



Management Area 14. Lower Middle Fork Payette River Location Map

Management Area 14 Lower Middle Fork Payette River

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 14 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
3.2 – Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, & Hydrologic Resources	Trace
4.1c – Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	43
5.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	57

General Location and Description - Management Area 14 is comprised of lands administered by the Boise National Forest in the lower portion of the Middle Fork Payette River drainage (see map, opposite page). The area lies in Valley and Boise Counties, just above the communities of Crouch and Garden Valley. It is part of the Emmett Ranger District. The management area is an estimated 109,600 acres, which includes 2,268 acres of State lands. The area is bordered by the Boise National Forest to the north and east, by primarily State land to the west, and by primarily private land (Crouch) to the south. The primary uses or activities in this management area have been timber management, dispersed and developed recreation, and livestock grazing.

Access - The main access to the area is by Forest Road 698 from Crouch to Boiling Springs. This road is well maintained and gravel-surfaced to West Fork Creek. The density of classified roads for the entire management area is an estimated 2.2 miles per square mile, although part of the area is roadless. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 0 and 4.1 miles per square mile. Trails provide access to portions of the roadless areas.

An estimated 7 miles of the Middle Fork Payette River Road (Forest Road 698) are scheduled for improvement work in the next decade. This road provides access to the upper reaches of the Middle Fork drainage and popular recreation sites in the Silver Creek and Boiling Springs areas. This project is in a very early stage of development so improvement details are not yet known.

Special Features - A portion of one eligible Wild and Scenic River, the Middle Fork Payette River, falls within the management area. The Middle Fork has one segment in this area, with Recreational classification. This segment is an estimated 10.8 miles, with a river corridor area of 3,466 acres. The Middle Fork is considered eligible for Wild and Scenic River status because of its outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreation, and cultural resource values.

The Middle Fork corridor is a popular recreation area and has a number of hot springs. A prominent landmark in the area is Scott Mountain Lookout. An estimated 42 percent of the management area is inventoried as roadless, including all of the Bear Wallow Roadless Area, and portions of the Peace Rock, and Bald Mountain Roadless Areas.

Air Quality - This management area lies within Montana/Idaho Airshed ID-15 and in Valley County. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern related to Forest management. There is an ambient air monitor located within the airshed in Garden Valley to obtain current background levels, trends, and seasonal patterns of particulate matter. The Sawtooth and Hells Canyon Wildernesses are the closest Class I areas. Visibility monitoring has been expanded for these areas.

Between 1995 and 1999, emissions trends in both counties improved for PM 10 while PM 2.5 emissions remained constant. The most common sources of particulate matter in the county were wildfire, prescribed fire, and fugitive dust from unpaved roads. 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 Valley County (less than 600 acres). There were no point sources within the county.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources - Elevations range from around 3,100 feet on the Middle Fork Payette River to 8,215 feet atop Scott Mountain. Management Area 14 falls primarily within the Middle Fork Payette Canyon and Streamcut Lands Subsection. The main geomorphic landforms associated with this subsection are strongly dissected fluvial lands, glaciated trough lands, and cold uplands. Slope gradients average between 45 to 75 percent in strongly dissected fluvial lands and glaciated trough lands, and 20 to 40 percent in the uplands. The surface geology is predominantly Idaho Batholith granitics. Soils generally have moderate to high surface erosion potential, and moderate to high productivity. Subwatershed vulnerability ratings range from moderate to high (see table below). Geomorphic Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from high (functioning appropriately) to moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). In some locations, roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and recreation uses have resulted in accelerated erosion, stream channel modification, and streambank degradation.

The management area is in the Crouch and Bulldog Watersheds and part of the Boiling Springs Watershed of the Middle Fork Payette River Subbasin. The major streams in the area are the Middle Fork Payette River and its tributaries: Anderson, Pyle, Lightning, Bulldog, Scriver, Six Mile, West Fork and Rattlesnake Creeks. There are no natural lakes or reservoirs in the management area, but there are hot springs along the Middle Fork Payette River corridor. All of the major subwatersheds in this area are part of the state-regulated public water systems for the communities in and around Crouch and Garden Valley.

Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). In some locations, impacts from roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and recreation use have increased sedimentation and nutrient levels. High levels of natural sediment from erodible granitic parent material exacerbate these impacts. Only one of the eight subwatersheds in this MA was listed in 1998 as having impaired water bodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act—Rocky Canyon. The pollutant of concern is sediment. The entire management area is within a TMDL-assigned subbasin.

