



Management Area 08. Mores Creek Location Map

Management Area 8 Mores Creek

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 8 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
2.2 – Research Natural Areas	Trace
2.4 – Boise Basin Experimental Forest	6
3.2 – Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, & Hydrologic Resources	4
4.1c – Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	9
5.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	81

General Location and Description - Management Area 8, Mores Creek, is comprised of Forest Service lands in the Boise River drainage near Idaho City, about 20-40 miles northeast of Boise, Idaho (see map, opposite page). The management area is an estimated 196,200 acres, of which 55 percent are managed by the Forest Service, 22 percent are privately owned, 21 percent are State of Idaho lands, and 2 percent are BLM lands. Inholdings include large blocks of private and state land both south and north of Idaho City. Lands administered by the Boise National Forest, Idaho City Ranger District, surround the management area. The primary uses or activities in this management area have been mineral development, livestock grazing, and timber management. Current trends include community and residential development, tourism, timber management, and developed and dispersed recreation.

Access - The main access to the area is by paved State Highway 21 from Boise, Idaho, which runs along Mores Creek, through Idaho City, and over Mores Creek Summit to Lowman. Other access routes include the Grimes Creek Road (Forest Road 382) through Pioneerville and Centerville, Forest Road 615 from Garden Valley to Placerville, and Forest Road 307 from Idaho City to Horseshoe Bend. These are well-maintained, gravel roads. The density of classified roads in the management area is an estimated 2.8 miles per square mile. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 1.4 and 4.7 miles per square mile. Many roads, user-defined trails, and several system trails exist in the management area.

Special Features - One eligible Wild and Scenic River, Mores Creek, falls within the management area. Mores Creek has one segment in this area with a Recreational classification. It is an estimated 1.2 miles, with a river corridor area of 394 acres. Mores Creek is considered eligible for Wild and Scenic River status because of its outstandingly remarkable recreational (?) values.

The Idaho State-designated Ponderosa Pine Scenic Byway lies partly within this management area. This highway is also a National Forest Scenic Byway. An estimated 5 percent of the

management area is inventoried as roadless, including all of the Wilson Peak, and small portions of the Grimes Pass and Hawley Mountain Inventoried Roadless Areas.

The Boise Basin Experimental Forest (8,740 acres) is administered by the USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, headquartered in Fort Collins, Colorado. This forest was originally established in the 1930s to conduct silvicultural and other related research in the ponderosa pine type. It includes the Bannock Creek Research Natural Area (445 acres), which was set aside to represent mixed conifer vegetation in the management area. The RNA has also been identified as a potential National Natural Landmark.

Air Quality - Portions of this management area lie within Montana/Idaho Airsheds ID-15 and 21 and in Boise and Elmore Counties. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern for Forest management. There are ambient air monitors located in Garden Valley and Idaho City to obtain current background levels, trends, and seasonal patterns of particulate matter. The Sawtooth Wilderness is the closest Class I area. Visibility monitoring has been expanded for this area.

Between 1995 and 1999, emissions trends in both counties improved for PM 10, while PM 2.5 emissions remained constant. The most common source of particulate matter in the counties was fugitive dust from unpaved roads and agricultural activities such as tilling. In addition to Forest management activities, crop residue and ditch burning may contribute to particulate matter emissions, although the amount of agricultural-related burning was very low in Boise County (less than 100 acres) and moderately low (an estimated 5,000 acres) in Elmore County. Elmore County had point sources contributing minor amounts to the annual total PM 2.5 emissions.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources - Elevations range from 3,100 feet at Mores Creek to 8,128 feet atop Pilot Peak. Management Area 8 falls primarily within the Boise Basin Lands, Mores Flat, and Lowman Uplands Subsections. The main geomorphic landforms associated with these subsections are mature relief fluvial lands, dry fluvial slopes, volcanic flow lands, depositional lands, and frost-churned uplands. Slope gradients average between 10 to 50 percent in the Boise Basin Lands, 5 to 30 percent in Mores Flat, and 15 and 45 percent in the Lowman Uplands. The surface geology is dominated by Idaho Batholith granitics in the north and central portions of the area, and basalt volcanics in the south. Soils generally have moderate to high surface erosion potential, and moderate to high productivity. Subwatershed vulnerability ratings range from low to high (see table below). Geomorphic Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). There are localized impacts from roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, mining, and recreation. Impacts include accelerated erosion, upland compaction, and stream channel modification.

