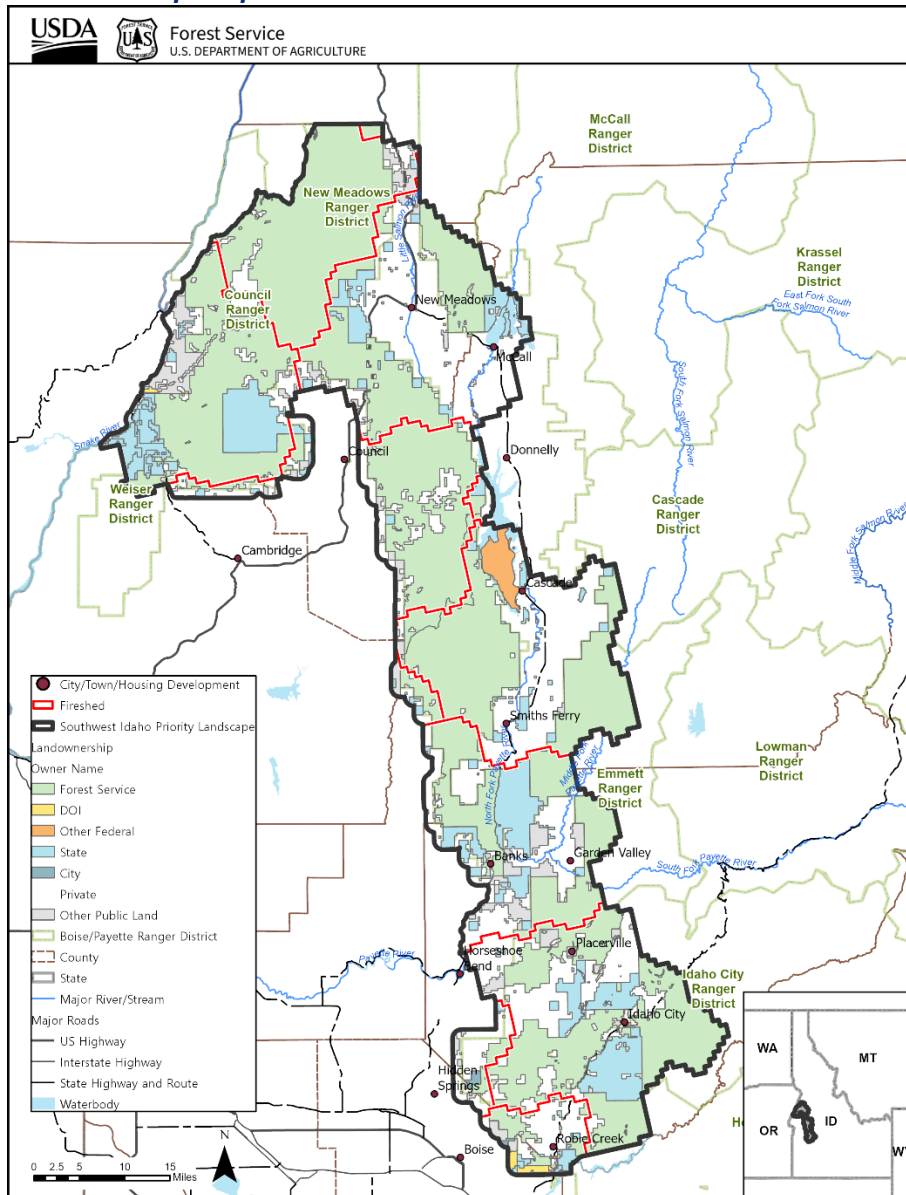
Land ownership acreages are displayed in Table 3 and shown spatially in Figure 2.

**Table 3 - SIL Ownership (thousands of acres)**

Landowner	Fireshed (thousands of acres)								Total Acres
	Bear	Brownlee	Cascade	Council	Crouch	Idaho City	McCall	Other	
Forest Service	159	123	151	107	94	155	107	33	929
Department of Interior <sup>1</sup>	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	4
Other Federal <sup>2</sup>	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	1	13
Other Public Land <sup>3</sup>	6	18	3	5	17	7	6	12	73
Private	12	28	104	33	69	81	141	59	528
State/City <sup>4</sup>	1	51	9	4	38	42	26	12	182
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>1,729</b>

<sup>1</sup> - Department of Interior includes Bureau of Land Management and US Fish and Wildlife Service  
<sup>2</sup> - Other Federal includes Bureau of Reclamation and Army Corps of Engineers  
<sup>3</sup> - Other Public Land includes unknown owner  
<sup>4</sup> - State includes Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Idaho Department of Lands, and Idaho Fish and Game.

**Figure 2 - SIL: land ownership map**



**Past treatments**

Within this landscape, active vegetation management and wildfires have occurred. On NFS lands past treatments to reduce hazardous fuels have included prescribed burning, non-commercial thinning, commercial timber harvest, and invasive species treatments. Treatments of non-NFS lands have also occurred and the BNF and PNF are working with partners to gather information on the amounts and locations of past treatments.

Table 4 displays the amount of prescribed fire, non-commercial thinning, and commercial timber harvest that has occurred over the past 10 years (i.e. 2012 through 2021). For the purpose of this table and the accompanying map (Figure 3) active management consists of prescribed fire, non-commercial thinning, and timber harvest.

**Table 4 - SIL: Past Treatments (2012 through 2021)**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
<i>Prescribed Burn</i>	37,100	UNK	37,100
<i>Non-commercial Thinning</i>	46,900	90,000	136,900
<i>Commercial Timber Harvest</i>	21,800	18,870	40,700
<b>Active Management TOTAL</b>	<b>105,900</b>	<b>119,000+</b>	<b>214,700+</b>
Wildfire	140,100	89,500	229,600
<b>TOTAL Wildfire and Active Management</b>	<b>246,000</b>	<b>208,500+</b>	<b>444,400+</b>

<sup>1</sup> activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

Figures 3 and 4 display the location of wildfires and active management over the past ten years (i.e. 2012 through 2021) on the landscape, on NFS lands. Discrepancies in acreage totals are due to rounding.

**Planned treatments**

The overall strategy for treatments to meet the SIL goals and objectives is to use existing, ongoing, and planned NEPA projects to implement prescribed fire, non-commercial thinning, and commercial harvest treatments on at least 25% of NFS lands within the SIL.

The specific NEPA projects and a map of how these projects fit within the SIL is in the Fireshed Tactical Plan section of this document. Overall, existing NEPA projects cover a large portion of the NFS lands within the SIL and the Forests have a number of ongoing NEPA projects with decisions anticipated in the near future (i.e. 2023 through 2025) as well as several planned NEPA projects that will cover other high priority areas for treatment. Table 7 and Figure 7 provide more planned projects.

Other treatments necessary to meet the secondary SIL goals and objectives and maintain and improve on the Forest’s social license and overall forest resiliency include activities such as: reforestation, watershed restoration (e.g. road decommissioning and aquatic organism passage installation), maintenance and improvement of recreational infrastructure (e.g. trails), and invasive species treatments.



Figure 3. SIL - NFS Lands Past Treatments – Northern portion

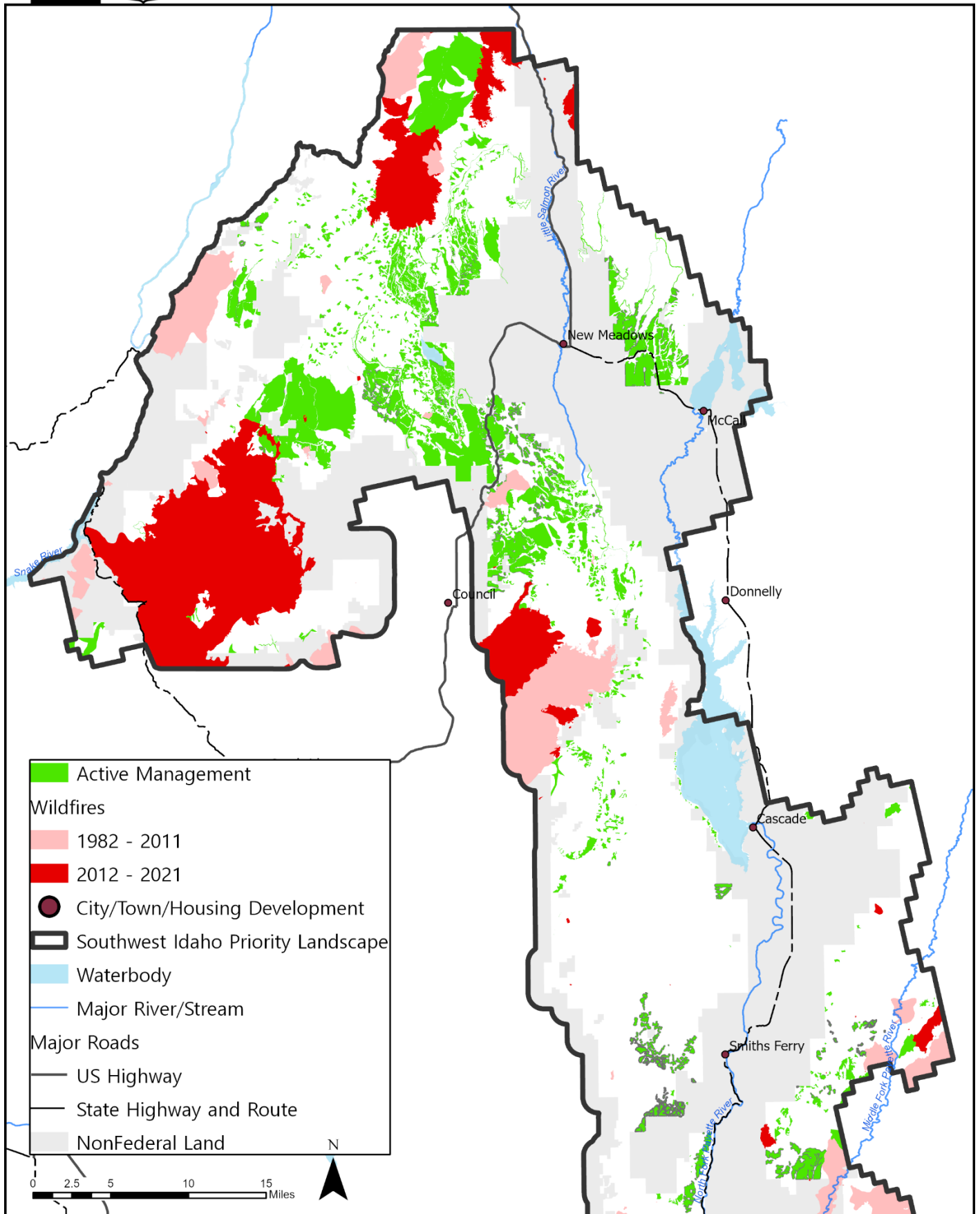
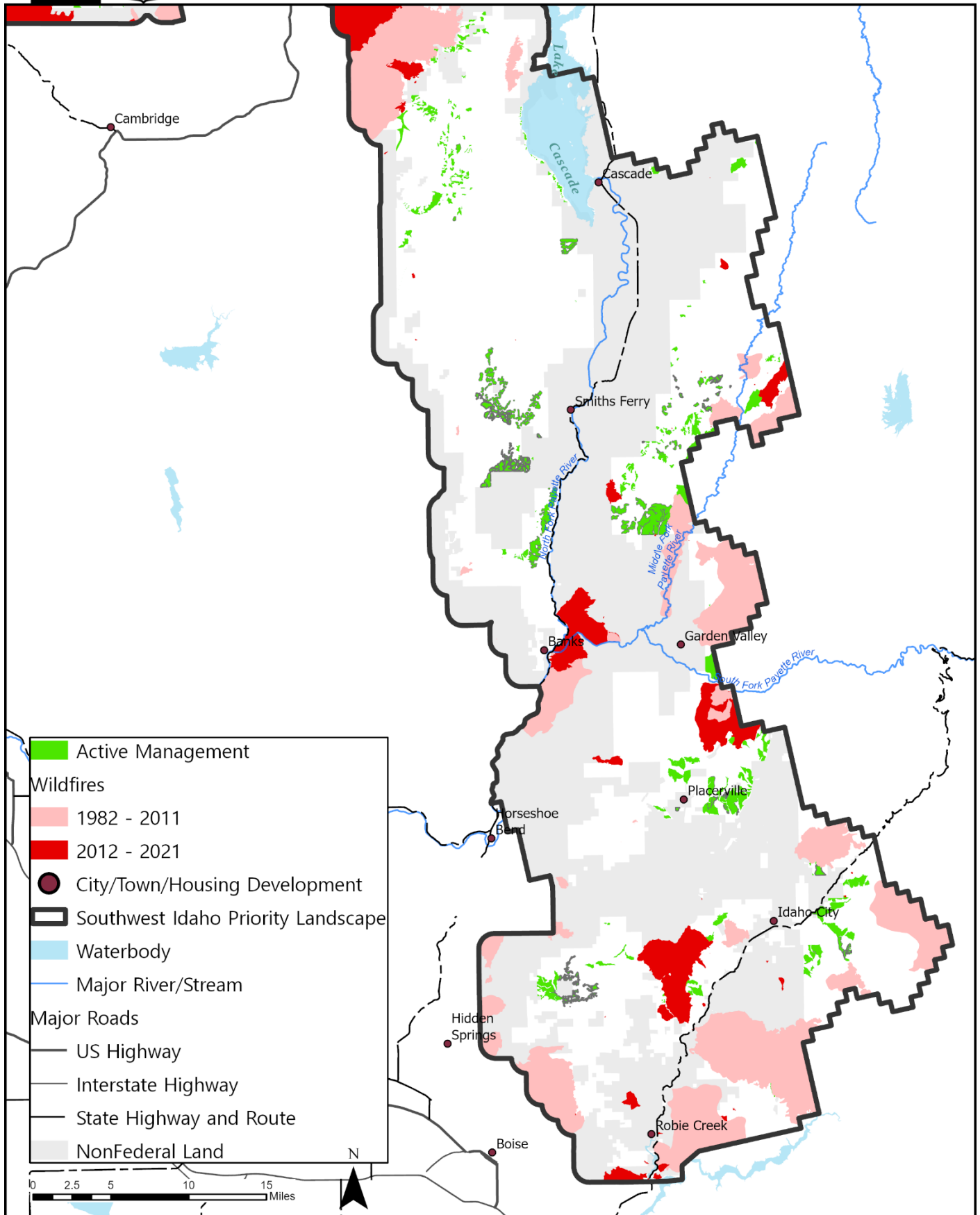


