



Management Area 15. Upper Middle Fork Payette River Location Map

Management Area 15 Upper Middle Fork Payette River

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 15 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
3.2 – Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, & Hydrologic Resources	1
4.1c – Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	80
5.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	19

General Location and Description - Management Area 15 is comprised of lands administered by the Boise National Forest in the upper portion of the Middle Fork Payette River drainage (see map, opposite page). The area lies in Valley County, and is part of the Emmett and Cascade Ranger Districts. The management area is an estimated 82,700 acres, with 20 acres of private inholdings. Lands administered by the Boise National Forest surround the area. The primary uses or activities in this management area has been dispersed and developed recreation.

Access - The main access to the area is by Forest Road 698 from Crouch to Boiling Springs, and by Forest Road 671 along Silver Creek. These roads are well maintained, and gravel and native-surfaced. The density of classified roads for the entire management area is an estimated 0.7 miles per square mile, and over half the area is roadless. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 0.1 and 1.3 miles per square mile. A good network of trails provides access to portions of the roadless areas.

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 two segments in this area, with classifications of Recreational and Wild. The Recreational segment is an estimated 1.4 miles, with a river corridor area of 438 acres. The Wild segment is an estimated 9 miles, with a river corridor area of 2,870 acres. The Middle Fork is considered eligible for Wild and Scenic River status because of its outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, and cultural resource values.

The Middle Fork Payette River and Silver Creek corridors are popular recreation areas that have a number of hot springs. Prominent landmarks in the area include Rice Peak, and Silver Creek Lookouts. Portions of the Peace Rock and Stony Meadows Roadless Areas comprise an estimated 80 percent of the management area. The Silver Creek Experimental Area, located in the headwaters area of Silver Creek, is 2,300 acres that was used to evaluate the environmental impacts of alternative timber harvesting and road construction practices on granitic soils of the Idaho Batholith. The experimental research has been concluded. The Eggers Creek RNA (325

acres) contains grand fir and Douglas-fir habitat types, and was a control area for Idaho Batholith research in the Silver Creek Experimental Area.

Air Quality - This management area lies within Montana/Idaho Airshed ID-15 and 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 4,000 feet on the Middle Fork Payette River to 8,696 feet atop Rice Peak. Management Area 15 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 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), with majority being moderate (see table below). Some locations have impacts from roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and recreation uses that have resulted in minor amounts of accelerated erosion, stream channel modification, and streambank degradation.

The management area is in the Upper Middle Fork Payette Watershed 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, Silver and Bull Creeks. There are no natural lakes or reservoirs in the management area, but there are many hot springs along the Middle Fork Payette River corridor. The Silver Creek subwatershed is part of the state-regulated public water system for the community around Crouch. Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from high (functioning appropriately) to moderate (functioning at risk), with the majority being moderate (see table below). Some locations have localized impacts from roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and recreation use that have increased sedimentation. High levels of natural sediment in the area exacerbate these impacts. There are no water bodies listed as impaired under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act; however, 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			
2	2	0	1	3	0	1	3	0	0	4	1

Anadromous fish species no longer exist within area streams due to downstream dams that block their migration routes to and from the ocean. Federally listed bull trout are present in Bull, Sixteen-to-One, and the Upper Middle Fork streams. Silver Creek provides potential spawning and rearing habitat, and the Middle Fork Payette River serves as an important over-wintering and migratory corridor for this Threatened species. Redband and native cutthroat trout are not known to presently occur in this area. Aquatic habitat is functioning at risk due to accelerated sediment from localized roads, timber management, and recreation use. Native fish populations are at risk due to the presence of non-native fish species and water quality and habitat impacts described above. The Bull Creek and Upper Middle Fork Payette River subwatersheds have been identified as important to the recovery of listed fish species, and as high-priority areas for restoration.