The management area is comprised of all or portions of the Upper Grimes Creek, Granite Creek, Upper Mores Creek, Lower Grimes Creek, and Middle Mores Creek Watersheds. These watersheds all flow into the Boise-Mores Subbasin, which drains south into Lucky Peak Reservoir. The main streams in the area are Mores Creek, Grimes Creek, Elk Creek, and Thorn Creek. There are no natural lakes, and only a few small reservoirs. The Lower and Upper Elk Creek subwatersheds are part of a state-regulated public water system for the community of

Idaho City. A large number of wells and septic systems are present within and adjacent to this MA as a result of housing developments. Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below).

Water quality is functioning at risk due to localized accelerated sediment from roads, mining, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and recreation. Only one of the 16 subwatersheds in this MA was listed in 1998 as having impaired water bodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. This subwatershed is Minneha-Wildcat, and the pollutant of concern is sediment. There are currently no TMDL-assigned watersheds associated with this management area.

Subwatershed Vulnerability			Geomorphic Integrity			Water Quality Integrity			No. 303(d) Subs	No. Subs With TMDLs	No. Public Water System Subs
High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low			
4	7	5	0	8	8	0	8	8	1	0	2

Anadromous fish species no longer exist within area streams due to downstream dams that block their migration routes to and from the ocean. Bull trout are now absent from most of this area. They are presently known to occur in the Granite-Illinois and Upper Mores Creek subwatersheds, and at depressed levels. Redband trout have not recently been documented in this area. Brook trout are scattered throughout area streams. Other non-native species have been introduced to area streams for sport fishing. Aquatic habitat is functioning at risk due to accelerated sediment from historic mining practices, roads built during the early 1900s along streams and water courses, livestock grazing, and roads associated with timber management. Native fish populations are at risk due to the presence of non-native species and habitat impacts noted above. The Upper Mores Creek subwatershed has been identified as important to bull trout recovery, and as a high-priority area for restoration.

Vegetation—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 Douglas-fir and subalpine fir, with pockets of lodgepole pine and aspen. Cold forest communities of subalpine fir are found in the upper elevations, interspersed with cliffs and talus slopes.

An estimated 8 percent of the management area is comprised of rock, water, or shrubland and grassland vegetation groups, including Mountain Big Sage, Bitterbrush, Montane Shrub, and Perennial Grass Slopes. The main forested vegetation groups in the area are Cool Dry Douglas-fir (6 percent), Cool Moist Douglas-fir (11 percent), Dry Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir (8 percent), Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine (47 percent), and Warm Dry Subalpine Fir (19 percent).

The Mountain Big Sagebrush and Montane Shrub groups are functioning properly, but they are trending toward old age structure, dense canopies, and low levels of herbaceous ground cover due to fire exclusion. The Perennial Grass Slopes group is also functioning properly, although introduced species are increasing. Bitterbrush is functioning at risk because of impacts from fire exclusion, livestock grazing, and introduced species. Past livestock grazing and fire exclusion

have altered structure and species composition. Native species are competing with introduced species like cheatgrass, spotted knapweed, and rush skeletonweed.

The Cool Dry Douglas-fir, Dry Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir, Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine, and Cool Moist Douglas-fir groups are functioning at risk. Stands that have recently burned have experienced high mortality because decades of fire exclusion resulted in high stand densities and fuel loadings that moved this group from a non-lethal to a lethal fire regime. These high density and fuel conditions still exist in unburned stands, where fire frequency is occurring at less than historic intervals. Insect and disease infestations have increased tree mortality and the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire. These groups also lack young structural stages and seral ponderosa pine and aspen. Past reforestation practices in the Quartzburg Fire area have left thousands of acres of undesirable genetic stock. The Granite Creek (5th code HUC 1705011204), Lower Grimes Creek (5th code HUC 1705011203), and Upper Mores Creek (5th code HUC 1705011207) watersheds are high priorities for active management to restore the large tree size class.

The Warm Dry Subalpine Fir group is functioning at risk due to fire exclusion that has resulted in old stands without much structural diversity. Late seral subalpine fir is increasing, and seral Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, and aspen are decreasing.

Riparian vegetation is functioning at risk due to localized impacts from roads, mining, livestock grazing, and recreation. Fire exclusion has resulted in longer fire return intervals, leading to increased fire intensity and severity. Exotic plant species have begun to encroach upon riparian areas, but recent prevention and control efforts have kept habitats intact.

Botanical Resources - Giant helleborine orchid, a Region 4 Sensitive species, and Kellogg's bitterroot (*Lewisia kelloggii*), a proposed Sensitive species, are known from this management area. Swamp onion, a Region 4 Watch species, also occurs in this management area. No federally listed or proposed plant species are known to occur in this area, but potential habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses and slender moonwort may exist. Ute ladies'-tresses, a Threatened species, may have moderate to high potential habitat in riparian/wetland areas from 1,000 to 7,000 feet. Slender moonwort, a Candidate species, may occur in moderate to higher elevation grasslands, meadows, and small openings in spruce and lodgepole pine.