Figure 4 - SIL: NFS Lands Past Treatments – Southern portion



**List of partners, current and planned**

The BNF and PNF have numerous partners that will assist in the implementation of the SIL project. Table 5 identifies a summary of partners that will aid in the planning, implementation, and/or monitoring of projects. The BNF and PNF will continue to maintain and enhance current partnerships and explore options for mutually beneficial partnerships with landowners, tribes, other government groups, and non-government groups as the new projects in the SIL are planned and implemented. As described within the Idaho City Fireshed, partners have joined to develop an implementation strategy for fuels reduction, forest health, and fire risk prevention. The Boise Front Partner Strategy is a partner-based wildfire risk reduction implementation strategy. The Boise Front Partner Strategy template may be used as a design to expand to the rest of the SIL to increase pace, scale and capacity for accomplishing work across all ownerships.

Both the BNF and PNF have active local collaborative groups, the Boise and Payette Forest Coalitions that have been in place for over ten years. These groups regularly provide input to forest management projects and have been a key proponent of past and approved CFLRP projects. The forests consider them critical partners for planned work in the SIL.

**Table 5 - SIL: Partnerships and Agreements**

Partner Name	Status/ Comments
Bureau of Land Management	Agreement in Place <sup>1</sup> Working on a new interagency agreement to allow for transferring funds to BLM agreement to support project implementation on the Boise Front and other locations in the SIL.
Natural Resource Conservation Service	Partnership in Shared Stewardship. EQUIP funding and other mechanisms to treat priority cross boundary areas. Working on RCPP proposal for the Boise Front, with NFF serving as the lead partner.
US Fish and Wildlife Service	Partnership and agreements. New agreements being developed that will increase USFS ability to completion required Section 7 consultation in a timely manner and improve cross-boundary coordination.
Rocky Mountain Research Station	In-service agreement established. Working on Lidar processing. Ongoing work with the Boise Basin Experimental Forest (in SIL footprint) – Justin Crotteau is the Scientist in Charge.
Tribal GNA agreements	Opportunity for agreement(s) related to activities within SIL <sup>1</sup> . Working to establish agreements with each of the consulting Tribes. Plan to involve Tribes in all the activities associated with reducing wildfire risk. Expect to utilize Tribal Forest Protection Act and/or Good Neighbor Authority Agreement authorities.
Idaho Department of Lands	Good Neighbor Authority Agreement in place <sup>1</sup> . Both Forests have established agreements and work collaboratively on NEPA, timber, fuels reduction, and other restoration work through this agreement.
Idaho Department of Lands	Partnership in support of Shared Stewardship
Idaho Fish and Game	Numerous agreements in place <sup>1</sup>
Adams County	Numerous agreements in place <sup>1</sup> . Includes agreements for cost share roads, weeds treatments, etc.
Boise County	Agreements in place <sup>1</sup> . Working on an agreement for the Boise Front Partner Strategy, with NFF serving as the fiscal agent.
Idaho County	Numerous agreements in place <sup>1</sup> . Includes agreements for cost share roads, etc.
Valley County	Numerous agreements in place <sup>1</sup> . Includes agreements for cost share roads, etc.
Washington County	Numerous agreements in place <sup>1</sup> . Includes agreements for cost share roads, etc.
Boise Forest Coalition	Established in 2010, the <a href="#">BFC</a> has worked in a collaborative fashion to provide input and recommendations for numerous projects and written letters of support for grants. Also partnered for a multi-year <a href="#">Citizen Science project</a> within the SIL.

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Payette Forest Coalition	Established in 2009, the <a href="#">PFC</a> has worked in a collaborative fashion to provide input and recommendations on four large landscape projects and numerous smaller projects.
Southern Idaho Timber Protection Agency	Opportunity to re-establish an agreement <sup>1</sup> . Agreement in past but working to determine how to establish a new agreement in support of prescribed burning and other fuels treatments.
National Forest Foundation	Working on an agreement to support the Boise Front Partner Strategy and Tribes' Wood for Life Programs. The agreement with NFF will facilitate working relationships with a much broader private partner group that can assist with successful cross-boundary actions.
University of Idaho	Agreements in place <sup>1</sup>
Americorps (Idaho Conservation Corps and Montana Conservation Corps)	Agreements in place <sup>1</sup> . ICC provides 10-25 interns annually to support a variety of functional areas
The Nature Conservancy	Working on new agreement <sup>1</sup> . Working to establish agreement to aid in the implementation of vegetation treatments.
Trout Unlimited	Opportunity for new agreement <sup>1</sup>
Southwest Idaho Resource Conservation and Development	Agreement in place <sup>1</sup> . Provides facilitation and web services for the BFC and PFC.
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	Opportunity to re-establish an agreement <sup>1</sup> . Agreement in past, but working to determine how to establish a new agreement in support of prescribed burning and other fuels treatments.
Wild Turkey Federation	Agreement in the past <sup>1</sup> . Now working to determine how to establish a new agreement in support of prescribed burning and other fuels treatments.
City of Boise	Current partner for City of Trees Challenge and the Boise Front Partner Strategy. This includes the City of Boise Fire Department and the Fire ADAdapted Community Partnership.
Treasure Valley Canopy Network	Agreement in place for the <a href="#">City of Trees Challenge</a> . Also partnering with their sister company, the Keystone Concept, to develop management plans which are required for grants and funding opportunities (e.g. RCPP) on private land in the Boise Front.
Boise County Firefighters Association	Partner in the Boise Front. Completed a participatory agreement in 2022 for a cross-boundary prescribed fire.
Land Trust of Treasure Valley	Integral partner in gaining access and easements for treatment in the Boise Front.
Bogus Basin, Tamarack, and Brundage Mountain Resorts	Agreements in place <sup>1</sup> . Mutual interests to reduce wildfire risk, including financial incentives to lower insurance costs and protect infrastructure investments.
Idaho Power	Member of the Boise Front Partner Strategy, with overlapping <a href="#">wildfire mitigation priorities</a> across the SIL. They've currently budgeted \$46.7 million to address wildfire risk and could serve as an important partner to assist with match requirements and treatments.
Idaho Prescribed Fire Council	Future agreement to assist with messaging about prescribed fire.
Great Basin Native Plant Partnership	The <a href="#">Great Basin Native Plant Partnership</a> has a role in assisting land managers in developing sound management and successful restoration practices in the face of threats from invasive species, shifting fire regimes, and rapid climate change.
<sup>1</sup> - Need to (or in process of) establish new agreement specific to infrastructure due to current grants & agreements policy direction.	

### **Communities in the landscape**

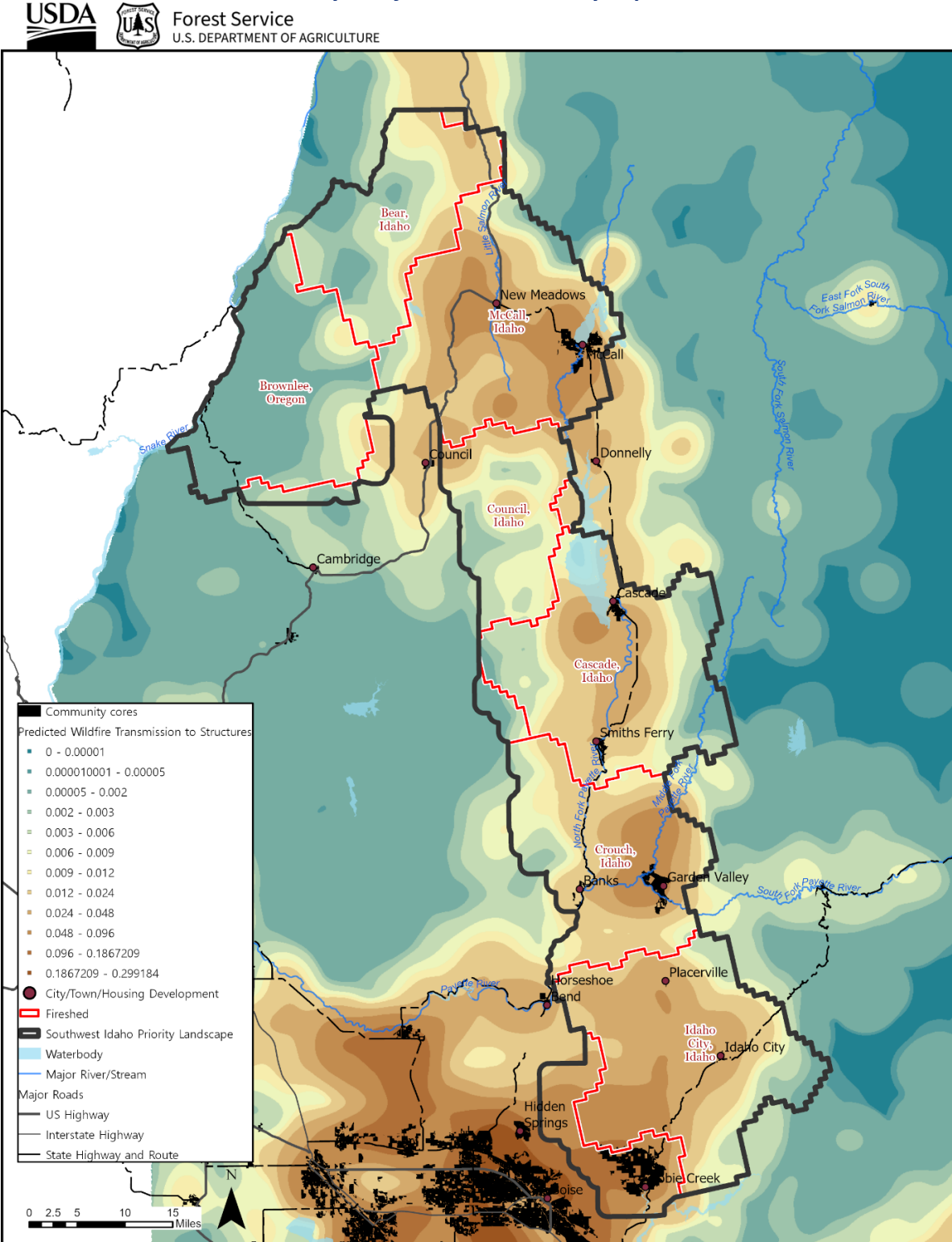
The SIL is adjacent to or includes 14 community cores identified to have elevated risk for transboundary wildfire exposure, following the process documented in [GTR 392](#) and displayed in Figure 7. Community cores include