Vegetation—Vegetation at lower elevations is typically grasslands and shrublands, with 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 9 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 (15 percent), Dry Grand Fir (7 percent), Cool Moist Grand Fir (20 percent), Persistent Lodgepole Pine (17 percent), and Warm Dry Subalpine Fir (19 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 in some locations due primarily to fire exclusion that has altered stand composition and structure. In managed areas, which make up a small portion of the management area, 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. The Boiling Springs watershed (5th code HUC 1705012103) is a 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 vegetation is functioning at risk in some locations due to impacts from past timber harvest, roads, and recreation use. Noxious weeds and introduced plant species are increasing.

Botanical Resources – Idaho Douglasia, a Region 4 Sensitive species, is known from 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 - Few noxious weeds and exotic plants have been found within the management area. An estimated 31 percent of the management area has high susceptibility to invasion by noxious weeds and exotic plants. The main weeds of concern are spotted knapweed, rush skeletonweed, and Canada thistle.

The Silver Creek subwatershed has an inherently high risk of weed establishment and spread. 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 recreation and trail use in this area.

Wildlife Resources—The lower elevations provide nesting and foraging habitat for white-headed woodpeckers and flammulated owls. 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, wolves and mountain lion. All habitats provide nesting and foraging habitat for migratory landbirds. Terrestrial wildlife habitat is functioning at risk due to minimal habitat changes from fire exclusion, minor fragmentation from roads and timber harvest, and low to moderate disturbance from recreation uses. The Upper Middle Fork Payette watershed (5th code HUC 1705012104) has been identified as important to the sustainability of Forest sensitive species and other native wildlife affected by human uses on the landscape. This watershed is identified as a short-term high priority area for subsequent site-specific investigations at a finer scale. This same watershed has lower elevation habitat that has been identified as important to the sustainability of Forest sensitive species and other native wildlife utilizing large tree and old forest habitat with low canopy conditions. As such, it is a short-term high-priority area for maintenance and restoration treatments of old forest habitat.

Recreation Resources - Recreation in the Peace Rock Roadless Area is predominantly undeveloped and trail-oriented, with both motorized and non-motorized opportunities, and high visual sensitivity. The road corridors of the Middle Fork Payette River and Silver Creek have three developed campgrounds and offer dispersed recreation in the form of hunting, fishing, camping, snowmobiling, and driving for pleasure. Motorcycle use on area trails is fairly heavy. The Boiling Springs Guard Station is a Forest Service Rental Cabin that can be reserved from May through October. Most users in this 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.

Cultural Resources - Cultural themes in this area include Prehistoric Archaeology, Ranching, Mining, Forest Service History, CCC, Timber, and Recreation. The Upper Middle Fork Payette River and its tributaries were popular transportation corridors affording Indians easy access to the South Fork Salmon River drainage, including areas like Warm Lake and Pen Basin. The hot springs in the area were especially attractive to Indians and weary stockmen wanting a hot bath. Sheep grazing was the dominant historical use of this area, especially in Peace Valley, and the primary concern of early Forest rangers at Boiling Springs and Silver Creek Guard Stations, established in 1906. The Forest Service conducted the first range management studies on the Forest in Peace Valley from 1911 to 1914. Occasionally miners prospected in the area. The most serious mineral development occurred at Silver Creek Plunge beginning in 1917. During the 1930s, CCC troops constructed Silver Creek Lookout, new buildings at the guard stations, and campgrounds in Peace Valley. Commercial export logging in this area began in the 1950s, and used innovative techniques such as hot air balloons. In 1959, the Forest Service and Intermountain Research Station selected Peace Valley as a watershed research area to study the effects of logging in the Idaho batholith. It was during this time that private owners developed Silver Creek Plunge as recreational hot springs resort.

Timberland Resources—Of the estimated 70,300 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 11,700 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 2 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 2.2, 3.2 and 4.1c are identified as not suited for timber production. The level timber management has been relatively high in the small portion of roaded areas and low elsewhere. Forest products such as fuelwood, posts, and poles are collected in designated areas. The Silver Creek Experimental Area has been used to evaluate environmental impacts of timber harvesting and road construction practices on granitic soils.