Non-native Plants - Dalmatian toadflax, diffuse knapweed, spotted knapweed, Canada thistle, St. Johnswort, and tansy ragwort occur in the area, particularly along the main road corridors. Purple loosestrife has been found in riparian ecosystems in the area. All known infestations appear to have been eradicated. This species poses a significant risk to riparian ecosystems, especially wet meadows. An estimated 67 percent of the area is highly susceptible to invasion by noxious weeds and exotic plant species. The main weeds of concern are rush skeletonweed and spotted knapweed, which currently occur in scattered populations. A cooperative agreement exists between the Forest Service and Boise County to aggressively treat noxious weeds.

Subwatersheds in the table below have an inherently high risk of weed establishment and spread from activities identified with a "yes" in the various activity columns. This risk is due to the

amount of drainage area that is highly susceptible to noxious weed invasion and the relatively high level of exposure from those identified vectors or carriers of weed seed.

Subwatershed	Road-related Activities	Livestock Use	Timber Harvest	Recreation & Trail Use	ATV Off-Road Use
Upper Granite	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Lower Granite	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Lewis-Clay	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Gregory-Johnny	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Lower Elk	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Bannock-Thomas	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Granite-Illinois	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Minneha-Wildcat	No	No	No	No	No
Clear Creek	No	No	Yes	No	No
Upper Mores Creek	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Wild Goat-Deadhorse	Yes	No	Yes	No	No

Wildlife Resources—The wide range of elevations and vegetation types in the management area provide a variety of wildlife habitats. The lower Grimes Creek and Mores Creek corridors have wintering habitat for bald eagles. Much of the lower elevation grasslands and shrublands are important winter range for elk, as well as foraging habitat for introduced turkey and chukar. Dry forests provide habitat for a number of Region 4 sensitive species, including northern goshawk, flammulated owl, and white-headed woodpecker. High-elevation cold forests provide nesting and foraging habitat for boreal owl and three-toed woodpecker. The entire area provides nesting and forage habitat for migratory landbirds, and general habitat for wide-ranging mammals such as elk, bear, wolves, and mountain lion. High road densities may influence use of habitat by wildlife species negatively influenced by road-associated factors.

Overall, terrestrial habitat is functioning at risk due to past silvicultural management practices and changes in fire disturbance patterns. The Upper Mores Creek watershed (5th code HUC 1705011207) has been identified as important to the recovery of Forest sensitive species and other native wildlife utilizing late-seral forests with low canopy conditions, and is identified as a short-term high-priority watershed for restoration.

Recreation Resources - Paved road access, local residences, and proximity to Boise and Idaho City make the Mores Creek corridor a heavily used, year-round recreation area. Dispersed recreation such as hunting, hiking, sight-seeing, snowmobiling, back-country skiing, off-road vehicle use, and camping occurs throughout the area, and there are many dispersed camp sites and six developed campgrounds. The area is located primarily within Idaho Fish and Game Management Unit 39. This is a popular area for dispersed winter recreation, particularly for back-country skiing and snowmobiling. Most summer recreation is road-oriented, and a number of user-defined, non-system trails exist in the area. Public access through private lands is a concern in areas near extensive inholdings. Special use permits are issued for summer residences within the Ten Mile Summer Residence tract. This area attracts many recreation special use permit requests, and the trend is expected to continue.

Cultural Resources - Cultural themes in this area include Mining, Ethnic Heritage, Timber Industry, Transportation, Forest Service History, and the CCC. Mores Creek has the highest

density of sites of all the management areas on the Forest. The majority of sites are associated with historic mining. The management area encompasses Boise Basin, where miners discovered gold in 1862. The basin was the state's leading gold producer well into the twentieth century, and contains a broad spectrum of sites associated with placer, hydraulic, dredge, and lode mining. Many of these sites reflect the unique legacy of Chinese immigrants to Idaho history. Idaho City and Placerville are historic mining towns in the area listed on the National Register of Historic Places. After 1900, commercial export logging became increasingly important to the basin's economy. In the 1920s, the Boise-Payette Lumber Company extended the Intermountain Railroad from the confluence of Grimes and Mores Creeks to Idaho City and beyond. This management area, as a result, contains numerous logger camps. The 1930s are represented by sites such as the Boise Basin Experimental Station, built by the CCC as a research center for Forest Service issues concerning soil erosion, and range and timber management.