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Robie Creek, Boise City, Hidden Springs, Horseshoe Bend, Idaho City, Placerville, Garden Valley, Banks, Smiths Ferry, Cascade, Donnelly, Council, McCall, and New Meadows.

Figure 5 depicts the modeled cross-boundary wildfire and community exposure for the Southwest Idaho Landscape (source: [Transboundary Wildfire Exposure in Idaho](#)). Brown colors are high exposure and darker blue representing low exposure. The darkest brown color represents a 19 to 30% probability that structures would burn under the modeled wildfire conditions.

**Figure 5 - SIL: Modeled cross-boundary wildfire and community exposure**





### **Challenges, current and anticipated**

The primary challenge in reaching the goals within this landscape is social acceptance of the work that needs to be completed. Although this landscape has been actively managed for many years, the pace of the work will need to accelerate well beyond what the public is accustomed to. Issues such as smoke impacts from prescribed fire and short-term disruptions to recreation activities will likely cause concern with some members of the public. The BNF and PNF will also need to increase the pace and scale of our community outreach and education programs to build a better understanding of how this work benefits the landscape and helps to protect communities.

Other challenges to this work include labor shortages, both internally and externally, volatile timber markets, and unpredictable weather conditions that impact prescribed fire windows.

## **FIRESHED TACTICAL PLAN**

### **Tactical information common to all Firesheds**

Management goals, objectives and actions needed to address the wildfire crisis are very similar across the Southwest Idaho Landscape. Unique circumstances and opportunities are detailed in the applicable fireshed sections.

### **Description of Southwest Idaho National Priority Landscape**

Within the SIL, the majority of the landscape is U.S. Forest Service ownership (54%), followed by private (31%) and state (10%) and miscellaneous other federal and public lands (5%). Elevations range from 1,700 to 8,700 feet. Vegetation at lower elevations is typically grasslands, shrublands, ponderosa pine, and Douglas-fir on south and west aspects, and Douglas-fir forests on north and east aspects. Mid elevations are dominated by shrubs and forest communities of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir, with pockets of lodgepole pine and aspen, as well as grand fir and western larch in the northern two-thirds of the project area. Upper elevations transition to montane meadows, shrub communities and forest communities of Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, aspen, and whitebark pine.

Nearly half of the landscape is classified as Fire Regime Group I, with a 5-25 year historic fire return interval of surface fires with less than 10% mortality. According to Landfire data, approximately 26 percent of the landscape is highly departed from historical conditions, which is primarily federal land (72%). The majority (88%) of this departure is within Fire Regime Group I, which also occurs within close proximity to some of the most densely populated communities in and around the landscape (Figure 7).

Historically, fire was and continues to be the key disturbance agent in this landscape. However, decades of fire exclusion, forest management (which favored harvesting large, economically valuable ponderosa pine and other fire-adapted species), wildfires, insect outbreaks, and other factors have substantially altered the forest, increasing fuel accumulations and creating areas with overabundant small diameter trees. This high departure from reference conditions has shifted species composition, fuel loads and invasive species, resulting in extreme wildfire hazards. Effects of a changing climate, such as reduced winter precipitation, earlier spring snowmelt, and longer dry seasons have also played a role in this shift. Recent wildfires in similar adjacent landscapes have been shown to exceed what the ecosystem can recover from within a desirable time frame, degrading ecosystem services heavily relied upon by surrounding communities. Risks to communities and natural resources are expanding, and the environment is increasingly more dangerous for firefighters.

Table 6 summarizes the dominant vegetation types and departure, dominant fire regimes, communities at risk and percent of area affected by wildfire over the past ten years in each of the firesheds in the SIL.

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**Table 6. SIL: vegetation, fire regime, and community risk summary information**

Fireshed Name	Acres <sup>a</sup>	Dominant Existing Vegetation Cover Types <sup>b</sup>	High Veg Departure <sup>c</sup>	Dominant Fire Regimes <sup>c</sup>	Communities at Risk <sup>d</sup>	Wildfire History <sup>e</sup>
Bear	178,900	Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir: 9% Interior Douglas-Fir: 38% Grand Fir: 22% Interior Ponderosa Pine: 7%	24%	Group I: 36% Group III: 23% Group IV: 39%	Bear and Cuprum	10%
Brownlee	220,100	Engelmann Spruce Subalpine Fir: 10% Interior Douglas-Fir: 23% Grand Fir: 8% Interior Ponderosa Pine: 7%	16%	Group I: 42% Group III: 27% Group IV: 29%	Cambridge, Council, and Oxbow	8%
Cascade	279,700	Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir: 11% Interior Douglas-Fir: 34% Grand Fir: 8% Lodgepole Pine: 6% Interior Ponderosa Pine: 7%	27%	Group I: 42% Group III: 33% Group IV: 15%	Cascade and Smith's Ferry	6%
Council	148,600	Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir: 14% Interior Douglas-Fir: 26% Grand Fir: 6% Lodgepole Pine: 10% Interior Ponderosa Pine: 20%	22%	Group I: 43% Group III: 35% Group IV: 19%	Council and Donnelly	12%
Crouch	218,000	Interior Douglas-Fir: 34% Grand Fir: 11% Interior Ponderosa Pine: 20%	38%	Group I: 71% Group II: 7% Group III: 18%	Garden Valley and Banks	8%
Idaho City	284,200	Interior Douglas-Fir: 39% Interior Ponderosa Pine: 23%	38%	Group I: 70% Group II: 14% Group III: 11%	Boise City, Hidden Springs, Robie Creek, Horseshoe Bend, Idaho City, and Placerville	6%
McCall	280,400	Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir: 5% Interior Douglas-Fir: 37% Grand Fir: 7% Interior Ponderosa Pine: 11%	22%	Group I: 37% Group III: 44% Group IV: 15%	McCall and New Meadows	6%

<sup>a</sup>Clipped to Southwest Idaho Landscape

<sup>b</sup>From 2020 Landfire data, depicting dominant Society of American Foresters cover types. Omits Grass/Forb/Shrub cover types, which represent a large portion of some firesheds.

<sup>c</sup>From Landfire data.

<sup>d</sup>Community cores within and adjacent to firesheds were sourced from [Transboundary Wildfire Exposure in Idaho](#).

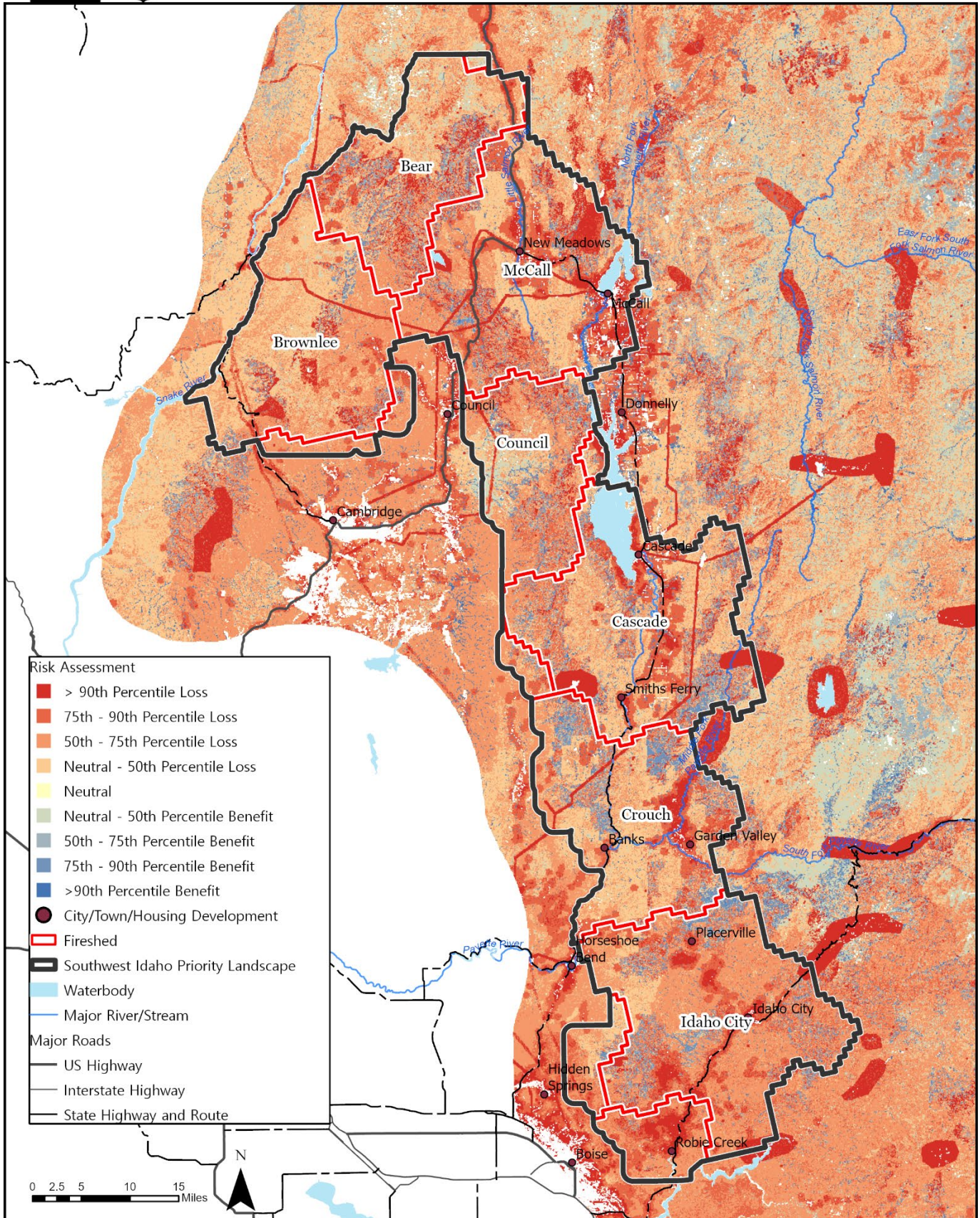
<sup>e</sup>Percent of fireshed burned by wildfire in the last 10 years.