Rangeland Resources - This area has a portion of one active sheep allotment. Management Area 15 provides an estimated 12,300 acres of capable rangeland. These acres represent about 3 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 and Silver Creek corridors. Potential for other leasable minerals and common variety mineral materials is unknown.

Fire Management—Prescribed fire has been used to reduce activity-generated fuels. Over the past 20 years, there have been approximately 180 fire starts in the management area, over 90 percent of which are caused by lightning. This management area has the third highest number of fire starts relative to its size, likely due to its proximity to storms coming up from the south and west and the complex topography relative to the flow of weather. Thirty percent of the management area has been affected by wildland fire since 1988, mostly from fires in 2006 and 2007. This management area is in the Forest's wildland fire use planning area. There are no National Fire Plan communities in the area, but the Silver Creek Plunge area is considered a wildland-urban interface area due to private development adjacent to the Forest. Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be: 19 percent lethal, 53 percent mixed¹ or 2, and 28

percent non-lethal. An estimated 25 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, 34 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	1501	Manage the Middle Fork Payette River eligible river corridor to its classification standards, and preserve its outstandingly remarkable values 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	1577	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
	Vegetation Guideline	1502	In Recreational corridors, mechanical vegetation treatments, including salvage harvest, may be used as long as ORVs are maintained within the river corridor.
	Fire Guideline	1503	Prescribed fire and wildland fire use may be used as long as ORVs are maintained within the corridor.
	Fire Guideline	1504	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	1505	Mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use 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.

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
	Road Standard	1506	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	1507	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 3.2 Active Restoration and Maintenance of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Watershed Resources	General Standard	1508	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	1509	Vegetation restoration or maintenance treatments—including wildland fire use, mechanical, and prescribed fire—may only occur where they: 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	1578	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	1510	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 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	1511	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	1512	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, wildland fire use, 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	1579	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	1513	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	1514	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	1580	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	1515	The full range of vegetation treatment activities may be used to restore or maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. The available vegetation treatment activities include wildland fire use. Salvage harvest may also occur.
	Vegetation Guideline	1581	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	1516	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	1517	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	1582	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 Standard	1518	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
	Fire Guideline	1519	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
	Fire Guideline	1520	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	1521	Identify stream ford crossings to close to reduce erosion, stabilize stream banks, and improve water quality and fish habitat.
	Objective	1522	Identify restoration activities through mid- or project-scale analysis to reduce management-related sediment.
	Objective	1523	Restore riparian conditions, such as bank stability and deep-rooted vegetation, where degraded in lower-gradient stream reaches.
	Objective	1524	Maintain or improve bull trout habitat within Bull Creek and the Upper Middle Fork Payette River subwatersheds to help promote recovery of this species.
	Objective	1525	Provide for connectivity of bull trout and other native fish populations in Silver Creek and Bridge Creek by removing fish passage barriers.
	Objective	1526	Continue to work with partners such as Trout Unlimited to improve fish habitat in Silver Creek by such measures as adding large woody debris to create pool habitat.
	Objective	1527	Maintain or improve headwater stream spawning and rearing habitat for native fish.
	Objective	1528	Continue to coordinate and collaborate with the State of Idaho Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) and other partners in implementing the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements for the Middle Fork of the Payette River.
	Objective	1529	Adjust management practices as needed in the Stoney Meadows area to reduce impacts to the meadows and provide for desired wetlands conditions.
Vegetation	Objective	1530	Restore 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 the Boiling Springs watershed (5 th code HUC 1705012103).

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Objective	1531	Deleted, as part of 2010 Forest Plan amendment for WCS.
	Objective	1532	Reduce conifer density into meadow complexes to restore meadow conditions, with emphasis in the Stoney Meadows area.
	Objective	1533	Restore and maintain riparian vegetation along Silver Creek to improve water quality, wildlife habitat, and the recreational setting. Where riparian vegetation is trending towards a climax community, restore early seral components to improve regeneration and diversity.
Botanical Resources	Objective	1534	Maintain or restore known populations and occupied habitats of TEPCS plant species, including Idaho douglasia, to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
	Standard	1535	Implement the Forest Service approved portions of the conservation strategy for Idaho douglasia to maintain or restore populations and habitat of this species.
Non-native Plants	Objective	1536	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.
Wildlife Resources	Objective	1537	Provide for east/west habitat connectivity corridors to improve security for big game.
	Objective	1583	Focus source habitat restoration activities within the Upper Middle Fork Payette watershed (5 th code HUC 1705012104) 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	1584	Determine whether winter recreation activities are impacting wolverine during the critical winter denning period within the Upper Middle Fork Payette priority watershed (5 th code HUC 1705012104). (<i>Refer to Conservation Principle 6 in Appendix E.</i>)
	Guideline	1585	Occupied white-headed woodpecker source habitat identified during project planning for vegetative management projects within the Upper Middle Fork Payette watershed (5 th code HUC 1705012104) 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>)
Recreation Resources	Objective	1538	Continue to coordinate with Boise County, Valley County, and Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation on the grooming of snowmobile trails to maintain winter recreation opportunities.
	Objective	1539	Improve Bull Creek, Liggett Creek, Sixteen-to-one Creek, Middle Fork, Fool Creek, and Middle Fork Cutoff Trails to reduce sediment delivery to streams.
	Objective	1540	Provide opportunities for off-road motorized travel that are not detrimental to resources. Identify and develop off-road motorized use opportunities, where appropriate, on the west side of Silver Creek to enhance motorized recreation opportunities.
	Objective	1541	Evaluate cross-country travel routes to Curtis Lake to determine if rehabilitation measures are needed to reduce dispersed recreation impacts to soil, water, and fisheries resources. If rehabilitation measures are needed, analyze alternatives and implement appropriate management actions to reduce recreation impacts.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
	Objective	1542	Where dispersed recreation is degrading riparian vegetation in Silver Creek, restore sites by relocating, hardening, or other methods.
	Objective	1543	Complete a dispersed recreation management plan that provides for dispersed recreation opportunities that minimize impacts to riparian zones, including heavy use areas in the backcountry.
	Objective	1544	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	1545	Improve facilities at the Silver Creek Plunge campground by constructing new toilets and fire rings to improve sanitation facilities, accessibility, and to reduce impacts to other resources.
	Objective	1546	Reconstruct Silver Creek campground to focus visitor camping further from Silver Creek, to improve camping facilities, and to provide additional camping opportunities in the Silver Creek area.
	Objective	1547	Continue to operate Silver Creek Plunge Campground in conjunction with the Silver Creek Plunge Resort.
	Objective	1548	Reconstruct the Boiling Springs Campground to reduce impacts to aquatic and riparian resources of the Middle Fork of the Payette River, as well as to enhance visitor experiences.
	Objective	1549	Provide a potable water system, an accessible trail to the river, and accessible toilet facilities at the Boiling Springs Guard Station rental cabin to improve recreation experiences for cabin renters.
	Objective	1550	Improve trailheads for the Middle Fork, Silver Creek Summit, and Long Fork of Silver Creek trails by expanding parking, constructing loading ramps and providing sanitation facilities where needed to enhance trail experiences.
	Objective	1551	Relocate portions of the Silver Creek Summit and Bull Creek trails to avoid wet areas and reduce maintenance needs.
	Objective	1552	Evaluate the need and location of the Middle Fork Trail from Fool Creek Trail bridge to the Middle Fork Road bridge.
	Objective	1553	Maintain foot travel access to hot springs on the Middle Fork of the Payette River.
	Objective	1554	Develop trail management plans to guide trail maintenance activities.
	Recreation Resources	Objective	1555
Objective		1556	Work with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation to develop solutions to reducing ATV intrusion on the Peace Creek Trail.