Timberland Resources—Of the estimated 82,700 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 59,600 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 11 percent of the Forest's suited timberland acres. The suited timberland acres are found in MPC 5.1, as shown on the management area MPC map. Lands within MPC 2.2, 2.4, 3.2 and 4.1c are identified as not suited for timber production. Much of this area has had a high level of past timber management, and has been selectively harvested for mine timbers, construction lumber, and fuelwood as far back as the 1860s. This area also has the Idaho City Seed Orchard, developed and maintained to produce seeds of desirable genetic quality. Fuelwood, post and poles, Christmas trees, and other forest products currently receive a lot of public use and interest since this area is within an hour's drive of Boise.

Rangeland Resources - The management area contains all or portions of two sheep allotments located primarily in the northern and eastern portions of the area. Management Area 8 provides an estimated 48,700 acres of capable rangeland. These acres represent about 12 percent of the capable rangeland on the Forest.

Mineral Resources - The area is open to mineral activities and prospecting, with the exception of lands within the Boise Basin Experimental Forest that have been withdrawn from mineral entry. There has been a considerable amount of hard rock and placer mining since 1862. Most operations have ceased or lie dormant, but they have left lingering traces. Dredge tailings are the most obvious remnant, primarily along Mores, Grimes and Granite Creeks. There are old hydraulic mining sites such as Humbug Gulch. Traces of small-scale prospects and placer operations abound. Remnants of underground mining include waste rock piles, mill tailings, and occasional structures. Old underground sites are found in the upper Granite Creek (Quartzburg area), upper Grimes Creek (Missouri and Comeback Mines), and the Illinois Gulch area. There is still a small amount of small-scale mining and mineral exploration. There are limited public recreation mining areas on Grimes Creek. The locatable mineral potential is generally moderate, as is the leasable mineral potential for geothermal resources. The potential for other leasable minerals is low to moderate.

Fire Management—Wildland fires occur more frequently in this management area than in any other on the Idaho City District, both from lightning and human activities. The majority of these fires are successfully suppressed in the initial attack phase. Over the past 20 years there were

approximately 320 fire starts, about 35 percent of which were human-caused. This management area had the third highest proportion of human-caused fires relative to the other management areas. Large fires since 1988 include the Minneha Fire, King Gulch Fire, Mores-Bannock Creek Fire, Dunnigan Fire, Star Gulch Fire and Gregory. Portions of the Boise Basin Experimental Forest and Bannock Creek RNA were also burned in 1994. In total, about 29 percent of the management area has burned since 1988. This management area is not in the Forest's wildland fire use planning area, so no wildland fire use is anticipated.

The majority of the National Fire Plan communities on the Idaho City Ranger District are located within this management area, including Idaho City, Placerville, New Centerville, Pioneerville, and New Centerville. A large proportion of the management area is considered wildland-urban interface, and most subwatersheds pose risks to life and property from potential post-fire floods and debris flows. In addition, numerous subdivisions on the outskirts of rural areas also exist, such as Star Gulch and scattered residential structures along Highway 21. All of the interface communities are located in lower-elevation areas, surrounded predominantly by Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine stands. Timber harvesting, pre-commercial thinning, and prescribed fire activities have treated stands in the vicinity of these communities, but further treatments are needed to continue restoration or maintenance of these stands to reduce the potential for uncharacteristic wildland fire. In the past, all fires have been actively suppressed in this area, and this policy will continue due to the high occurrence of wildland-urban interface. As such, fire use activities within this area will be limited to prescribed fire treatments.

Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be 40 percent mixed1 or 2, and 60 percent non-lethal. An estimated 32 percent of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are highly departed from their historical range. Most of this change has occurred in the historically non-lethal fire regimes, resulting in conditions where wildfire would likely be much larger and more intense and severe than historically. In addition, 40 percent of the area is in moderately departed conditions—19 percent in the mixed1/mixed2 fire regimes, and 21 percent in the non-lethal regimes. Wildfire in these areas may result in somewhat larger patch sizes of high intensity or severity, but not to the same extent as in the highly departed areas in non-lethal fire regimes.

Lands and Special Uses - Special-use permits are issued for several utility corridors to private inholdings. Opportunities exist to consolidate National Forest lands through exchange with other landowners in the area.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