To account for where values, such as communities at risk, overlap with undesirable vegetation conditions, the Intermountain Region completed a quantitative wildfire risk assessment (QWRA) in 2019. This QWRA looks at predicted fire behavior across the landscape including flame length and probability of burning and links to highly valued resources and assets. The output is a risk assessment rating that indicates whether wildfire would have a high level of risk of loss. Figure 6 displays risk of loss based on the Regional QWRA, darker red areas have a higher risk of loss from wildfire.

This QWRA will eventually be updated with input from our partners and utilized to prioritize locations for treatment across all ownerships, as well as help to measure success. The source for this QWRA information is the [Risk management assistance dashboard](#).



Figure 6. SIL: Intermountain Region 2019 Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment





### **Management Goals for the SIL:**

- Move vegetation toward the desired conditions specified in the Forest Plan to provide for ecological processes and resilience to stressors such as unplanned wildfire, climate change, and insect outbreaks.
- Provide for the protection of life, investments, and valuable resources through appropriate vegetation, fuel, and wildfire management.
- Mitigate wildfire threats to communities by creating control features to prepare for restoring more frequent, low-severity fire to the landscape.
- Protect WUI communities from catastrophic fires and create strategic control features to prepare for returning a favorable fire regime to the landscape.
- Protect water quality from deleterious effects of high severity fires.

### **Management Objectives for the SIL:**

- Schedule and complete prescribed fires and mechanical treatments.
- Reduce high intensity wildfire potential to enable wildfire response where suppression resources can safely access and anchor their actions with an increased likelihood of success.
- Reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire by modifying fuel accumulation.
- Improve firefighter and public safety by treating fuels that provide access and create and/or maintain a low wildfire hazard in the urban interface.
- Reduce the potential for undesirable effects from wildfire on the landscape.
- Strategically locate treatments in areas to utilize future ignitions to meet resource objectives.
- Restore fire as an ecological process in vegetative communities.
- Improve ecosystem health, wildlife, and pollinator habitat.
- Increase resiliency of existing vegetation communities by modifying stand structure and composition and bring into closer alignment with historical conditions.
- Reduce ladder fuels that provide vertical and horizontal fuel continuity thereby reducing crown fire risk.
- Increase canopy base heights and crown spacing to reduce the risk of crown fire.
- Increase the effectiveness of all wildfire risk reduction actions by working across boundaries with all jurisdictional partners.
- Increase capacity by allowing partners to assist with implementation to achieve shared goals.

### **Planned treatments**

The following table (Table 7) identifies NEPA projects by status and location. Figure 7 displays where these projects are located within the SIL. There are thirty-three signed NEPA decisions (identified in green in Figure 7), eight projects in various stages of NFMA and/or NEPA (depicted in orange in figure 7), and seventeen planned projects (identified in tan in figure 7). These projects include a wide variety of goals and objectives, but all the identified projects include vegetation treatments.

Plans for maintaining treated acres into the future (i.e. years 8 [FY 2029] and beyond) include continued maintenance burning, invasive species treatments, mastication, and non-commercial thinning. Maintenance treatments are anticipated every 5-40 years as appropriate for the vegetation type, ecology, historic fire regime, invasive species, and other resources (e.g. wildlife species of greatest conservation concern, invasive species issues, etc.) in each area. Future commercial treatments would likely occur every 15 to 40 years depending on site productivity and future management direction.

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Table 7 – SIL: NEPA project status by fireshed with estimated implementation year(s)

NEPA Project Name	NEPA Status	Implementation Status	Firesheds							Implementation Year						
			Bear	Brownlee	Cascade	Council	Crouch	Idaho City	McCall	Other	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027..
<b>BOISE NATIONAL FOREST</b>																
ALDER RIDGE THINNING PROJECT	Signed 2000	Only Rx Fire remains						Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
STAR RANCH	Signed 2004	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y						Y	Y	Y
MORES-SOUTH FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT	Signed 2005	Only Rx Fire remains						Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LITTLE OPHIR HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION	Signed 2010	Only Rx Fire remains						Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SCRIVER CREEK INTEGRATED RESTORATION	Signed 2013	Only Rx Fire Remains					Y				Y	Y				
WILLIAMS CREEK	Signed 2015	Only Rx Fire remains					Y				Y	Y				
BOGUS BASIN FOREST HEALTH	Signed 2016	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HIGH VALLEY INTEGRATED RESTORATION	Signed 2016	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y			Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BUCKSKIN RESTORATION PROJECT	Signed 2017	NCT and Rx Fire remains						Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LODGEPOLE SPRINGS RESTORATION BURN	Signed 2018	Only Rx Fire Remains						Y			Y	Y				
FRENCH HAZARD WUI	Signed 2018	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y						Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
OLA SUMMIT	Signed 2019	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
TRIPOD	Signed 2019	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y			Y				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BOISE BASIN EXPERIMENTAL FOREST	Signed 2019	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
COTTONWOOD PROJECT	Signed 2019	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y			Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LOST HORSE	Signed 2020	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y						Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
FAWN TUSSOCK	Signed 2021	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y						Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SAGE HEN INTEGRATED RESTORATION	Signed 2021	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y	Y					Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SINKER CREEK-BOISE RIDGE FOREST HEALTH	Signed 2021	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SKUNK CREEK	Signed 2022	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y						Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
CLEAR CREEK FOREST HEALTH	Decision '22	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y					Y	Y	Y	Y
SOUTHWEST IDAHO RESILIENT LANDSCAPE <sup>1</sup> (FORESTWIDE RX-FIRE NEPA)	Decision '23	NCT and Rx Fire			Y			Y	Y		Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
UPPER MOORES	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y						Y	Y	Y
EAST SILVER RESTORATION PROJECT	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WARM SPRINGS	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y								TBD
LONE MOUNTAIN	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire				Y										TBD
WASH CREEK	Outyear	NCT, Mastication, Rx Fire						Y								TBD
CROSS BOUNDARY	Outyear	NCT, Mastication, Rx Fire						Y								TBD

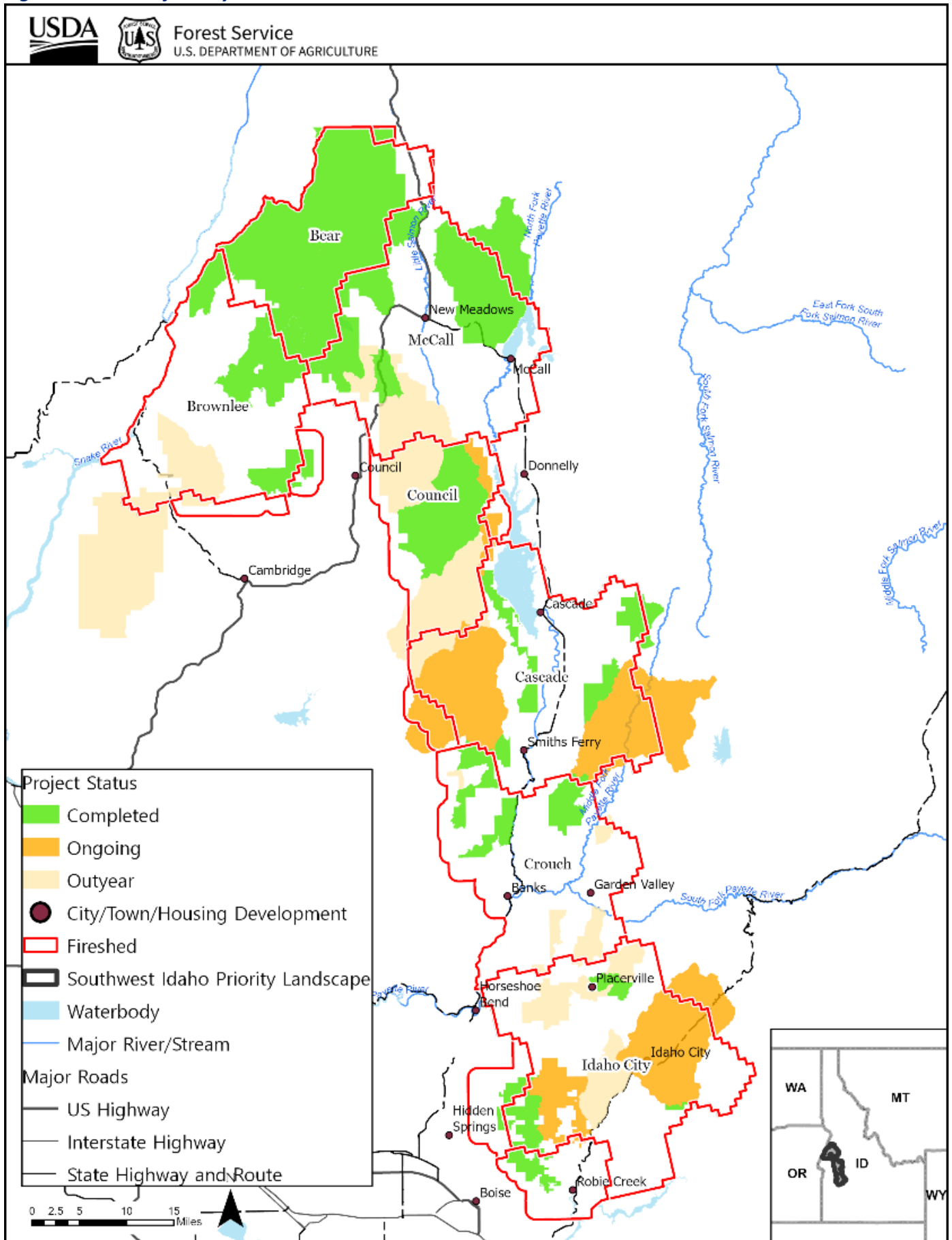


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NEPA Project Name <i>(Continued)</i>	NEPA Status	Implementation Status	Firesheds						Implementation Year							
			Bear	Brownlee	Cascade	Council	Crouch	Idaho City	McCall	Other	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027...
URBAN LIGHTNING	Outyear	NCT, Mastication, Rx Fire					Y								TBD	
PINE FUELS	Outyear	NCT, Mastication, Rx Fire					Y								TBD	
NORTH ZONE FUEL BREAK <sup>1</sup>	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire													TBD	
SOUTH ZONE FUEL BREAK <sup>1</sup>	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire					Y								TBD	
HAWLEY	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire					Y	Y							TBD	
CURTIS CREEK	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire				Y									TBD	
QUARTZBURG	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire						Y							TBD	
WEST ALDER	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire					Y	Y							TBD	
EAST MOUNTAIN	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y										TBD	
<b>PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST</b>																
MEADOWS SLOPE	Signed 2005	Only Rx Fire remains							Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
CROOKED RIVER	Signed 2009	Only Rx Fire remains		Y							Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WEISER RIVER FUELS	Signed 2011	Only Rx Fire remains							Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MILL CREEK-COUNCIL MOUNTAIN	Signed 2012	Only Rx Fire remains				Y			Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BRUNDAGE WUI/BEAR BASIN	Signed 2012	NCT and Rx Fire							Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MIDDLE FORK WEISER RIVER	Signed 2017	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire				Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LITTLE RED GOOSE	Signed 2019	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire				Y					Y	Y	Y	Y		
WEASEL WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT	Signed 2019	NCT and Rx Fire	Y	Y					Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HUCKLEBERRY	Signed 2020	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire	Y	Y							Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LITTLE WEISER	Signed 2021	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire				Y					Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WOODHEAD SOUTH	Signed 2021	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire		Y							Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
RAPID RIVER ECOSYSTEM MAINT BURN	Signed 2021	NCT and Rx Fire	Y								Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
COLD JULY FOREST RESTORATION	Signed 2022	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire	Y	Y					Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BRUSH MOUNTAIN EMB	Decision '22	NCT and Rx Fire	Y						Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
FORESTWIDE PRESCRIBED FIRE <sup>1</sup>	Decision '23	NCT and Rx Fire	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
RAILROAD SADDLE	Decision '23	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire	Y								Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
GRANITE MEADOWS	Decision '24	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire							Y				Y	Y	Y	
JOHNSON GOODRICH	Decision '24	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire		Y		Y							Y	Y	Y	
MOONSHINE	Decision '25	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire		Y										Y	Y	
Project 6	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire		Y						Y						TBD
Project 7	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire				Y			Y							TBD
Project 8	Outyear	Commercial Harvest, NCT, & Rx Fire			Y	Y				Y						TBD

<sup>1</sup> – These large projects are not displayed on the trailing NEPA maps.