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			
5	3	0	2	3	3	0	5	3	1	8	8

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 can be found within the Plye, Anderson Creek, Rattlesnake, Sixmile, and Rocky Canyon subwatersheds, and in the Middle Fork Payette River, which serves as an important overwintering and migratory corridor for this Threatened fish. Native redband streams include the Middle Fork Payette River and Anderson, Pyle, Lightning, Bulldog, Scriver, and Rattlesnake Creeks. Aquatic habitat is functioning at risk in some locations due to accelerated sediment from road management, livestock grazing, and recreation use. Native fish populations are at risk due to the presence of non-native fish species and water quality impacts described above. The Anderson 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 and shrublands and dry ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir on south and west aspects, and Douglas-fir and grand fir forests on north and east aspects. Mid-elevations are dominated by shrubs and forest communities of Douglas-fir, grand fir, and subalpine fir, with pockets of persistent lodgepole pine and aspen. Forest communities of subalpine fir and whitebark pine are found in the upper elevations, interspersed with cliffs and talus slopes.

An estimated 11 percent of the management area is comprised of rock, water, or shrubland and grassland vegetation groups, including Mountain Big Sage and Montane Shrub. The main forested vegetation groups in the area are Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine (41 percent), Cool Moist Douglas-fir (8 percent), Dry Grand Fir (7 percent), Cool Moist Grand Fir (14 percent), and Warm Dry Subalpine Fir (4 percent).

The Mountain Big Sage and Montane Shrub groups are functioning properly, with only minor impacts from past livestock grazing.

The Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine, Dry Grand Fir, and Cool Moist Grand Fir groups are not functioning properly, and the Cool Moist Douglas-fir is functioning at risk due to timber management and fire exclusion that have altered stand composition and structure. In managed areas, stands are dominantly young and mid-aged, with relatively few large trees, snags, and large woody debris. In unmanaged areas, stands have more late seral grand fir and less early seral ponderosa pine than desirable and moderate-to-high levels of insect and disease infestations. Large-tree, single-storied stand structure is mostly absent. Noxious weeds and introduced species are increasing in the understory. All the watersheds in the management area are high priority for active management to restore the large tree size class.

Warm Dry Subalpine Fir is functioning at risk due to localized impacts from timber harvest and fire exclusion. Late seral subalpine fir is increasing, and early seral Douglas-fir and aspen components are decreasing.

Riparian areas are functioning at risk in some locations due to impacts from past timber harvest, roads, and recreation. Noxious weeds and introduced plant species are increasing. Impacts from recreation use are increasing along the Middle Fork Payette River.

Botanical Resources – Idaho douglasia and giant helleborine orchid, current Region 4 Sensitive species, occur in this management area. Also, Kellogg’s bitterroot, a proposed Region 4 Sensitive species, occurs within the 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 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 - An estimated 55 percent of the management area is highly susceptible to invasion by noxious weeds and exotic plant species. The main weed of concern is spotted knapweed, a highly invasive species that is currently found in small, scattered populations throughout the area.

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	Trail Use	ATV Off-Road Use
Pyle Creek	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Scriver Creek	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Anderson Creek	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Sixmile Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Rocky Canyon	No	No	No	Yes	No

Wildlife Resources—The lower elevations provide nesting and foraging habitat for white-headed woodpeckers and flammulated owls. Potential bald eagle wintering habitat is found along the lower Middle Fork Payette River. Mixed conifer forests at mid elevations provide habitat for Region 4 sensitive species, goshawk and great gray owl, and summer range for elk and deer. High-elevation forests provide habitat for boreal owls, three-toed woodpeckers, wolverine, and lynx, as well as summer range for mammals such as deer, elk, black bear, and mountain lion. Wolves are present in this Management Area. All habitats provide nesting and forage for migratory landbirds. Wild turkeys are also present.

There are no Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy focal areas overlaying this Management Area. High road densities influence use of habitat by wildlife species that are negatively influenced by road-associated factors such as disturbance, poaching, spread of noxious weeds, loss of snags, etc. Terrestrial wildlife habitat is functioning at risk due to habitat changes from timber harvest and fire exclusion, fragmentation from roads and harvest, and disturbance from recreation uses. The Bulldog (5th code HUC 1705012102) and Boiling Springs

(5th code HUC 1705012103) watersheds have been identified as important to the recovery of Forest sensitive species and other native wildlife utilizing old forest habitat with low canopy conditions, and are identified as short-term high-priority areas for restoration.