In addition to Forest-wide Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines that provide direction for all management areas, the following direction has been developed specifically for this area.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers	General Standard	0801	Manage the Mores Creek eligible river corridor to its assigned classification standards, and preserve its outstandingly remarkable values and free-flowing status, until the river undergoes a suitability study and the study finds it suitable for designation by Congress, or releases it from further consideration as a Wild and Scenic River.
	Vegetation Standard	0878	Mechanical vegetation management activities, including salvage harvest, shall retain all snags >20 inches dbh and at least the maximum number of snags depicted in Table A-6 within each size class where available. Where large snags (>20 inches dbh) are unavailable, retain additional snags \geq 10 inches dbh where available to meet at least the maximum total number snags per acre depicted in Table A-6. ¹
	Vegetation Guideline	0802	In Recreational corridors, mechanical vegetation treatments, including salvage harvest, may be used as long as ORVs are maintained within the river corridor.
	Fire Guideline	0803	Prescribed fire may be used in any river corridor as long as ORVs are maintained within the corridor.
	Fire Guideline	0804	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize the impacts of suppression activities on river classifications and ORVs.
MPC 2.2 Research Natural Areas	General Standard	0805	Mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, and prescribed fire may only be used to maintain values for which the areas were established, or to achieve other objectives that are consistent with the RNA establishment record or management plan.
	Road Standard	0806	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To maintain the values for which the RNA was established.
	Fire Guideline	0807	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Fire suppression strategies and tactics should minimize impacts to the values for which the RNA was established.
MPC 2.4 Boise Basin Experimental Forest	General Objective	0808	Continue to cooperate with Rocky Mountain Research Station on management of the Boise Basin Experimental Forest.
	General Standard	0809	All activities on the experimental forest shall be coordinated with the Scientist-in-Charge of the Boise Basin Experimental Forest (Rocky Mountain Research Station).
	Vegetation Standard	0810	Vegetation management actions using both prescribed fire and mechanical treatment methods may occur as part of planned research activities, or to achieve other objectives, provided that research objectives are not compromised.
	Range Standard	0811	Livestock grazing is prohibited unless prescribed as a management tool to achieve research objectives.
	Vegetation Guideline	0812	Salvage harvest may occur as part of planned research activities.

¹ This standard shall not apply to management activities that an authorized officer determines are needed for the protection of life and property during an emergency event, to reasonably address other human health and safety concerns, to meet hazardous fuel reduction objectives within WUIs, to manage the personal use fuelwood program, or to allow reserved or outstanding rights, tribal rights or statutes to be reasonably exercised or complied with.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Fire Guideline	0813	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Fire suppression strategies and tactics should minimize impacts to experimental areas and other investments.
MPC 3.2 Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Watershed Resources	General Standard	0814	Management actions, including salvage harvest, may only degrade aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed resource conditions in the temporary (up to 3 years) or short-term (3-15 years) time periods, and must be designed to avoid degradation of existing conditions in the long-term (greater than 15 years).
	Vegetation Standard	0815	Vegetation restoration or maintenance treatments—including mechanical and prescribed fire—may only occur where they: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Maintain or restore water quality needed to fully support beneficial uses and habitat for native and desired non-native fish species; or b) Maintain or restore habitat for native and desired non-native wildlife and plant species; or c) Reduce risk of impacts from wildland fire to human life, structures, and investments.
	Vegetation Standard	0879	Mechanical vegetation management activities, including salvage harvest, shall retain all snags >20 inches dbh and at least the maximum number of snags depicted in Table A-6 within each size class where available. Where large snags (>20 inches dbh) are unavailable, retain additional snags ≥10 inches dbh where available to meet at least the maximum total number snags per acre depicted in Table A-6. ²
	Road Standard	0816	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To support aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed restoration activities, or d) To address immediate response situations where, if the action is not taken, unacceptable impacts to hydrologic, aquatic, riparian or terrestrial resources, or health and safety, would result.
	Fire Guideline	0817	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize suppression strategies and tactics that minimize impacts on aquatic, terrestrial, or watershed resources.

² This standard shall not apply to management activities that an authorized officer determines are needed for the protection of life and property during an emergency event, to reasonably address other human health and safety concerns, to meet hazardous fuel reduction objectives within WUIs, to manage the personal use fuelwood program, or to allow reserved or outstanding rights, tribal rights or statutes to be reasonably exercised or complied with.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	General Standard	0818	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest prescribed fire, special use authorizations, and road maintenance—must be designed and implemented in a manner that would be consistent with the unroaded landscape in the temporary, short term, and long term. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1c road standard, below.
	Vegetation Standard	0880	Mechanical vegetation management activities, including salvage harvest, shall retain all snags >20 inches dbh and at least the maximum number of snags depicted in Table A-6 within each size class where available. Where large snags (>20 inches dbh) are unavailable, retain additional snags ≥ 10 inches dbh where available to meet at least the maximum total number snags per acre depicted in Table A-6. ³
	Road Standard	0819	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty.
	Fire Guideline	0820	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the unroaded landscape in the area.
MPC 5.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Vegetation Standard	0881	For commercial salvage sales, retain the maximum number of snags depicted in Table A-6 within each size class where available. Where large snags (>20 inches dbh) are unavailable, retain additional snags ≥ 10 inches dbh where available to meet the maximum total number snags per acre depicted in Table A-6. ⁴
	Vegetation Guideline	0821	The full range of vegetation treatment activities, except wildland fire use, may be used to restore or maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. Salvage harvest may also occur.
	Vegetation Guideline	0882	The personal use firewood program should be managed to retain large snags (>20 inches dbh) through signing, public education, permit size restrictions or area closures, or other appropriate methods as needed to achieve desired snag densities (Table A-6).
	Fire Guideline	0822	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to habitats, developments, and investments.
	Road Guideline	0823	Road construction or reconstruction may occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To achieve restoration and maintenance objectives for vegetation, water quality, aquatic habitat, or terrestrial habitat; or d) To support management actions taken to reduce wildfire risks in wildland-urban interface areas; or e) To meet access and travel management objectives.