Figure 7 – SIL: Projects by NEPA status



**General Actions Needed for the SIL:**

- Understory treatments focus on reducing surface and ladder fuels in the understory to reduce the potential for crown fire initiation. These treatments would improve forest health and resilience to wildfire, while decreasing climate vulnerabilities. Treatments include non-commercial thinning (NCT), which includes ladder fuel thinning, thinning from below and pre-commercial thinning, as well as prescribed burning. Other understory treatments also include treatment of invasive annual grasses and meadow and riparian treatments.
- Overstory treatments will include a combination of intermediate and regeneration treatments. Regeneration treatments will be implemented in areas where there is an ecological need to shift species composition towards more fire resilient species, such as ponderosa pine. Intermediate treatments will occur on the lower and intermediate canopies, with the intent of promoting fire-resistant, large tree health and vigor, increase stand and species heterogeneity while managing understory trees to reduce the risk of a stand-replacing wildfire. This addresses short-term wildfire risk while supporting long-term climate adaptation strategies. Treatments include group selection with reserves, individual tree selection, improvement cuts and commercial thinning, all of which are often completed with whole tree yarding and treatment of activity fuels.
- Fuels treatments focus on reducing surface and ladder fuels to enable the reintegration of fire within its historic and expected disturbance regimes, while reducing uncharacteristic future fire severity. These treatments include prescribed burning, mastication, jackpot burning and pile burning.
- Other treatments including: treatment of invasive species that may increase with increased disturbance, watershed restoration activities (i.e. stream crossing replacement and road decommissioning) to increase the resilience of landscapes to disturbance, road and trail maintenance, and reforestation with fire resilient tree species.

**Bear Fireshed**

**Description**

The Bear fireshed is 178,900 acres. Elevations in this fireshed range from 2,800 to 8,800 feet in elevation. The Fireshed is primarily within Adams County with a small portion in Idaho County which is outside the SIL. Adams County population has grown approximately 10% since 2018. Much of this growth has occurred outside of incorporated communities creating an increase in the wildland urban interface. Other infrastructure includes main power lines running from the Hells Canyon Dam Complex and Highway 95 (main travel corridor from Northern to Southern Idaho).

Several large uncharacteristic large fires have impacted the fireshed within the past 10 years, primarily in higher elevations.

While treatments have occurred over the last decade, there remains an abundant amount of fuel loading creating a wildfire hazard. The fireshed has multiple signed NEPA decisions to allow prescribed fire, commercial and non-commercial thinning. Additional planning is occurring to include prescribed fire. Projects have been developed to protect the communities of Bear, Cuprum, intermixed private lands, and other critical infrastructure.

**Table 8. Bear Fireshed - past ten years of treatments**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
Prescribed Burn	11,500	UNK	11,500
Non-commercial Thinning	7,200	UNK	7,200
Commercial Timber Harvest	1,300	UNK	1,300
Wildfire	17,300	1,800	19,100

<sup>1</sup> – activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

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The primary values at risk in this fireshed include:

- Communities of Bear and Cuprum and multiple subdivisions
- Highway 95
- ESA listed Bull Trout habitat, Chinook Salmon, Steelhead, Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel, Lynx, Wolverine, and Whitebark Pine
- Numerous range permits and infrastructure
- Campgrounds including Huckleberry, and concentrated undeveloped recreation sites
- Main power supplies for the communities of McCall, Council, and surrounding area (from Hells Canyon Dam complex)

Currently there are five signed NEPA decisions within the fireshed that include reducing fuel accumulations by commercially thinning, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed fire. Two other projects are currently being planned in the area that have the same type of treatments and objectives. Nearly 100% of the fireshed will be available for treatment once NEPA projects are completed. Many activities have been accomplished, but there remains work that is required to be completed.

**Table 9. Bear Fireshed - Treatment needs and associated cost**

		BEAR Fireshed			
<b>Total Fireshed Acres</b>	178,900				
<b>Total NFS lands in fireshed</b>	159,300				
<i>Total non-NFS lands in fireshed</i>	19,500				
<b>Total acres in need of treatment on NFS lands</b>	39,800				
<i>Total acres in need of treatment on non-NFS lands</i>	4,900				
NFS Lands ONLY					
	Current/year (FY 2022)	Future/year (FY2023)	Additional need/year (2024-2028)	Total additional need X 5 yrs (2024 through 2028)	Total for 7 years (2022 through 2028)
<b>Estimated FACTS FP-FUELS-ALL acres accomplished annually in fireshed<sup>1</sup> (acres)</b>	5,800	9,400	9,700	48,500	63,700
<b>Footprint Contract/Rx burn<sup>2</sup> (acres)</b>	3,000	5,800	6,200	31,000	39,800
<b>Contract/Rx burn costs for implementation<sup>3</sup> (\$)</b>	\$ 1,761,000	\$ 2,044,400	\$ 2,151,000	\$ 10,755,100	\$ 14,560,500
<b>Ancillary action costs (\$)</b>	\$ 596,900	\$ 693,000	\$ 729,200	\$ 3,645,800	\$ 4,935,800
<b>Long-term monitoring</b>	\$ 29,800	\$ 34,700	\$ 36,500	\$ 182,300	\$ 246,800
<b>Road and bridge</b>	\$ 298,500	\$ 346,500	\$ 364,600	\$ 1,822,900	\$ 2,467,900
<b>Survey work</b>	\$ 298,500	\$ 346,500	\$ 364,600	\$ 1,822,900	\$ 2,467,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,984,700</b>	<b>\$ 3,465,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,645,800</b>	<b>\$ 18,229,000</b>	<b>\$ 24,678,800</b>
<b>1</b> - Contract/Rx Burn acres = footprint acres of commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, & prescribed burning. May be some overlap but no multiple counting.					
<b>2</b> - This is the # of footprint acres that are estimated to be treated, not the FACTS/gPAS acres that double or triple counts every non-commercial thinning acre and triple or quadruple counts every commercial harvest acre.					
<b>3</b> - This is the estimated cost of implementation for contract and force account work to complete treatments including commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning.					

## Brownlee Fireshed

### Description

The Brownlee fireshed is 220,100 acres. Elevations in this fireshed range from 1,600 to 7,900 feet in elevation. The Brownlee fireshed is primarily within Adams and Washington County. Adams County population has grown approximately 10% since 2018 and Washington County grew by approximately 4%. Much of this growth has occurred outside of incorporated communities creating an increase in the wildland urban interface. Other infrastructure includes main power lines running from the Hells Canyon Dam Complex, the Highway 71 corridor, and the Brownlee Guard Station.

In 2020, the Woodhead fire burned approximately 50,000 acres of National Forest System lands within the fireshed. The Woodhead fire produced mixed severity across the landscape including stand replacing in higher elevations, and low severity in lower elevation Ponderosa Pine.

While treatments have occurred over the last decade, there remains an abundant amount of fuel loading creating a wildfire hazard. The fireshed has multiple signed NEPA decisions that allow prescribed fire,

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commercial and non-commercial thinning. Additional planning is occurring to include prescribed fire across more of the landscape. These projects have been developed to protect the communities of Council, Cambridge, intermixed private lands, and other critical infrastructure.

**Table 10. Brownlee Fireshed - past ten years of treatments**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
Prescribed Burn	1,300	UNK	1,300
Non-commercial Thinning	2,900	700	3,500
Commercial Timber Harvest	1,300	5100	6,400
Wildfire	67,500	22,200	89,700

**1** – activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

The primary values at risk in this fireshed include:

- Communities of Cambridge and Council Idaho and multiple subdivisions
- Highway 95
- ESA listed Bull Trout habitat, Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel, Wolverine, and Whitebark Pine
- Numerous range permits and infrastructure
- Numerous developed and undeveloped campgrounds and recreation sites

Currently there are three signed NEPA decisions within the fireshed that include reducing fuel accumulations by commercially thinning, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed fire. One additional project is currently being planned in the area that will approve a similar type of treatments. Between the Woodhead fire and current and anticipated NEPA decisions approximately 50% of the fireshed will be available for treatment or is currently treated.

**Table 11. Brownlee Fireshed - Treatment needs and associated cost**

Total Fireshed Acres		220,100			
Total NFS lands in fireshed		122,600			
Total non-NFS lands in fireshed		97,500			
Total acres in need of treatment on NFS lands		30,700			
Total acres in need of treatment on non-NFS lands		24,400			
<b>Brownlee Fireshed</b>					
<b>NFS Lands ONLY</b>					
	Current/year (FY 2022)	Future/year (FY2023)	Additional need/year (2024-2028)	Total additional need X 5 yrs (2024 through 2028)	Total for 7 years (2022 through 2028)
Estimated FACTS FP-FUELS-ALL acres accomplished annually in fireshed <sup>1</sup> (acres)	4,400	7,200	7,500	37,300	49,000
Footprint Contract/Rx burn <sup>2</sup> (acres)	2,300	4,500	4,800	23,900	30,700
Contract/Rx burn costs for implementation <sup>3</sup> (\$)	\$ 1,355,400	\$ 1,573,500	\$ 1,655,600	\$ 8,277,900	\$ 11,206,700
Ancillary action costs (\$)	\$ 459,400	\$ 533,400	\$ 561,200	\$ 2,806,100	\$ 3,798,900
Long-term monitoring	\$ 23,000	\$ 26,700	\$ 28,100	\$ 140,300	\$ 189,900
Road and bridge	\$ 229,700	\$ 266,700	\$ 280,600	\$ 1,403,000	\$ 1,899,400
Survey work	\$ 229,700	\$ 266,700	\$ 280,600	\$ 1,403,000	\$ 1,899,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,297,200</b>	<b>\$ 2,666,900</b>	<b>\$ 2,806,100</b>	<b>\$ 14,030,300</b>	<b>\$ 18,994,400</b>

**1** - Contract/Rx Burn acres = footprint acres of commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, & prescribed burning. May be some overlap but no multiple counting.

**2** - This is the # of footprint acres that are estimated to be treated, not the FACTS/gPAS acres that double or triple counts every non-commercial thinning acre and triple or quadruple counts every commercial harvest acre.

**3** - This is the estimated cost of implementation for contract and force account work to complete treatments including commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning.

## Cascade Fireshed

### Description

The Cascade fireshed is 279,700 acres, of which 54 percent is managed by the Forest Service, 37 percent private lands, 3 percent State of Idaho lands, and 5 percent other public lands. The majority of this fireshed is within Valley County. Elevations in this fireshed range from 3,700 to 8,400 feet in elevation, with Fire



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Regime Group I being the most predominant (42%). The majority of the vegetation is departed from historical conditions, with 27% highly departed.