Objective		1557	Continue use of the Egger Creek recreation residence.
Objective		1558	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from concentrated recreation and trail use in the Silver Creek 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.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description																	
	Objective	1559	<p>Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy:</p> <table border="1"> <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>1%</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td> <td>63%</td> <td>98%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Natural</td> <td>12%</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roaded Modified</td> <td>24%</td> <td>2%</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	1%	0%	Semi-Primitive Motorized	63%	98%	Roaded Natural	12%	0%	Roaded Modified	24%	2%
ROS Class	Percent of Mgt. Area																			
	Summer	Winter																		
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	1%	0%																		
Semi-Primitive Motorized	63%	98%																		
Roaded Natural	12%	0%																		
Roaded Modified	24%	2%																		
Cultural Resources	Objective	1560	Maintain the National Register status of eligible properties, including the Peace Valley archaeological site, Silver Creek Lookout, and Boiling Springs and Silver Creek Guard Stations.																	
	Objective	1561	Conduct an inventory to identify historic trails and properties contributing to a heritage trails system, specifically in the Clear Creek Summit and Stony Meadow areas. Provide interpretive materials for the public using these trails.																	
	Objective	1562	Monitor the conditions of National Register eligible properties in the area, specifically prehistoric sites in high use areas along the Middle Fork Payette River and Silver Creek.																	
	Objective	1563	Nominate Silver Creek Lookout, Boiling Springs GS, and Silver Creek Guard Station to the NRHP, and develop maintenance plans to protect the historic character of these facilities.																	
	Objective	1564	Provide interpretation for visitors using the Boiling Springs Guard Station, which is on the Forest's cabin rental program.																	
Tribal Rights And Interests	Objective	1565	Continue operating under and update as needed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Nez Perce Tribe.																	
Timberland Resources	Objective	1566	Reduce the hazard from uncharacteristic wildfire and insect epidemics, with emphasis on forestlands supporting ponderosa pine.																	
	Objective	1567	Emphasize stocking control and fuels reduction in plantations on suited timberlands.																	
Rangeland Resources	Objective	1568	Reduce or eliminate livestock/developed recreation conflicts, particularly around developed recreation areas.																	
Fire Management	Objective	1569	Identify areas appropriate for wildland fire use, focusing on Inventoried Roadless Areas. Use wildland fire to restore or maintain vegetative desired conditions or to reduce fuel loadings. Develop and prioritize vegetation treatment plans for wildland-urban interface in coordination with local and tribal governments, agencies, and landowners.																	
	Objective	1570	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	1571	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.																	

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Facilities and Roads	Objective	1572	Reduce sediment from the Bridge Creek Road (676) to reduce impacts to water quality and fish habitat.
	Objective	1573	Evaluate closing or decommissioning Forest Road 671I road on the south side of Silver Creek to prevent motorized vehicles from crossing the creek.
	Objective	1574	Upgrade Forest Road 671 from Trail Creek over to Silver Creek. Consider paving this road.
	Objective	1575	Remove all unneeded facilities and other research-installed improvements at the Silver Creek Watershed Research Project site to reduce resource concerns.
Scenic Environment	Standard	1576	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
Boiling Springs rental cabin/hot springs	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Silver Creek, Boiling Springs Campgrounds	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Roads 671, 678	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Silver Creek Lookout	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
East Mountain Lookout	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Trails 028, 032, 033, 034, 044, 077, 078, 099, 102, 104, 110, 605	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Trails 078, 101, 106, 107, 110 within HU 170501210401	2	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	MM
Forest Road 409	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Middle Fork Payette River (Railroad Pass to Road 409 crossing)	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Middle Fork Payette River (Boiling Springs area to Road 409 crossing)	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M