³ This standard shall not apply to management activities that an authorized officer determines are needed for the protection of life and property during an emergency event, to reasonably address other human health and safety concerns, to meet hazardous fuel reduction objectives within WUIs, to manage the personal use fuelwood program, or to allow reserved or outstanding rights, tribal rights or statutes to be reasonably exercised or complied with.

⁴ This standard shall not apply to management activities that an authorized officer determines are needed for the protection of life and property during an emergency event, to reasonably address other human health and safety concerns, to meet hazardous fuel reduction objectives within WUIs, or to allow reserved or outstanding rights, tribal rights or statutes to be reasonably exercised or complied with.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Road Guideline	0883	On new permanent or temporary roads built to implement vegetation management activities, public motorized use should be restricted during activity implementation to minimize disturbance to wildlife habitat and associated species of concern. Effective closures should be provided in project design. When activities are completed, temporary roads should be reclaimed or decommissioned and permanent roads should be put into Level 1 maintenance status unless needed to meet transportation management objectives.
MPC 5.2 Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Fire Guideline	0824	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
	Fire Guideline	0825	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	0826	Survey areas to identify and prioritize watershed improvement needs. Restore water quality by reducing accelerated sediment and heavy metal or chemical contaminants from historic mining areas, particularly hydraulic placer mining sites such as Humbug.
	Objective	0827	Restore habitat for bull trout in Upper Mores Creek subwatershed by reducing adverse effects from roads, migration barriers, and historical grazing.
	Objective	0828	Continue ongoing studies in Mores Creek on bull trout distribution, abundance, life histories, and factors affecting them to help promote recovery of the species.
	Objective	0829	Survey and evaluate fish habitat, concentrating on Grimes and Mores Creeks and old dredge mining sites. Cooperate with landowners in mitigation and restoration of problem areas.
	Objective	0830	Coordinate and work with Boise County on road maintenance to reduce sediment and restore fish passage.
Vegetation	Objective	0831	Restore PVG1 (Dry Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir), PVG2 (Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine) and PVG3 (Cool Moist Douglas-fir) as described in Appendix A emphasizing the large tree size class in the Granite Creek (5th code HUC 1705011204), Lower Grimes Creek (5th code HUC 1705011203), and Upper Mores Creek (5th code HUC 1705011207) watersheds.
Botanical Resources	Objective	0832	Maintain or restore known populations and habitats of TEPSC plant species, including giant helleborine orchid and Kellogg's bitterroot, to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
	Objective	0833	Reduce spotted knapweed and rush skeletonweed within rare plant occupied and potential habitat.
Non-native Plants	Objective	0834	Control and contain noxious weeds, particularly rush skeletonweed and spotted knapweed. Emphasize biological treatments, such as insects, pathogens, and livestock grazing.
	Objective	0835	Eradicate Dalmatian toadflax and tansy ragwort. Implement a prevention program that targets new invaders, with purple loosestrife as a priority species.
	Objective	0836	Continue to cooperate with landowners and the state to reduce non-native plants.
Wildlife Resources	Objective	0837	Maintain or restore bald eagle wintering habitat along Mores Creek and lower tributaries.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Objective	0838	Provide big-game winter range by maintaining or restoring Mountain Big Sage, Montane Shrub, and Perennial Grass Slopes vegetation groups along the South Fork Payette River corridor.
	Objective	0884	Focus source habitat restoration activities within Upper Mores Creek watershed (5th code HUC 1705011207) in areas field-verified to have good-to-excellent conditions for restoration of old forest pine stands. A primary objective of treatment should be to expand the overall patch size of old forest habitat. (Refer to Conservation Principles 2 and 3 in Appendix E.)
	Objective	0885	Reduce open road densities within Upper Mores Creek watershed (5th code HUC 1705011207) where it is determined that they limit use of source habitats by wildlife species identified as TEPC and R4 Regionally Sensitive species. (Refer to Conservation Principles 5 and 6 in Appendix E.)
	Guideline	0886	Occupied white-headed woodpecker source habitat identified during project planning for vegetative management projects within the Upper Mores Creek watershed (5th code HUC 1705011207) watershed should be maintained and adjacent patches should be developed to facilitate movement and dispersal of individuals. (Refer to Conservation Principles 1, 4, and 5 in Appendix E.)
Recreation Resources	Objective	0839	Evaluate the need for new or expanded facilities at the Granite Creek Recreation Area to address increasing recreation use. Develop a plan to expand or construct facilities if the evaluation determines the need.
	Objective	0840	Evaluate non-system trails for inclusion in the Forest trail system. Decommission trails that are not needed, and improve other trails to increase management efficiency and public safety, to reduce soil and water impacts, and to provide a variety of trail use opportunities.
	Objective	0841	Minimize conflicts between backcountry skiers and snowmobilers arising from increased winter recreation use in the upper Mores Creek/Pilot Peak area.
	Objective	0842	Identify and evaluate opportunities to provide a trail system integrated and coordinated with private landowners to enhance recreation experiences.
	Objective	0843	Continue to coordinate with Counties (Boise/Elmore) and other groups related to grooming trails for over-snow activities to maintain these winter recreation opportunities.
	Objective	0844	Identify and evaluate opportunities along the Highway 21 corridor to improve recreation opportunities and experiences through additional parking, trails and trailhead facilities, and yurts, as well as improvements to existing recreation facilities.
	Objective	0845	Protect the groomed cross-country ski system from the Gold Fork parking lot to Beaver Creek Summit from damage by unauthorized snowmobile use.
	Objective	0846	Develop a trail system within the Boise Basin (Mores Creek) to enhance recreation opportunities by incorporating segments of acceptable, relocated or reconstructed sections of existing non-system trails.
	Objective	0847	Maintain the use by recreation residences within the established recreation residence tract at Ten-Mile Creek.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description																	
	Objective	0848	Facilitate and participate in the development of a scenic byway corridor management plan for the Ponderosa Pine Scenic Byway with local government agencies and other partners.																	
	Objective	0849	Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy: <table border="1" data-bbox="699 394 1409 611"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">ROS Class</th> <th colspan="2">Percent of Mgt. Area</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Summer</th> <th>Winter</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</td> <td>0%</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td> <td>3%</td> <td>70%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Natural</td> <td>14%</td> <td>11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Modified</td> <td>83%</td> <td>11%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The above numbers reflect current travel regulations. These numbers may change as a result of future travel regulation planning.</p>	ROS Class	Percent of Mgt. Area		Summer	Winter	Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	0%	8%	Semi-Primitive Motorized	3%	70%	Roaded Natural	14%	11%	Roaded Modified	83%	11%
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Guideline	0850	Continue coordination with the State of Idaho on management of park-and-ski areas to maintain winter recreation opportunities.																		
Cultural Resources	Objective	0851	Identify suitable historic landscapes created by placer, dredge, and lode mining for protection and interpretation.																	
	Objective	0852	Facilitate community partnerships (e.g., Idaho City Historical Foundation) to promote historic preservation and public stewardship for cultural resources in Boise Basin.																	
	Objective	0853	Complete an inventory of the historic properties within the Boise Basin and evaluate the establishment of a Chinese Historic Mining District and an Intermountain Railroad Historic Logging District.																	
	Objective	0854	Inventory the historic properties contributing to the Chinese Historic Mining District and the Intermountain Railroad Historic Logging District. Nominate these districts to the NRHP, and provide interpretation at the appropriate contributing properties.																	
	Objective	0855	Nominate Hop Lee’s Placer Claim (Granite Creek Trailhead) to the National Register, and complete the heritage trails system and interpretive signs planned for this site.																	
	Objective	0856	Develop a management plan for the Boise Basin Experimental Station to protect the historic character of this facility.																	
Timberland Resources	Objective	0857	Manage stand density and other appropriate silvicultural treatments on suited timberlands to promote growth, provide wood products, and to reduce hazards from uncharacteristic fire, insects, and diseases. Use silvicultural treatments also to reduce the spread and intensification of dwarf mistletoe.																	
	Objective	0858	Emphasize stocking control and fuels reduction in plantations.																	
	Objective	0859	Reduce densities in mid-aged overstocked stands. Promote early seral species and open stands that can be maintained in a low fire hazard condition by fire in the future.																	
	Objective	0860	Manage the collection of fuelwood and other wood products to help achieve vegetation goals.																	
	Objective	0861	Manage and protect the Idaho City Seed Orchard to produce genetically improved seeds for future reforestation on southwest Idaho forests. Use thinning, fertilization, and pollen management as needed to produce seed cones for ponderosa pine.																	

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Objective	0862	Evaluate Quartzburg plantations to determine their genetic desirability, and design stand improvement or replacement activities to restore genetic integrity within tree species.
	Objective	0863	Reduce the opportunity for noxious weed establishment and spread by keeping suitable weed sites to a minimum during timber harvest activities in the Wild Goat-Deadhorse, Lower Granite Creek, Upper Granite Creek, Clear Creek, Lewis-Clay, Gregory-Johnny, Bannock-Thomas, Lower Elk Creek, Granite-Illinois, and Upper Mores Creek subwatersheds. Consider designated skid trails, winter skidding, minimal fireline construction, broadcast burning rather than pile burning, or keeping slash piles small to reduce heat transfer to the soil.
	Guideline	0864	Existing noxious weed infestations should be treated on landings, skid trails, and helibases in the project area before timber harvest activities begin in the Wild Goat-Deadhorse, Lower Granite Creek, Upper Granite Creek, Clear Creek, Lewis-Clay, Gregory-Johnny, Bannock-Thomas, Lower Elk Creek, Granite-Illinois, and Upper Mores Creek subwatersheds.
Rangeland Resources	Objective	0865	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from livestock grazing activities in the Upper Granite Creek, Lower Granite Creek, Lewis-Clay, Gregory-Johnny, Lower Elk Creek, Bannock-Thomas, and Granite-Illinois subwatersheds. Consider changes in the timing, intensity, duration, or frequency of livestock use; the location of salting; and restoration of watering sites.
Mineral Resources	Objective	0866	Survey, evaluate, and, where appropriate, mitigate or restore areas of historic mining impacts.
	Objective	0867	Identify areas available to the public for recreational mining.
Fire Management	Objective	0868	Initiate prescribed fire and mechanical treatments within wildland-urban interface areas to reduce fuels and wildfire hazards. Coordinate with local and tribal governments, agencies, and landowners in the development of County Wildfire Protection Plans that identify and prioritize hazardous fuels treatments within wildland-urban interface to manage fuel loadings to reduce wildfire hazards.
	Objective	0869	Coordinate and emphasize fire education and prevention programs with private landowners to help reduce wildfire hazards and risks. Work with landowners to increase defensible space around structures.
Lands and Special Uses	Objective	0870	Pursue land adjustments to consolidate National Forest system lands in the vicinities of the Idaho City, Placerville, Centerville, Quartzburg, Pioneererville, and Old Placerville town sites.
Facilities and Roads	Objective	0871	Develop crew staging and storage facilities at the Idaho City airport to support fire suppression activities.
	Objective	0872	Continue to work with the State of Idaho to find suitable sites for the disposal of slough material.
	Objective	0873	Cooperate with landowners, counties and State of Idaho in road relocations and management of the road system.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Objective	0874	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from road management activities in the Wild Goat-Deadhorse, Upper Mores Creek, Lower Granite Creek, Lewis-Clay, Gregory-Johnny, Lower Elk Creek, Bannock-Thomas, and Granite-Illinois subwatersheds. Methods to consider include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When decommissioning roads, treat weeds before roads are made impassable. ➤ Schedule road maintenance activities when weeds are least likely to be viable or spread. Blade from least to most infested sites. ➤ Consult or coordinate with the district noxious weed coordinator when scheduling road maintenance activities. ➤ Periodically inspect road systems and rights of way. ➤ Avoid accessing water for dust abatement through weed-infested sites, or utilize mitigation to minimize weed seed transport.
Scenic Environment	Objective	0875	Provide for visual quality along the Highway 21 scenic byway corridor by developing a vegetation management plan for the corridor.
	Objective	0876	Design projects to provide for scenic values along the Highway 21 corridor.
	Standard	0877	Meet the visual quality objectives as represented on the Forest VQO Map, and where indicated in the table below as viewed from the following areas/corridors:

Sensitive Travel Route Or Use Area	Sensitivity Level	Visual Quality Objective								
		Fg			Mg			Bg		
		Variety Class			Variety Class			Variety Class		
		A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Highway 21	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Grayback Gulch, Ten Mile Campgrounds	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Hayfork, Bad Bear Campgrounds	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Forest Roads 203, 304, 307	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Roads 316, 327, 364, 374	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Roads 380 (south of Forest Road 314), 615	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Roads 314, 382, 386, 380 (north of Forest Road 314)	2	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	MM
Bald Mountain	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Trails 163, 169, 170	2	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	MM