**Table 12. Cascade Fireshed - past ten years of treatments**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
Prescribed Burn	2,600	UNK	2,600
Non-commercial Thinning	2,300	3,000	5,400
Commercial Timber Harvest	2,000	3,200	5,200
Wildfire	1,700	0	1,700

<sup>1</sup> – activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

The primary values at risk in this fireshed include:

- Communities of Cascade and Smith’s Ferry
- ESA listed bull trout and Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel habitat
- Numerous range permits and infrastructure
- Significant recreation infrastructure around Lake Cascade as well as Sage Hen Reservoir. Areas surrounding Lake Cascade overlap with high-risk areas identified in Idaho Power’s [Wildfire Mitigation Plan](#)
- Tamarack Ski Resort
- Municipal watershed and water quality in Cascade reservoir. Sage Hen Reservoir is a critical resource for downstream irrigation in agricultural communities in Gem County, such as Emmett, ID.

Planned actions for fiscal years 2023-2025 within this fireshed include harvest, non-commercial thinning, mastication, and prescribed burning in the French Hazard, Fawn Tussock, Skunk Creek, and Lost Horse project areas.

**Table 13. Cascade Fireshed - Treatment needs and associated cost**

Total Fireshed Acres	279,700	<b>CASCADE Fireshed</b>			
Total NFS lands in fireshed	150,900				
Total non-NFS lands in fireshed	128,800				
Total acres in need of treatment on NFS lands	37,700				
Total acres in need of treatment on non-NFS lands	32,200				
<b>NFS Lands ONLY</b>					
	Current/year (FY 2022)	Future/year (FY2023)	Additional need/year (2024-2028)	Total additional need X 5 yrs (2024 through 2028)	Total for 7 years (2022 through 2028)
Estimated FACTS FP-FUELS-ALL acres accomplished annually in fireshed <sup>1</sup> (acres)	5,500	8,900	9,200	45,900	60,300
Footprint Contract/Rx burn <sup>2</sup> (acres)	2,800	5,500	5,900	29,400	37,700
Contract/Rx burn costs for implementation <sup>3</sup> (\$)	\$ 1,667,300	\$ 1,935,600	\$ 2,036,600	\$ 10,183,000	\$ 13,786,000
Ancillary action costs (\$)	\$ 565,200	\$ 656,100	\$ 690,400	\$ 3,451,900	\$ 4,673,200
Long-term monitoring	\$ 28,300	\$ 32,800	\$ 34,500	\$ 172,600	\$ 233,700
Road and bridge	\$ 282,600	\$ 328,100	\$ 345,200	\$ 1,725,900	\$ 2,336,600
Survey work	\$ 282,600	\$ 328,100	\$ 345,200	\$ 1,725,900	\$ 2,336,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,825,900</b>	<b>\$ 3,280,700</b>	<b>\$ 3,451,900</b>	<b>\$ 17,259,400</b>	<b>\$ 23,366,000</b>
<sup>1</sup> - Contract/Rx Burn acres = footprint acres of commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, & prescribed burning. May be some overlap but no multiple counting.					
<sup>2</sup> - This is the # of footprint acres that are estimated to be treated, not the FACTS/gPAS acres that double or triple counts every non-commercial thinning acre and triple or quadruple counts every commercial harvest acre.					
<sup>3</sup> - This is the estimated cost of implementation for contract and force account work to complete treatments including commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning.					

## Council Fireshed

### Description

The Council fireshed is 148,600 acres. Elevations in this fireshed range from 3,100 to 8,200 feet in elevation. The fireshed is primarily within Adams County with small portions of Valley and Washington

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County. Adams County population has grown approximately 10% since 2018. Much of this growth has occurred outside of incorporated communities creating an increase in the wildland urban interface.

Several large uncharacteristic large fires have impacted the fireshed within the past 10 years. While treatments have occurred over the last decade, there remains an abundant amount of fuel loading creating a wildfire hazard. The fireshed has multiple signed NEPA decisions to allow prescribed fire, commercial and non-commercial thinning. Additional planning is occurring to allow additional prescribed fire across the landscape. These projects have been developed to protect the communities of Council, Donnelly, Tamarack Ski resort, intermixed private lands, and other critical infrastructure.

**Table 14. Council Fireshed - past ten years of treatments**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
Prescribed Burn	3,400	UNK	3,400
Non-commercial Thinning	3,600	2,600	6,200
Commercial Timber Harvest	900	500	1,400
Wildfire	26,500	9,300	35,900

<sup>1</sup> – activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

The primary values at risk in this fireshed include:

- Communities of Council and Indian Valley
- ESA listed Bull Trout habitat, Chinook Salmon, Steelhead, Lynx, Wolverine, and Whitebark Pine
- Numerous range permits and infrastructure
- Campgrounds include Cabin Creek
- Tamarack Ski Resort

Currently there are two signed decisions within the fireshed that include reducing fuel accumulations by commercially thinning, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed fire. One project is being planned in that will allow similar treatments and objectives. Nearly 90% of the Fireshed will be available for treatment once planning is completed. Many activities have been accomplished, but there remains work that is required to be completed.

**Table 15. Council Fireshed - Treatment needs and associated cost**

Total Fireshed Acres	148,600	<b>COUNCIL Fireshed</b>			
Total NFS lands in fireshed	107,500				
Total non-NFS lands in fireshed	41,100				
Total acres in need of treatment on NFS lands	26,900				
Total acres in need of treatment on non-NFS lands	10,300				
<b>NFS Lands ONLY</b>					
	Current/year (FY 2022)	Future/year (FY2023)	Additional need/year (2024-2028)	Total additional need X 5 yrs (2024 through 2028)	Total for 7 years (2022 through 2028)
Estimated FACTS FP-FUELS-ALL acres accomplished annually in fireshed <sup>1</sup> (acres)	3,900	6,400	6,500	32,700	42,900
Footprint Contract/Rx burn <sup>2</sup> (acres)	2,000	3,900	4,200	21,000	26,900
Contract/Rx burn costs for implementation <sup>3</sup> (\$)	\$ 1,187,500	\$ 1,378,600	\$ 1,450,500	\$ 7,252,700	\$ 9,818,800
Ancillary action costs (\$)	\$ 402,500	\$ 467,300	\$ 491,700	\$ 2,458,500	\$ 3,328,400
Long-term monitoring	\$ 20,100	\$ 23,400	\$ 24,600	\$ 122,900	\$ 166,400
Road and bridge	\$ 201,300	\$ 233,700	\$ 245,900	\$ 1,229,300	\$ 1,664,200
Survey work	\$ 201,300	\$ 233,700	\$ 245,900	\$ 1,229,300	\$ 1,664,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,012,700</b>	<b>\$ 2,336,600</b>	<b>\$ 2,458,500</b>	<b>\$ 12,292,700</b>	<b>\$ 16,642,000</b>
<sup>1</sup> - Contract/Rx Burn acres = footprint acres of commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, & prescribed burning. May be some overlap but no multiple counting.					
<sup>2</sup> - This is the # of footprint acres that are estimated to be treated, not the FACTS/gPAS acres that double or triple counts every non-commercial thinning acre and triple or quadruple counts every commercial harvest acre.					
<sup>3</sup> - This is the estimated cost of implementation for contract and force account work to complete treatments including commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning.					

**Crouch Fireshed**

**Description**

The Crouch fireshed is 218,000 acres, of which 43 percent is managed by the Forest Service, 32 percent is private land, 18 percent are State of Idaho land and 7 percent other public lands. The majority of this fireshed is within Boise County. Elevations range from 2,600 to 7,300 feet and Fire Regime Group I dominates the landscape (71%). Only 8% of this fireshed has experienced wildfire in the last 10 years and it has the second largest amount of vegetation departure of firesheds in the SIL.

The western portion of this fireshed has been a focus for the Boise Forest Coalition since 2012 and includes projects in all phases of implementation, including the Coalitions ongoing [Citizen Science](#) effort.

**Table 16. Crouch Fireshed - past ten years of treatments**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
Prescribed Burn	3,700	UNK	3,200
Non-commercial Thinning	3,400	100	3,500
Commercial Timber Harvest	5,400	5,500	10,900
Wildfire	12,600	6,500	19,100

<sup>1</sup> – activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

The primary values at risk in this fireshed include:

- Communities of Garden Valley and Banks
- ESA listed Bull Trout habitat, Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel, Lynx, Wolverine, and Whitebark Pine
- Numerous range permits
- Network of campgrounds and infrastructure along the Banks-Lowman highway around Garden Valley, as well as along highway 55 (scenic byway).
- This fireshed overlaps with high-risk areas identified in Idaho Power’s [Wildfire Mitigation Plan](#), such as the Garden Valley community.

Planned actions for fiscal years 2023-2025 within this fireshed include: Harvest, non-commercial thinning, mastication and prescribed burning in the Cottonwood, Ola Summit, Tripod, Williams Creek, Scriver, and High Valley project areas.

**Table 17. Crouch Fireshed - Treatment needs and associated cost**

Total Fireshed Acres	218,000	<b>CROUCH Fireshed</b>			
Total NFS lands in fireshed	93,600				
Total non-NFS lands in fireshed	124,400				
Total acres in need of treatment on NFS lands	23,400				
Total acres in need of treatment on non-NFS lands	31,100				
<b>NFS Lands ONLY</b>					
	Current/year (FY 2022)	Future/year (FY2023)	Additional need/year (2024-2028)	Total additional need X 5 yrs (2024 through 2028)	Total for 7 years (2022 through 2028)
Estimated FACTS FP-FUELS-ALL acres accomplished annually in fireshed <sup>1</sup> (acres)	3,400	5,500	5,700	28,500	37,400
Footprint Contract/Rx burn <sup>2</sup> (acres)	1,700	3,400	3,700	18,300	23,400
Contract/Rx burn costs for implementation <sup>3</sup> (\$)	\$ 1,034,700	\$ 1,201,200	\$ 1,263,900	\$ 6,319,500	\$ 8,555,400
Ancillary action costs (\$)	\$ 350,800	\$ 407,200	\$ 428,400	\$ 2,142,200	\$ 2,900,100
Long-term monitoring	\$ 17,500	\$ 20,400	\$ 21,400	\$ 107,100	\$ 145,000
Road and bridge	\$ 175,400	\$ 203,600	\$ 214,200	\$ 1,071,100	\$ 1,450,100
Survey work	\$ 175,400	\$ 203,600	\$ 214,200	\$ 1,071,100	\$ 1,450,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,753,800</b>	<b>\$ 2,036,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,142,200</b>	<b>\$ 10,711,000</b>	<b>\$ 14,500,700</b>
<sup>1</sup> - Contract/Rx Burn acres = footprint acres of commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, & prescribed burning. May be some overlap but no multiple counting.					
<sup>2</sup> - This is the # of footprint acres that are estimated to be treated, not the FACTS/gPAS acres that double or triple counts every non-commercial thinning acre and triple or quadruple counts every commercial harvest acre.					
<sup>3</sup> - This is the estimated cost of implementation for contract and force account work to complete treatments including commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning.					

## Idaho City Fireshed

### Description

The Idaho City fireshed is 284,200 acres. The fireshed is entirely within Boise County, which is the highest ranked county in Idaho for wildfire risk according to Wildfire Risk to Communities (<https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/0/16/16015/>). The 1990 to 2000 average annual population growth rate of Boise County was about 9.0%. The county’s growth rate is considerably more than Idaho’s growth rate and the national average. The largest change in Boise County’s population occurred in the unincorporated portion of the county which gained more than 3,840 residents from 1990 to 2018 (source Boise County Comprehensive Plan, December 2019 update).