Recreation Resources - Recreation in the roadless areas is predominantly undeveloped and trail-oriented, with both motorized and non-motorized opportunities, and high visual sensitivity. The roaded corridor of the Middle Fork Payette River has four developed campgrounds and offers dispersed recreation in the form of hunting, fishing, camping, snowmobiling, and driving for pleasure. This area features a system of groomed snowmobile trails that receive heavy winter use. Most users in the area come from either Crouch or Garden Valley, or from Boise and the Treasure Valley. The area is in Idaho Fish and Game Management Unit 33. Four campgrounds along the Middle Fork of the Payette are under special use permit.

Cultural Resources - Cultural themes in this area include Prehistoric Archeology, Ranching, Transportation, Forest Service History, and the CCC. This management area contains prehistoric sites important to our understanding of Indian uses of the Payette River drainage. The hot springs along the river were especially attractive to Indians and Garden Valley settlers. One site excavated by archaeologists yielded artifacts that show Great Basin and Columbia Plateau cultural affiliations. Blood residue analysis of stone tools recovered indicates that bighorn sheep were once in the drainage. Historically, ranchers from eastern Oregon and Long Valley moved livestock across the mountain trails on of the North Fork and Salmon River range to summer pasture in Deadwood Basin, Bear Valley, and the Thunder Mountain Mining District. Early Forest rangers such as Elmer Ross spent much of their time supervising the livestock crossings in this area. The Middle Fork Payette River Road was built in 1902 by Garden Valley and Placerville residents as a quicker, albeit more dangerous route to the Thunder Mountain gold rush. During the 1930s, CCC troops stationed at a spike camp on Tie Creek reconstructed the road into Peace Valley. They also replaced the 1920s era log cabin on Scott Mountain Lookout with the building that exists today.

Timberland Resources—Of the estimated 91,000 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 40,900 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 8 percent of the Forest's suited timberland acres. The suited timberland acres are found in MPC 5.1, as shown on the map displaying the MPCs for this management area. Lands within MPC 3.2 and 4.1c are identified as not suited for timber production. Outside of the roadless area, timber management has been one of the major uses in this management area. The level of timber management has been relatively high in the roaded areas, and low elsewhere. Forest products such as fuelwood, posts, and poles are also collected.

Rangeland Resources - This area has portions of two sheep allotments. Management Area 14 provides an estimated 32,800 acres of capable rangeland. These acres represent about 8 percent of the capable rangeland on the Forest.

Mineral Resources - This area is open to mineral activities and prospecting. Locatable mineral potential is low or unknown. Potential for leasable geothermal resources is moderate in most of the area, and high in the Middle Fork Payette River corridor. Potential for other leasable minerals and common variety mineral materials is unknown.

Fire Management—Prescribed fire has been used to reduce activity-generated fuels. This management area is not in the Forest’s wildland fire use planning area, so no wildland fire use is anticipated. Over the past 20 years, there have been approximately 180 fire starts, 90 percent of which were lightning-caused. Since 1988 28 percent of the management area has burned, most of which occurred in 2006 and 2007. Prescribed fire has been extensively used from since 1995 in Rattlesnake, Bulldog, Little Bulldog, Pyle, Smith, Lightning and Anderson Creek drainages.

Crouch and Garden Valley are nearby National Fire Plan communities and the areas surrounding these communities along the southwestern boundary of the management area is considered wildland-urban interface areas due to private development adjacent to the Forest. The subwatersheds that include the wildland-urban interface are also considered to pose risks to life and property from potential post-fire floods and debris flows. Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be: 10 percent lethal, 34 percent mixed¹ or 2, and 56 percent non-lethal. An estimated 47 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, 24 percent of the area is in moderately departed conditions. 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 – See the Recreation Resources section for recreation special uses.

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	1401	Manage the Middle Fork Payette River eligible river corridor to its Recreational classification standards, and preserve its ORVs and free-flowing status until it 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	1463	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. ¹

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
	Vegetation Guideline	1402	In Recreational corridors, mechanical vegetation treatments, including salvage harvest, may be used as long as ORVs are maintained within the river corridor.
	Fire Guideline	1403	Prescribed fire may be used in any river corridor as long as ORVs are maintained within the corridor.
	Fire Guideline	1404	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 3.2 Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Watershed Resources	General Standard	1405	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	1406	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	1464	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	1407	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	1408	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	1409	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	1465	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	1410	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	1411	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize 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	1466	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	1412	The full range of 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	1467	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	1413	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.

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	1414	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.
	Road Guideline	1468	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	1415	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
	Fire Guideline	1416	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	1417	Maintain or restore migratory habitat in the Middle Fork of the Payette River for bull trout and other resident native fish.
	Objective	1418	Maintain or improve headwater streams for spawning and rearing habitats of native fish.
	Objective	1419	Initiate restoration of watershed conditions and fish habitat in the Anderson Creek subwatershed to help strengthen the local bull trout population.
	Objective	1420	Cooperate and participate with the State of Idaho for implementation of the TMDL for the Middle Fork of the Payette River.
	Objective	1421	Evaluate stream crossings for fish passage and overall condition in Wetfoot Creek drainage and other areas as projects are proposed.
	Objective	1422	Continue to coordinate with partners on the monitoring of the 319 roads project in Scriver Creek.
Vegetation	Objective	1423	Restore PVG1 (Dry Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir), PVG2 (Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine), PVG3 (Cool, Moist Douglas-fir), PVG5 (Dry Grand Fir) and PVG6 (Cool Moist Grand Fir) vegetation groups as described in Appendix A emphasizing the large tree size class in all watersheds in the management area.
	Objective	1424	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
	Objective	1425	Where riparian vegetation is trending toward a climax community, restore early seral components to improve regeneration and diversity.
Botanical Resources	Objective	1426	Maintain or restore known populations and occupied habitats of TEPCS plant species, including Idaho douglasia, giant helleborine orchid, and Kellogg's bitterroot, to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
	Standard	1427	Implement the Forest Service approved portions of the conservation strategy for Idaho douglasia, to help maintain or restore populations or habitat of this species.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Non-native Plants	Objective	1428	Manage designated non-native, invasive weeds in an integrated approach, as specified in the Strategic and Annual Operating Plans established by the Upper Payette River Cooperative Weed Management Area Participants.
	Objective	1429	Improve big-game winter range by restoring the Mountain Big Sage and Montane Shrub vegetation groups. Emphasize increasing native plant forage by reducing noxious weeds.
Wildlife Resources	Objective	1430	Maintain or restore bald eagle wintering habitat along the Middle Fork Payette River corridor, with emphasis on retaining or increasing large tree and snag components.
	Objective	1469	Focus source habitat restoration activities within the Bulldog (5 th code HUC 1705012102) and Boiling Springs (5 th code HUC 1705012103) watersheds and 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. (<i>Refer to Conservation Principles 2 and 3 in Appendix E.</i>)
	Objective	1470	Reduce open road densities within the Bulldog (5 th code HUC 1705012102) and Boiling Springs (5 th code HUC 1705012103) watersheds and where it is determined that they limit use of source habitats by wildlife species identified as TEPC or R4 Regionally Sensitive. (<i>Refer to Conservation Principles 5 and 6 in Appendix E.</i>)
	Guideline	1471	Occupied white-headed woodpecker source habitat identified during project planning for vegetative management projects within the Bulldog (5 th code HUC 1705012102) and Boiling Springs (5 th code HUC 1705012103) watersheds should be maintained and adjacent patches should be developed to facilitate movement and dispersal of individuals. (<i>Refer to Conservation Principles 1, 4, and 5 in Appendix E.</i>)
	Objective	1431	Continue to coordinate with Boise County on grooming snowmobile trails to enhance winter recreation opportunities and experiences.
Recreation Resources	Objective	1432	Improve the snowmobile trailhead at Tie Creek to allow for additional parking and provide needed sanitation facilities.
	Objective	1433	Assess and mitigate impacts from dispersed and developed recreation sites on water quality along the Middle Fork Payette. Where recreation sites are adversely affecting riparian vegetation, restore vegetation by relocating or hardening sites, or other methods.
	Objective	1434	Re-construct Hardscrabble campgrounds to improve services and facilities while reducing impacts to riparian areas.
	Objective	1435	Identify opportunities throughout the area for development of new group camping and picnic sites and expansion of existing sites to provide for expected increases in group camping and picnicking use.
	Objective	1436	Develop a river management plan for the Middle Fork of the Payette River to identify opportunities to provide for increasing recreation use.
	Objective	1437	Identify and provide OHV opportunities on designated roads throughout the management area to enhance motorized recreation opportunities and experiences.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description																	
	Objective	1438	Monitor the effectiveness of dispersed recreation management efforts in the Silver Creek/Peace Valley area using photo points, dispersed site inventories and surveys, and visitor contacts. If efforts are determined to not be effective, develop a plan to further reduce resource impacts and increase visitor satisfaction.																	
	Objective	1439	Coordinate with the Lowman Ranger District to resolve inconsistent access management of the Lightning Ridge Trail.																	
	Objective	1440	Develop trail management plans to guide trail maintenance activities.																	
	Objective	1441	Evaluate the 6-mile project campsite to determine if use for group camping should be continued or if another use is more appropriate.																	
	Objective	1442	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from off-road ATV/motorbike use in the Pyle Creek, Scriber Creek, Anderson Creek, and Sixmile Creek subwatersheds. Consider annual weed inspection and treatment of trailheads, campgrounds, and other high-use areas; and posting educational notices in these areas to inform the public of areas that are highly susceptible to weed invasion and measures they can take to help prevent weed establishment and spread.																	
	Objective	1443	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from concentrated recreation and trail use in the Rocky Canyon subwatershed. Consider annual weed inspection and treatment of trailheads, campgrounds, and other high-use areas; and posting educational notices in these areas to inform the public of areas that are highly susceptible to weed invasion and measures they can take to help prevent weed establishment and spread.																	
Recreation Resources	Objective	1444	<p>Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="701 1115 1409 1331"> <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>Trace</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td> <td>36%</td> <td>99%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Natural</td> <td>8%</td> <td>1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Modified</td> <td>56%</td> <td>Trace</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%	Trace	Semi-Primitive Motorized	36%	99%	Roaded Natural	8%	1%	Roaded Modified	56%	Trace
ROS Class	Percent of Mgt. Area																			
	Summer	Winter																		
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	0%	Trace																		
Semi-Primitive Motorized	36%	99%																		
Roaded Natural	8%	1%																		
Roaded Modified	56%	Trace																		
Cultural Resources	Objective	1445	Maintain the National Register status of eligibly properties, including Rocky Canyon Hot Springs, Scott Mountain Lookout, and Deadwood Lookout. Monitor conditions of National Register eligible properties in the area, specifically prehistoric sites located along the river.																	
	Objective	1446	Conduct sample inventories to identify historic properties in the area, specifically along Lightning Ridge Trail and other known historic trails.																	
	Objective	1447	Nominate the Rocky Canyon archaeological site to the NRHP. Provide interpretation at Rocky Canyon Hot Springs that encourages the public to help protect the area's cultural history.																	
	Objective	1448	Develop a management plan to protect the historic character of Scott Mountain Lookout.																	