Seventy percent of this fireshed is classified as Fire Regime Group I, which evolved with frequent, low-intensity surface fires. Only 6 percent of this fireshed has experienced wildfire in the last 10 years, combined with a century of fire suppression this has resulted in conditions conducive to high intensity and severe fire behavior. This fireshed has the highest amount of vegetation departure within the SIL, with 38 percent being highly departed (Table 6). This hazard, combined with the high density of surrounding communities and infrastructure, is why this fireshed is consistently rated high by various quantitative wildfire risk assessments.

While treatments have occurred over the last decade (Table 18), this fireshed has posed serious logistical challenges to effectively address the wildfire hazard. The majority of the fireshed is managed by the USFS (54%), but the 29% of private land has created numerous access challenges and limited opportunities for large-scale prescribed burning. Additionally, Boise County has a higher poverty rate than most areas in the state ([US Census Bureau](#)), which creates challenges for private landowners to meet match requirements for grants that reduce wildfire risk.

**Table 18. Idaho City Fireshed - past ten years of treatments**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
Prescribed Burn	7,000	TBD	TBD
Non-commercial Thinning	6,300	TBD	TBD
Commercial Timber Harvest	1,800	TBD	TBD
Wildfire	12,400	TBD	TBD

<sup>1</sup> – activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

The primary values at risk in this fireshed include:

- Communities of Idaho City, Centerville, Placerville, Mores Creek (the area containing Robie Creek, Wilderness Ranch and Clear Creek) along with unincorporated private land under Boise County, Idaho jurisdiction
- Critical Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) habitat
- Numerous range permits
- Infrastructure (communication sites, power transmission lines, recreation sites)
- This fireshed overlaps with numerous high-risk areas identified in Idaho Power’s [Wildfire Mitigation Plan](#), where they plan to make significant investments to reduce risk through 2025. Key locations include the Robie Creek community, along Grimes Creek to Placerville and past Pioneerville to Grimes Pass.= as well as along highway 21 to Idaho City.
- [Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation area](#)
- Tributaries to the Boise River (municipal watershed)

Planned actions for fiscal years 2023-2025 within this fireshed include:

- Over the past year, the National Forest Foundation (NFF) has been working with the Boise National Forest and other partners to develop an implementation strategy for fuels reduction, forest health,

and fire risk prevention. The Boise Front Partner Strategy is a partner-based wildfire risk reduction implementation strategy for the Boise Front Focal Area, which fully encompasses the Idaho City fireshed. The purpose of the Partner Strategy is to increase the pace and scale of on-the-ground work over the next 5-10 years in the Boise Front by building capacity and identifying priority areas for implementation. To achieve this, the intent is to utilize NFF as an aggregator of funding sources that can be used to leverage additional federal and private funding to complete priority fuels reduction and forest health work across jurisdictional boundaries. This effort is currently targeting 30-50,000 acres of treatment across ownerships over the next 5-10 years.

- Two Enterprise Program requests have been submitted for FY23, including geospatial, website and quantitative wildfire risk modeling support, as well as NEPA support for a fuel break CE, utilizing the newly defined POD boundaries for the Boise Front. The BNF is currently utilizing a standing Enterprise Program agreement to gather partner data and assist in developing mutually accepted wildfire risk metrics and outputs for the Boise Front.
- A key component of this proposal includes establishing a network of fuel breaks along access roads , expanding opportunities where firefighters have a reasonable chance of being effective to contain a wildfire, improving the viability of evacuation routes, and creating additional opportunities for implementing prescribed fire operations.
- Harvest, non-commercial thinning, mastication, and prescribed burning will occur in the Little Ophir, Mores-South, Boise Basin Experimental Forest, Star Ranch, Alder Ridge, Buckskin, Clear Creek, and Sinker Creek-Boise Ridge project areas. Ongoing planning projects designed to address wildfire risk reduction that could start in 2025 include the Boise Front Fuel Break and Upper Mores. In conjunction with outyear planning projects (Table 4), the majority of USFS ownership in this fireshed will be covered by a NEPA decision.

**Table 19. Idaho City Fireshed - Treatment needs and associated cost**

<b>Total Fireshed Acres</b>	284,200	<b>IDAHO CITY Fireshed</b>			
<b>Total NFS lands in fireshed</b>	154,800				
<i>Total non-NFS lands in fireshed</i>	129,400				
<b>Total acres in need of treatment on NFS lands</b>	38,700				
<i>Total acres in need of treatment on non-NFS lands</i>	32,300				
<b>NFS Lands ONLY</b>					
	<b>Current/year (FY 2022)</b>	<b>Future/year (FY2023)</b>	<b>Additional need/year (2024-2028)</b>	<b>Total additional need X 5 yrs (2024 through 2028)</b>	<b>Total for 7 years (2022 through 2028)</b>
<b>Estimated FACTS FP-FUELS-ALL acres accomplished annually in fireshed<sup>1</sup> (acres)</b>	5,600	9,200	9,400	47,100	61,900
<b>Footprint Contract/Rx burn<sup>2</sup> (acres)</b>	2,900	5,600	6,000	30,200	38,700
<b>Contract/Rx burn costs for implementation<sup>3</sup> (\$)</b>	\$ 1,711,000	\$ 1,986,400	\$ 2,090,000	\$ 10,450,100	\$ 14,147,400
<b>Ancillary action costs (\$)</b>	\$ 580,000	\$ 673,300	\$ 708,500	\$ 3,542,400	\$ 4,795,700
<b>Long-term monitoring</b>	\$ 29,000	\$ 33,700	\$ 35,400	\$ 177,100	\$ 239,800
<b>Road and bridge</b>	\$ 290,000	\$ 336,700	\$ 354,200	\$ 1,771,200	\$ 2,397,900
<b>Survey work</b>	\$ 290,000	\$ 336,700	\$ 354,200	\$ 1,771,200	\$ 2,397,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,900,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,366,700</b>	<b>\$ 3,542,400</b>	<b>\$ 17,712,000</b>	<b>\$ 23,978,700</b>
<b>1 - Contract/Rx Burn acres = footprint acres of commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, &amp; prescribed burning. May be some overlap but no multiple counting.</b>					
<b>2 - This is the # of footprint acres that are estimated to be treated, not the FACTS/gPAS acres that double or triple counts every non-commercial thinning acre and triple or quadruple counts every commercial harvest acre.</b>					
<b>3 - This is the estimated cost of implementation for contract and force account work to complete treatments including commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning.</b>					

**McCall Fireshed**

**Description**

The McCall fireshed is 280,400 acres. Elevations in this fireshed range from 4,900 to 8,700 feet in elevation. The fireshed is within Valley and Adams County. Valley County’s population has grown approximately 11.5% since 2018. Adams County’s population has grown approximately 10% since 2018. Much of this growth has occurred outside of incorporated communities creating an increase in the wildland urban interface.



## Southwest Idaho National Priority Landscape

While treatments have occurred over the last decade, there remains an abundant amount of fuel loading creating a wildfire hazard. The fireshed has multiple signed NEPA decisions that allow prescribed fire, commercial and non-commercial thinning. Additional planning is occurring to allow prescribed fire across more of the landscape. These projects have been developed to protect the communities of Council, New Meadows, Brundage Ski resort, intermixed private lands, and other critical infrastructure.

**Table 20. McCall Fireshed - past ten years of treatments**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
Prescribed Burn	6,900	UNK	6,900
Non-commercial Thinning	20,500	4,300	24,800
Commercial Timber Harvest	8,900	2,700	11,600
Wildfire	14	13	27

<sup>1</sup> – activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

The primary values at risk in this fireshed include:

- Communities of McCall, New Meadows, and Council
- ESA listed Bull Trout habitat, Chinook Salmon, Steelhead, Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel, Lynx, Wolverine, and Whitebark Pine
- Numerous range permits and infrastructure including Price Valley Guard Station
- Campgrounds include Grouse, Cold Springs, Last Chance
- Brundage Mountain Ski resort

Currently there are several signed decisions within the fireshed that include reducing fuel accumulations by commercially thinning, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning. One other project is being planned that will allow similar types of treatments. Nearly 100% of the fireshed will be available for treatment when planning is completed. Many activities have been accomplished, but there remains work that is required to be completed.

**Table 21. McCall Fireshed - Treatment needs and associated cost**

<b>Total Fireshed Acres</b>	280,400	<b>McCALL Fireshed</b>			
<b>Total NFS lands in fireshed</b>	107,200				
<i>Total non-NFS lands in fireshed</i>	173,200				
<b>Total acres in need of treatment on NFS lands</b>	26,800				
<i>Total acres in need of treatment on non-NFS lands</i>	43,300				
<b>NFS Lands ONLY</b>					
	<b>Current/year (FY 2022)</b>	<b>Future/year (FY2023)</b>	<b>Additional need/year (2024-2028)</b>	<b>Total additional need X 5 yrs (2024 through 2028)</b>	<b>Total for 7 years (2022 through 2028)</b>
<b>Estimated FACTS FP-FUELS-ALL acres accomplished annually in fireshed<sup>1</sup> (acres)</b>	3,900	6,300	6,500	32,600	42,800
<b>Footprint Contract/Rx burn<sup>2</sup> (acres)</b>	2,000	3,900	4,200	20,900	26,800
<b>Contract/Rx burn costs for implementation<sup>3</sup> (\$)</b>	\$ 1,184,500	\$ 1,375,100	\$ 1,446,900	\$ 7,234,300	\$ 9,793,900
<b>Ancillary action costs (\$)</b>	\$ 401,500	\$ 466,100	\$ 490,500	\$ 2,452,300	\$ 3,320,000
<b>Long-term monitoring</b>	\$ 20,100	\$ 23,300	\$ 24,500	\$ 122,600	\$ 166,000
<b>Road and bridge</b>	\$ 200,800	\$ 233,100	\$ 245,200	\$ 1,226,200	\$ 1,660,000
<b>Survey work</b>	\$ 200,800	\$ 233,100	\$ 245,200	\$ 1,226,200	\$ 1,660,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,007,600</b>	<b>\$ 2,330,700</b>	<b>\$ 2,452,300</b>	<b>\$ 12,261,600</b>	<b>\$ 16,599,900</b>
<sup>1</sup> - Contract/Rx Burn acres = footprint acres of commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, & prescribed burning. May be some overlap but no multiple counting.					
<sup>2</sup> - This is the # of footprint acres that are estimated to be treated, not the FACTS/gPAS acres that double or triple counts every non-commercial thinning acre and triple or quadruple counts every commercial harvest acre.					
<sup>3</sup> - This is the estimated cost of implementation for contract and force account work to complete treatments including commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning.					

## Other Firesheds

## Southwest Idaho National Priority Landscape

### Description

The other firesheds within the SIL account for 119,200 acres. While limited information will be provided for these other firesheds, treatments will be completed within these areas. This information is being provided to display what treatments and funding is necessary within the entire SIL boundary.

**Table 22. Other Firesheds - past ten years of treatments**

Treatment Type	Acres		
	NFS lands	Non-NFS land <sup>1</sup>	Total
Prescribed Burn	700	TBD	TBD
Non-commercial Thinning	600	TBD	TBD
Commercial Timber Harvest	100	TBD	TBD
Wildfire	2,100	TBD	TBD

<sup>1</sup> – activities on non-NFS lands are estimates

Several signed decisions within these fireshed that include reducing fuel accumulations by commercially thinning, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed fire exist.

**Table 23. Other Firesheds - Treatment needs and associated cost**

Total Fireshed Acres	119,200	<b>OTHER Firesheds</b>			
Total NFS lands in fireshed	33,000				
Total non-NFS lands in fireshed	86,200				
Total acres in need of treatment on NFS lands	8,200				
Total acres in need of treatment on non-NFS lands	21,500				
<b>NFS Lands ONLY</b>					
	Current/year (FY 2022)	Future/year (FY2023)	Additional need/year (2024-2028)	Total additional need X 5 yrs (2024 through 2028)	Total for 7 years (2022 through 2028)
Estimated FACTS FP-FUELS-ALL acres accomplished annually in fireshed <sup>1</sup> (acres)	1,200	2,000	2,00	10,000	13,200
Footprint Contract/Rx burn <sup>2</sup> (acres)	600	1,200	1,300	6,400	8,200
Contract/Rx burn costs for implementation <sup>3</sup> (\$)	\$ 364,600	\$ 423,300	\$ 445,300	\$ 2,226,700	\$ 3,014,600
Ancillary action costs (\$)	\$ 123,600	\$ 143,500	\$ 151,000	\$ 754,800	\$ 1,021,900
Long-term monitoring	\$ 6,200	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,500	\$ 37,700	\$ 51,100
Road and bridge	\$ 61,800	\$ 71,700	\$ 75,500	\$ 377,400	\$ 510,900
Survey work	\$ 61,800	\$ 71,700	\$ 75,500	\$ 377,400	\$ 510,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 618,000</b>	<b>\$ 717,400</b>	<b>\$ 754,800</b>	<b>\$ 3,774,100</b>	<b>\$ 5,109,500</b>

<sup>1</sup> - Contract/Rx Burn acres = footprint acres of commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, & prescribed burning. May be some overlap but no multiple counting.

<sup>2</sup> - This is the # of footprint acres that are estimated to be treated, not the FACTS/gPAS acres that double or triple counts every non-commercial thinning acre and triple or quadruple counts every commercial harvest acre.

<sup>3</sup> - This is the estimated cost of implementation for contract and force account work to complete treatments including commercial harvest, non-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning.

### **Measures of Success Within the SIL**

The BNF, PNF, and Intermountain Region are still working to determine the best metrics to quantify progress in the SIL. We are exploring different options to quantify progress towards the following project outcomes/objectives:

- Increase ability to control fire spread.
- Reduce potential for undesirable fire effects in Ponderosa Pine.
- Reduce potential fire size and severity.
- Reduce pathways for fires to reach communities.
- Reduce wildfire risk to assets.
- Reduce wildfire risk to ecosystems.
- Reduce wildfire risk to watersheds and water quality.

Outcome based performance measures will be used to track success. Not every treatment is equally effective, which necessitates tracking treatments spatially in terms of acres and treatment type, with overlapping treatments generally being considered more effective. For example, an acre that is treated with commercial harvest and whole tree yarding, followed with a submerchantable tree thin (weeding) and broadcast burn will be more effective than a standalone noncommercial thin. The BNF and PNF will also quantify progress towards goals and objectives using the previously identified metrics for wildfire risk reduction. We will display progress and demonstrate measurable results spatially through a storymap or similar media. Success will also be measured based on commitments made from partners, both in terms of financial investment, commitment of time and acres treated.

The BNF and PNF plan to deepen engagement with communities by using a community coordinator to attend local community meetings, share opportunities for wildfire risk reduction treatments, and build support and trust. Other metrics that may be considered are:

- Number of partnerships established
- Acres of cross boundary treatments completed
- Public engagement and education

We will also work with our existing partners who have established trust in communities to advocate for science-based solutions to developing Firewise communities. Finally, we will build and learn from successes and challenges gained from the Boise Front Partner Strategy.

### **Planning Considerations of Tribal Nations, Treaty and Other Rights, and Protection of Sacred Sites**

As an agency, we hold important trust responsibility to tribes. We are upholding our trust responsibilities by establishing a functional partnership with at least three of the Tribes that we actively consult. Compliance with Joint Secretarial Order (JSO) 3403 will ensure that the BNF and PNF are managing Federal lands and waters in a manner that builds nation-to-nation relationships with Tribes and recognizes and affirms the United States' trust and treaty obligations. The BNF and PNF are actively consulting with the Shoshone-Paiute, the Shoshone-Bannock, and the Nez Perce Tribal Business Councils.

The Boise National Forest will establish two agreements in Fiscal Year 2022 with the Shoshone-Paiute and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to ensure that these Tribes are part of the solution to manage vegetation resources in the SIL. These agreements will also provide wood banks that can be utilized by the Tribes to deliver fuelwood to their elders. Initially, these agreements will establish working relationship that are specifically intended to provide fuelwood to heat homes. However, expanded opportunities exist to involve tribal members, especially youth, in implementation of future thinning, prescribed fire, and other wildfire risk reduction projects. The goals that we are hoping to achieve with these three tribes include a more integrated approach to handling non-commercial vegetation treatments.

In addition, the Forests are engaging with the Nez Perce Tribe to determine if there is a mutual interest in establishing a Good Neighbor Authority Agreement. Both Forests currently partner with the Nez Perce tribe to complete watershed restoration and fish habitat improvements and are exploring if this partnership can be expanded to include vegetation and ecological restoration work. Similar opportunities for partnerships with other tribes will also be explored.

### **Associated Actions to High Priority Landscapes**

#### **CFLRP**

The Weiser Little Salmon River Headwaters (WLSH) CFLR project was funded and implemented from 2012 to 2021 in a portion of the SIL. The WLSH-CFLR project treated approximately 160,000 acres to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, much of which was in the SIL project area. This past work included prescribed burning, non-commercial thinning, commercial timber harvest and invasive species treatments. The SIL project will complement these past efforts.

Additionally, there are two approved Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) program projects, the West Central Idaho Initiative (WCII) and the Weiser Little Salmon Headwaters extension (WLSHe) that overlap the SIL. The projects were ranked 15th and 17th, respectively, by the CFLR Federal Advisory Committee in 2021, meaning that the nation-wide CFLR program budget would need to increase for these projects to be funded.

If funding for these projects does become available through the CFLR program, the BNF and PNF would likely need to modify the WCII and WLSHe CFLR project proposals because many of the implementation projects included within the CFLR proposal are now being funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The WCII and WLSHe CFLR projects are highly aligned with the wildfire risk reduction and forest restoration goals of the SIL.

#### **Joint Chiefs**

The Region currently has no intent of submitting a Joint Chiefs proposal within the SIL area, although additional funding may be needed for cross boundary work on state and private lands. The BNF and PNF and partners intend to utilize other funding mechanisms (e.g. NRCS-EQUIP, State wildfire grants, State and private forestry funds, and infrastructure funds) to help with the cross boundary work where funding is a limitation.

#### **Regional Conservation Partnership Program**

Partners engaged in the Boise Front Partner Strategy have been working with NRCS on an application for an RCPP project in FY23. The National Forest Foundation would serve as the lead partner to execute a Programmatic Partnership Agreement and ensure completion of project deliverables, delivering all partner contributions, and assessing project outcomes. The project would be setup for 5-years as an Alternative Funding Arrangement, with maximum funding of \$15 million per year. Funding would be utilized to leverage financial support from other partners and to implement treatments on private ownership within the Boise Front Focal Area (primarily Idaho City fireshed).

#### **Non-Federal Efforts**

The SIL includes a Shared Stewardship Priority Landscape consisting of non-federal and federal land. Work is being completed on all lands as part of Idaho Shared Stewardship Agreement established in 2018. In 2019, the Idaho Governor established a Shared Stewardship Advisory Group consisting of 17 leaders in forest management and policy from the USFS, IDL, NRCS, University of Idaho, timber industry, and a local environmental NGO to help provide high level guidance for the implementation of Shared Stewardship in Idaho. The southern Idaho Shared Stewardship Priority Landscape also has a dedicated Shared Stewardship Coordinator that is jointly funded by IDL and the US Forest Service.

## Southwest Idaho National Priority Landscape

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IDL awards State and Private Forestry grants to local cities, counties, soil and water conservation districts, and fire departments within the SIL. Boise County, Valley County, Adams Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Boise Fire Department currently receive IDL grants and have active hazardous fuel reduction programs on private land within their respective jurisdictions. Adams County has submitted an application for IDL Grant funding and notification is pending.

IDL is also administering State and Private Forestry grants with private landowners in Adams County. IDL grant funding was also used in 2021 and 2022 to create demonstration sites at the Tamarack Ski Resort and a local subdivision to educate the public on the value of hazardous fuel treatments on private land. IDL has successfully contracted two professional forestry consultants to provide additional staffing capacity to assist with landowner outreach, education, and on-site assistance within the SIL.

IDL private forestry specialists in McCall and Boise also supports NRCS staff in the administration of EQUIP funding on private land. NRCS also supports the Idaho Shared Stewardship initiative through partial funding of a GNA-Shared Stewardship foresters employed by the IDL in McCall, Idaho.

### Estimated Outputs and Funding Needs

The table below is an estimate of planned outputs in footprint acres that would be entered into FACTS. This table does not depict what would end up being counted in FACTS/gPAS for a given performance measure as some treatments roll up into gPAS to count two to four times for each footprint acres. In addition, these are accomplished (not completed) acres, as it can be challenging to predict the actual year that a purchaser or contractor will complete the work on a multiyear contract.

It should also be noted that this table does not depict other ecological restoration work that may be completed. Some examples of this ecological restoration and/or work includes: road maintenance, road decommissioning, trail maintenance, aquatic organism passage improvements, reseeding with native vegetation, tree planting to favor fire resilient species, invasive species treatments, and wildlife habitat improvement projects.



**Table 24. Southwest Idaho Landscape – Output and funding need estimates**

Fiscal Year	2022		2023		2024		2025		2026		Total 2022-2026	
	Accomplishments	Funding (thousands)	Accomplishments	Funding (thousands)	Accomplishments	Funding (thousands)	Accomplishments	Funding (thousands)	Accomplishments	Funding (thousands)	Total FY 2022-2026 Accomplishment	Total FY 2022-2026 Funding (thousands)
<b>Hazardous Fuels Reduction (Mechanical)</b>	4,100	\$7,200	6,300	\$7,900	6,900	\$8,600	5,300	\$6,900	6,100	\$7,900	28,700	\$38,500
<b>Hazardous Fuels Reduction (Manual)</b>	8,200	\$7,200	8,500	\$5,200	10,000	\$6,200	10,000	\$7,000	10,000	\$7,000	46,700	\$32,600
<b>Prescribed Burning</b>	5,000	\$3,000	19,000	\$7,100	22,000	\$7,300	22,000	\$7,700	22,000	\$7,700	90,000	\$32,800
<b>Total Footprint (acres)</b>	<b>17,300</b>	<b>\$17,400</b>	<b>33,800</b>	<b>\$20,200</b>	<b>38,900</b>	<b>\$22,100</b>	<b>37,300</b>	<b>\$21,600</b>	<b>38,100</b>	<b>\$22,600</b>	<b>165,400</b>	<b>\$103,900</b>
<b>Timber Harvest (Volume [CCF])</b>	59,900	n/a	87,000	n/a	91,000	n/a	84,100	n/a	92,300	n/a	414,300	n/a

Table 24 is a summary of the estimated outputs and funding needs to achieve the goals and objectives of the SIL. Outputs from the SIL project would continue beyond FY 2026. In fiscal years 2027 and 2028 approximately 33,000 acres of fuels reduction treatments, including 85,000 CCF of timber harvest would occur annually with an estimated funding need of approximately \$19 million annually. Maintenance treatments would also be necessary beyond 2028 to continue to keep the landscape in a resilient condition.

This document should be viewed as a framework for building specific annual and outyear plans. The numbers are estimates and should be viewed as a living document that should be updated at least annually as more and better information is available.