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Objective	1449	Develop a management plan to protect the historic character of the Deadwood Lookout. List the lookout on the Forest's cabin rental program, and provide visitors with interpretive materials about its association with Gallagher CCC Camp F-66.
Timberland Resources	Objective	1450	Manage stand density through thinning and other appropriate silvicultural treatments on suited timberlands to promote growth, to provide timber products, and to reduce hazards from uncharacteristic fire, insects, and diseases. Use thinning also to reduce the spread and intensification of dwarf mistletoe.
	Objective	1451	Reduce the opportunity for noxious weed establishment and spread by keeping suitable weed sites to a minimum during timber harvest activities in the Lower South Fork Payette, Danskin-Poorman, and Big Pine Creek subwatersheds. Consider such methods as designated skid trails, winter skidding, minimal fire line construction, broadcast burning rather than pile burning, or keeping slash piles small to reduce heat transfer to the soil.
	Guideline	1452	Existing noxious weed infestations should be treated on landings, skid trails, and helibases in the project area before timber harvest activities begin in the Lower South Fork Payette, Danskin-Poorman, and Big Pine Creek subwatersheds.
Rangeland Resources	Objective	1453	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from livestock grazing activities in the Sixmile Creek subwatershed. Consider changes in the timing, intensity, duration, or frequency of livestock use; the location of salting; and restoration of watering sites.
Fire Management	Objective	1454	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	1455	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	1456	Evaluate Lightning Creek ditch under Public Law 99-545 (commonly called the "Ditch Bill").
	Objective	1457	Develop a plan to reduce the backlog of known trespasses throughout the management area.
Facilities and Roads	Objective	1458	Reduce road-related impacts to wildlife, fish, soil, and water resources through road reconstruction and rehabilitation, or decommissioning, with emphasis on the Anderson Creek, Cow Creek, Wetfoot, Sixmile, and Scriver Creek drainages.
	Objective	1459	Pave Forest Road 698 along the Middle Fork Payette River to reduce maintenance costs and enhance visitor driving experiences.
	Objective	1460	Construct a vehicle turnaround at the Lightning Basin undeveloped trailhead, or sign the site to warn of "No Turnaround Past This Point".

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Objective	1461	<p>Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from road management activities in the Pyle Creek, Anderson Creek, and Sixmile Creek subwatersheds. Methods to consider include:</p> <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	Standard	1462	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
Middle Fork Payette River	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Trail Creek, Rattlesnake Campgrounds	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Tie Creek, Hardscrabble Campgrounds	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Roads 671, 698	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Trails 025, 029, 031, 032 035	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Trails 036, 038, 041, 099, 605	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM