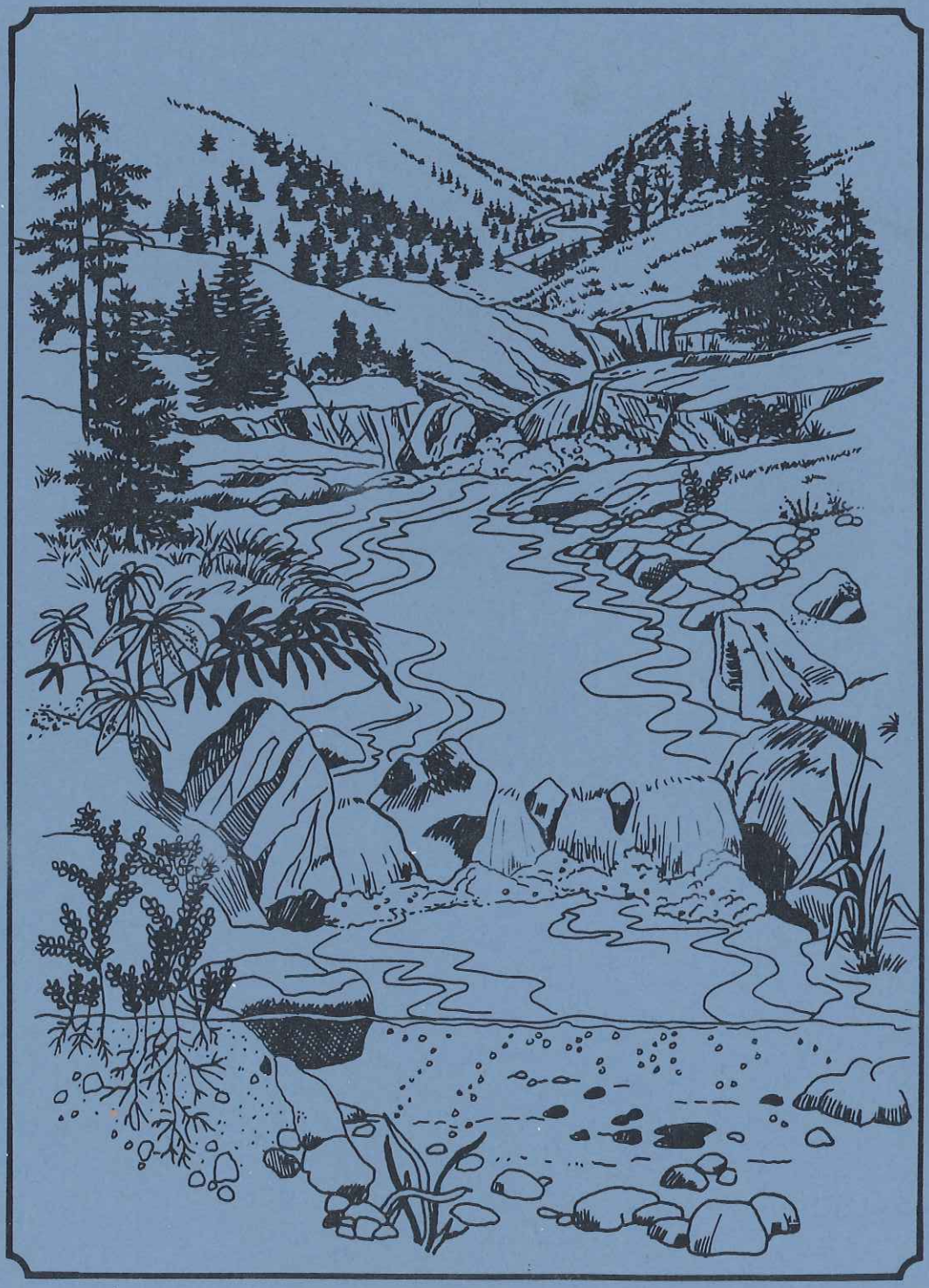
United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

Nez Perce National Forest Plan

Eighth Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Report



Fiscal Year 1995

Forest Supervisor

September 1996

Dear Reader:

The Nez Perce National Forest Plan was finalized in October 1987. It charted a new course for managing the Forest for 10 to 15 years. It is our contract with you, the people we serve and the owners of the Forest, to manage the outstanding resources of the Nez Perce National Forest in an integrated, sustainable, ecologically sound manner so we can achieve a balance of uses.

The phrase "caring for the land and serving people" embodies the spirit of the Forest Service Mission. The spirited employees of the Nez Perce National Forest are committed to a deeply rooted land and service ethic. We strive to maintain ecosystem health and meet people's needs for uses, values, products and services, now and in the future.

We are seven years into the implementation of our Forest Plan. We recognize that some conditions have changed since 1987. This Eighth Nez Perce National Forest Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Report highlights our progress.

You will notice that the Fisheries Section is missing from this year's Report. Unanticipated employee transfers left us short-handed at a critical time and we were unable to complete the section. The fisheries monitoring updates for fiscal year 1995 will be included in next year's Monitoring Report planned for release in the early summer 1997.

We invite you to review and comment on this Report, your ideas are important to us.

As many of you are aware, over the past two years, the Nez Perce Forest has provided data and information in support of the large-scale assessment of the Upper Columbia River Basin. This assessment of past and current resource condition on USFS and BLM lands will cover the entire State of Idaho, western Montana, and a small part of Nevada and Wyoming. The process will culminate in an EIS and Record of Decision for this area. The draft-EIS is expected to be released soon. We will to keep you informed of the progress of this effort as it continues. Modification of forest plans and land management plans will likely result from this effort.

As always, we encourage you to work with us to improve our land stewardship responsibilities. Please feel free to call, visit, or write us anytime.

Sincerely,

COY G. JEMMETT
Forest Supervisor

INFORMATION REQUESTS/COMMENTS

Information requests or comments about the Nez Perce National Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan and or Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Report can be directed to one of the following offices:

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White Bird, ID 83554
(208) 839-2211
TTY: (208) 839-2328

Clearwater Ranger District
Route 2, Box 475
Grangeville, ID 83530
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Red River Ranger District
Box 23, Red River Route
Elk City, ID 83525
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Moose Creek/Selway Ranger Districts
HC 75, Box 91
Kooskia, ID 83539
(208) 926-4258
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Elk City Ranger District
Elk City, ID 83525
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FOREST PLAN MONITORING AND EVALUATION REPORT

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST

FISCAL YEAR 1995

I. INTRODUCTION

The Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) for the Nez Perce National Forest was approved by the Regional Forester on October 8, 1987. In it, a commitment was made to monitor and evaluate how well the Forest Plan is being implemented. Monitoring and evaluation comprise the management control system, and the results of monitoring and evaluation provide the line officer and the public with information on the progress and results of implementing the Forest Plan.

A commitment was also made to consider modifications to the Forest Plan based on the monitoring and evaluation findings. Monitoring and evaluation each have a distinctly different purpose and scope.

Monitoring is gathering information/data and observing the results of management activities to provide a basis for periodic evaluation of the Forest Plan. There are three types of monitoring:

- **Implementation Monitoring** [1] is used to determine if goals, objectives, standards, and management practices are implemented as detailed in the Forest Plan. The question being asked is: "Did we do what we said we were going to do?"

- **Effectiveness Monitoring** is used to determine if management practices as designed and executed are effective in meeting Forest Plan standards, goals, and objectives. The question being asked in this type of monitoring is: "Did the management practice do what we wanted it to do?"

- **Validation Monitoring** is used to determine whether the data, assumptions, and coefficients used in the development of the Forest Plan are correct. The question being asked here is: "Is there a better way to meet Forest Plan goals and objectives?"

Evaluation is the analysis and interpretation of monitoring results. Evaluation will assist in the review of the conditions on the land covered by the Forest Plan as required at least every 5 years by the National Forest Management Act Regulations. Actions resulting from evaluation are reported in the Plan Amendments and Action Items (Appendix) sections of this report.

Monitoring and evaluation focus on those facets of land and resource management which could most critically affect Forest Plan implementation. Monitoring elements include:

- items on which implementation may have a potentially significant effect;
- items where achievement of a relevant goal or objective is going to be difficult;
- items where projected effects may or may not occur as predicted;
- items where accomplishment of an objective or meeting of a standard determines the ability to achieve another goal or objective.

[1] In this report, implementation monitoring is the type of monitoring assumed unless otherwise specified.

Forest Plan management activities were monitored and evaluated as outlined in the Forest Plan Monitoring Requirements section of the Forest Plan, pages 6 and 7, Table V-1, and Appendix O to determine how well objectives were met and how closely management standards were applied. Informal and formal field reviews were also conducted on a variety of projects during fiscal year 1995. These are documented in various ways, including daily diaries, file notes, and letters. These reviews are often conducted as routine inspections of timber sales, road contracts, mining operations, or while planning or implementing other projects. A summary of the key field reviews can be seen in Section II-D...Other Monitoring.

This report summarizes results of Forest Plan monitoring and evaluation conducted from October 1, 1994, through September 30, 1995. In some instances, it is difficult to determine how well the Forest Plan objective, outputs, and standards are being met. For some items, data is insufficient to evaluate trends. We are continuing to develop methodologies for data acquisition and interpretation useful for evaluation.

This report is organized into six main sections following the Introduction. Section II compares outputs and services planned to those accomplished and discusses the results of monitoring each item. Section II is subdivided by resource emphasis...ie. wildlife, timber, recreation etc. Section III identifies research needs. Section IV summarizes amendments made to the Forest Plan as of September 30, 1995. Section V lists those people who contributed to the preparation of this Report. Following Section VI, the Forest Supervisor Approval, is the Appendix to this report which lists references and status of progress on past action items.

II. MONITORING AND EVALUATION RESULTS AND TRENDS

A. Were Outputs and Services Provided as Predicted

Table 1 compares amounts of activities and outputs projected in the Forest Plan (Page II-9, Table II-1) with assigned targest for these schedules of work, and with actual accomplishments for these activities and outputs for the last three fiscal years 1993-1995.

Project outputs and activities published in the Forest Plan (Page II-9, Table II-1) are shown in the columns labeled "Original Forest Plan Projection."

Targets are amounts of work assigned to the Forest by the Regional Forester and have been adjusted from projected levels in the Forest Plan to reflect actual funding levels.

Accomplishments show the amount of work actually completed in each fiscal year.

Even though the reporting period for some monitoring items may be two or more years, information from all monitoring items is reported annually. This annual monitoring data will be evaluated at the end of the stated reporting period.

Table 1 - COMPARISON OF OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES WITH THOSE PROJECTED IN THE FOREST PLAN

Output or Activity	Units [1]	Original Forest Plan Projection [2]	Fiscal Year 1993		Fiscal Year 1994		Fiscal Year 1995	
			Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]
RECREATION								
Developed/Dispersed Use	PAOT Days	---	519,000	437,000	185,000	185,000	185,000	185,000
Cultural Resource Inventory	Acres	8,000	---	2,290	---	3,429	---	7,044
WILDLIFE & FISH								
Wildlife Habitat Improvement:								
Non-Structural:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	5,000	1,150	690	1,500	1,175	600	600
Using KV Funds	Acres	---	---	0	---	63	---	117
Using Challenge Cost Share	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
Structural:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Structures	---	---	0	15	15	5	5
Using KV Funds	Structures	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
Wildlife Inventory:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	---	30,000	38,100	15,000	15,000	16,000	16,680
Using KV Funds	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
Using Challenge Cost Share	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	---	100
Fish Habitat Improvement (Inland & Anadromous) Non-Structural:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	50	135	91	147	136	28 miles*	26 miles*
Using KV Funds	Acres	---	---	0	---	9	N/A	N/A
Using Challenge Cost Share	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	N/A	N/A
Fish Habitat Improvement (Inland & Anadromous) Structural:								
T30 Appropriated Funds	Structures	350	135	56	60	60	N/A	N/A
T33 KV Funds	Structures	---	---	0	---	100	N/A	N/A
Challenge Cost-Share	Structures	---	---	0	---	0	N/A	N/A
Fish Inventory (Inland & Anad):								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	---	697	741	542	542	200	318
Using KV Funds	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
Using Challenge Cost Share	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
T&E Species Habitat Improvement Non-Structural:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	64	50	50	200	200	1,200	1,250
Using KV Funds	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
T&E Species Habitat Improvement Structural:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Structures	---	---	0	10	11	4	4
Using KV Funds	Structures	---	---	15	---	0	---	0
Using Challenge Cost Share	Structures	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
T&E Species Inventory:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	---	4,000	4,000	45,000	46,600	20,000	20,980
Using KV Funds	Acres	---	---	---	---	0	---	0
Using Challenge Cost Share	Acres	---	---	10,600	---	0	---	0

*In FY95, fish habitat improvement accomplishments were changed. They are now reflected in a single parameter...miles and are all accomplished with appropriated funds.

Table 1 - COMPARISON OF OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES WITH THOSE PROJECTED IN THE FOREST PLAN (continued)

			Fiscal Year 1993		Fiscal Year 1994		Fiscal Year 1995	
Output or Activity	Units [1]	Original Forest Plan Projection [2]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]
RANGE								
Permitted Grazing Use	AUM	43,000	30,700	28,900	31,500	27,500	30,750	27,750
Range Improvement:								
Non-Structural	Acres	500	96	114	80	80	95	96
Structural	Structures	---	7	10	30	29	42	40
Allotment Management Plans	Plans	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
Noxious Weed Control	Acres	250	136	140	270	270	250	373
SOIL & WATER								
Soil & Water Resource Improvement:								
Using Excess Timber Receipts	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	---	0
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	320	170	244	251	243	365	318
Using KV Funds	Acres	---	---	6	---	6	---	70
Soil Inventory	Acres	---	33,000	70,000	44,000	47,900	50,000	50,000
MINERALS								
Minerals Management	Actions [5]	500	400	718	232	269	--- **	129

** Note: In FY 95, the minerals program was not assigned a "target" and the reporting requirements Changed. Therefore, accomplishment in FY 95 cannot be compared to previous years.

Table 1 - COMPARISON OF OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES WITH THOSE PROJECTED IN THE FOREST PLAN (continued)

Output or Activity	Units [1]	Original Forest Plan Projection [2]	Fiscal Year 1993		Fiscal Year 1994		Fiscal Year 1995	
			Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]
TIMBER								
Acres Harvested:								
Clearcut	Acres	---	---	1,650	---	1,718	---	444
Shelterwood or Seed Tree Cut	Acres	---	---	615	---	836	---	557
Shelterwood, Seed Tree, Removal or Final Cut	Acres	---	---	22	---	722	---	158
Commercial Thin	Acres	---	---	127	---	93	---	94
Selection	Acres	---	---	0	---	17	---	0
Other	Acres	---	---	0	---	907	---	210
Acres Sold:								
Clearcut	Acres	1,710	---	371	---	0	---	323
Shelterwood or Seed Tree Cut	Acres	2,705	---	1,384	---	0	---	249
Shelterwood, Seed Tree, Removal/ or Final Cut	Acres	130	---	608	---	355	---	0
Commercial Thin	Acres	100	---	0	---	38	---	42
Selection	Acres	125	---	45	---	0	---	0
Other	Acres	---	---	574	---	606	---	92
Volume Offered [6] (Total Volume)	MMBF	108	66	34	66	10.1	50	4.5
Volume Offered (Salvage Volume)	MMBF	---	34	26	34	10.1	27	3.2
Volume Offered (Non-Salvage)	MMBF	---	32	8	32	0	23	1.3
Advanced Prep (NEPA Decisions)	MMBF	---	66	20	66	1	---	9
Silvicultural Exams:	Acres	109,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
(Silvicultural Exam)	Acres	---	---	17,236	---	11,160	---	22,397
(Compartment Field Exams)	Acres	---	---	881	---	2,226	---	3,217
Reforestation:								
Planting:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	860	1,095	1,296	1,095	701	1,139	1,234
Using KV Funds	Acres	3,200	2,023	1,976	2,023	2,951	4,336	4,194
Site Prep - Natural:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	80	---	0	---	103	---	0
Using KV Funds	Acres	1,100	61	64	61	338	2,613	2,511
Timber Stand Improvement:								
Using Appropriated Funds	Acres	700	696	870	696	706	1,187	904
Using KV Funds	Acres	300	350	494	350	148	157	157
Using Excess Timber Receipts	Acres	---	---	0	---	0	---	0

Table 1 - COMPARISON OF OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES WITH THOSE PROJECTED IN THE FOREST PLAN (continued)

Output or Activity	Units [1]	Original Forest Plan Projection [2]	Fiscal Year 1993		Fiscal Year 1994		Fiscal Year 1995	
			Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]	Targets [3]	Accomplishment [4]
PROTECTION								
Fuels Management Activity and Natural Fuels	Acres	1,060	1,500	1,613	3,159	2,439	2,305	1,928
Fuels Management-Brush Disposal	Acres	3,590	2,200	3,328	3,644	3,978	2,890	3,106
LANDS								
Land Exchange	Acres	25	117	117	118	43	118	124
Special Uses	Cases	---	0	163	---	0	---	0
FACILITIES								
Landline Location	Miles	---	14	14	14	13	13	12
Trail Construction/Reconstruction	Miles	20	16	16	16	28	45	39
Trail Maintenance Levels I - III	Miles	---	1,623	1,715	1,623	1,731	1,700	1,978
Capital Investment Roads	Miles	---	0	0	0	0.6	0	1.2
Timber Purchaser Credit Roads	Miles	---	0	47	0	18	0	8.5
Road Maintenance:								
Level I	Miles	779	1,050	537	1,050	1,715	---	1,710
Level 2	Miles	579	781	200	781	1,001	---	996
Level 3-5	Miles	692	932	400	932	939	---	927
Total	Miles	2,050	2,763	1,137	2,763	3,655	2,763	3,635
Road Construction:								
Arterial	Miles	3	---	0	---	0	---	0
Collector	Miles	24	---	2	---	0	---	0
Local	Miles	26	---	28	---	14	---	8.5
TOTAL	Miles	53	---	30	---	14	---	8.5
Road Reconstruction:								
Arterial	Miles	2	---	10	---	0	---	0
Collector	Miles	13	---	63	---	0	---	0
Local	Miles	15	---	4	---	5	---	1.2
TOTAL	Miles	30	---	77	--	5	---	1.2
Access Management: *								
Permanently Closed	Miles	33	---	0	---	2	---	193
Unrestricted	Miles	17	---	0	---	0	---	1,141
Restricted	Miles	33	---	30	---	18	---	2,299
TOTAL	Miles	83	---	30	---	20	---	3,633

* Note: For FY 95 and beyond, access/travel management reporting units will be total miles (forestwide) in each of the 3 categories, rather than new miles added or subtracted from each category as were reported in the past.

Footnotes for Table 1

[1] Unit Abbreviations

PAOT Days	persons at one time
MAUM	thousand animal unit months
MMBF	million board feet

[2] Projections originally published in the Forest Plan.

[3] Forest Target for this fiscal year. Targets for grazing use are the same as permitted capacity.

[4] Actual units accomplished during this fiscal year. Accomplishments reported for grazing use are actual use. Actual use may be less than capacity for the convenience of the permittee.

[5] Includes administrative actions to process and administer operating plans, Notices of Intent, leases, and permits, as well as site-specific evaluations, hearings, and appeals.

[6] Timber Volume Offered includes all chargeable (i.e. counting towards Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ)) and non-chargeable volume offered for sale during the fiscal year. Timber Volume Offered also includes sales that received no bids. Volume offered counts toward the Forest's financed sell target while volume sold counts toward allowable sale quantity.

B. Are the Dollars and Workforce Costs of the Plan Implemented as Expected

Significant changes in the outyear budget restructuring process occurred this year, such as new budget line items for ecosystem management, timber sale activities, reforestation, and an increase in the number of activity codes and accomplishment output items. This has necessitated a change in the way the FY95 budget allocation and expenditure tables are displayed.

Table 2 shows the amount of funds allocated to the Forest and expended by the Forest for the last three fiscal Years 1993 through 1995.

Table 3 - "Forest Plan Funding Needs", displays the FY 96 projected Forest budget using the new funding description breakdowns described above.

Dollars have been adjusted to constant 1995 values for Tables 2 and 3.

Throughout this report various types of funding are mentioned. Much of the forest's funding is obtained directly through Congressional appropriations. Additional funding comes from trust funds that include deposits made to the Forest Service by timber purchasers and range permittees to cover the cost of resource protection. Other funds are derived through partnerships with other organizations and private parties on a cost share or matching fund basis.The following sections describe these different funding types.

Appropriated Funds for National Forest System Lands

These are dollars appropriated by Congress to provide for the protection, management, and utilization of National Forest lands.

Range Betterment Funds

The range betterment program on National Forest lands is financed by a portion of grazing fee receipts. Fifty percent of grazing fee receipts are returned to the Forest to fund the installation of structural and nonstructural range improvements such as seeding, fence construction, weed control, water development, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement. It is Regional policy that the range permittee cooperates by splitting the costs of labor and supplies. Often, the permittee cooperates in these activities by supplying the labor needed to implement and maintain the improvements.

Permanent & Trust Funds

Brush Disposal (BD)

After timber harvest operations, it is often necessary to dispose of brush and logging slash to protect and maintain National Forest resources. Timber sale contracts require that the timber purchaser complete this work when economical or expedient, or make a deposit to cover the cost when it is more practical for the Forest Service to complete the brush disposal work.

Timber Salvage Sales

Timber Salvage Sale funds are used for the design, engineering, and supervision of road construction for salvage sales and for sale preparation and administration of salvage timber harvest. These funds are used to salvage insect infested, dead, damaged, or down timber, and to remove associated trees for tree improvement. Part of the receipts from timber salvage sales are deposited in this account and used to prepare and administer future salvage sales.

Cooperative Work, Knutson-Vandenberg (KV) Funds

These are funds deposited by timber purchasers and used primarily for reforestation, timber stand improvement, and other resource activities to improve the future productivity of the renewable resources on timber sale areas.

Cooperative Work, Other (CWFS-Other) Funds

CWFS-Other funds are derived from deposits received from cooperators for protecting and improving resources as authorized by trust agreements. These deposits are used for the construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of roads, trails, and other improvements, and for timber scaling services, fire protection, and other resource purposes. Cooperative road maintenance deposits are made by commercial users of the forest road system in lieu of actually performing their commensurate share of road maintenance. These deposits are used in conjunction with the Congressionally appropriated road maintenance funds to provide maintenance of system roads by the Forest Service.

Excess Timber Sale Receipts

These are monies that result from timber sale receipts (revenues) exceeding the amounts budgeted by Congress. Congress appropriates funds to cover resource management costs. Occasionally revenues exceed the amount initially budgeted. Congress has then given this excess to the Forests to accomplish additional resource management projects not accomplished with the initial appropriations. Excess timber sale receipts can be used for trail maintenance, trail construction, wildlife and fish habitat management, soil, water, and air management, cultural resource management, wilderness management, reforestation, and timber sale administration and management. The forest has not received any of this type of funding in several years.

Challenge Cost Share Dollars

Challenge Cost Share agreements are federal funds matched by various States, and private-nonprofit organizations to jointly develop, plan and implement projects to enhance specific resource improvement activities. These funds are currently permitted for use in recreation, wildlife and fish cost-share programs.

Table 2 - COMPARISON OF PROJECTED FUNDING LEVELS, ALLOCATIONS, AND EXPENDITURES

Funding Description	Fiscal Year 1993		Fiscal Year 1994		Fiscal Year 1995	
	Allocation (M 1995$)	Expenditures (M 1995$)	Allocation (M 1995$)	Expenditures (M 1995$)	Allocation (M 1995$)	Expenditures (M 1995$)
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	1,807	1,776	1,815	1,748	1,365	1,310
RECREATION, TRAIL MTC., WILDERNESS & HERITAGE RESOURCES	1,425	1,373	1,061	1,013	1,826	1,967
WILDLIFE & FISH	1,507	1,385	1,605	1,585	1,317	1,377
RANGE						
Range	430	437	466	468	387	483
Range (Noxious Weeds)	48	45	49	46	36	44
SOIL AIR & WATER	644	570	720	737	592	626
MINERALS	270	258	268	259	381	353
TIMBER [1]	8,287	7,220	7,928	6,830		
Timber Management					1,472	1,486
Forestland Vegetative Improvement					934	989
KV Reforestation/TSI/Other					3,075	2,485
CWFS Other - Trust Fund					225	47
Timber Salvage Sales - Permanent Fund					2,057	1,689
FY 95 Totals =					7,763	6,696
PROTECTION [1]	2,048	1,897	3,338	2,696		
Fire Protection & Fuels					2,599	3,628
Law Enforcement					131	141
Brush Disposal (Perm. Fund)					500	379
FY 95 Totals =					3,230	4,148
LANDS						
Special Uses & Land Exchange/Acquisition	756	733	190	168	188	[3] 1,802
Landline Location	122	122	114	120	99	95
FACILITIES [1]	3,292	5,894	3,318	3,180		
Facility Maintenance					192	201
Road Maintenance					627	752
Facility Constr-Forest Admin., Other					18	[4] 576
Pre-Constr.-Capital Investment Rds					573	619
Trail Construction/Reconstruction					404	513
FY 95 Totals =					1,814	2,661
ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT [2]	0	0	0	0	313	369
TOTAL	20,636	21,710	20,872	18,850	19,311	21,931

[1] In 1995, the funding description subheadings were changed. In order to compare FY 93 and FY 94 allocations and expenditures with FY 95 figures, the totals for the mainhead funding descriptions are shown FY 93-94 must be compared with the FY 95 totals. Funding levels for subheading descriptions cannot be compared between FY 93/94 and FY 95.

[2] FY 95 was the first year for this fund code

[3] This represents the cost of purchasing the Painter Bar property and the Mackey Bar I and II parcels located within the Salmon River Wild and Scenic River Corridor.

[4] Funding was held in the regional Office until contracts were let for the Elk City triplex, Elk City office addition, Castle Creek campground flood damage repair, O'Hara campground rehab and the Spring Bar campground construction, thus, the funding was not included in the original allocation.

Table 3 - PROJECTED FOREST FUNDING LEVEL FY 1996

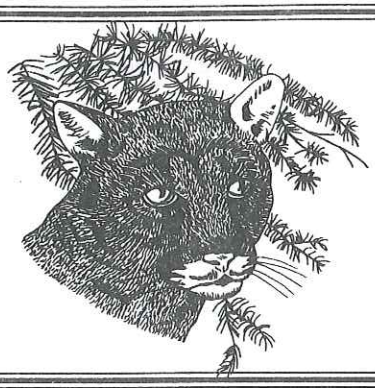
Funding Description	FY 1996 (M 1995$)
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	1,612
RECREATION, TRAILS MTC. AND WILDERNESS	1,648
WILDLIFE & FISH	1,088
RANGE	
Range	277
Range (Noxious Weeds)	45
SOIL, AIR & WATER	389
MINERALS	341
TIMBER	
Timber Management	1,081
Forestland Veg. Improvement	788
KV Reforestation/TSI/Other	2,213
CWFS Other - Trust Fund	50
Timber Salvage Sales - Permanent Fund	1,529
PROTECTION	
Fire Protection and Fuels	2,525
Law Enforcement	96
Brush Disposal (Perm. Fund)	400
LANDS	
Special Uses, Land Exchange/Acquisition	136
Landline Location	103
FACILITIES	
Facility Maintenance	163
Road Maintenance	647
Facility Constr. - Forest Admin., Other	0
Pre-Constr./Capital Investment Rds.	272
ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT	325
TOTAL	15,687

C. Forest Plan Monitoring Requirements

Monitoring and evaluation results are summarized and discussed on the following pages. Each monitoring item lists:

1. what is being measured;
2. frequency of measurement;
3. reporting period;
4. variables which would initiate further evaluation;
5. the monitoring results; and
6. the evaluation of the monitoring results.

The items are arranged by resource and follow the requirements in the Nez Perce Forest Plan (Table V-1).



Wildlife

Item 1c: Big-Game Habitat Carrying Capacity

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 6 years (FY 1995)

Variability which would Initiate Further Evaluation: Significant trend deviations (evaluated at 5-year intervals) from planned or expected forage-generating activities or events (timber harvest, prescribed fire, and wildfire).

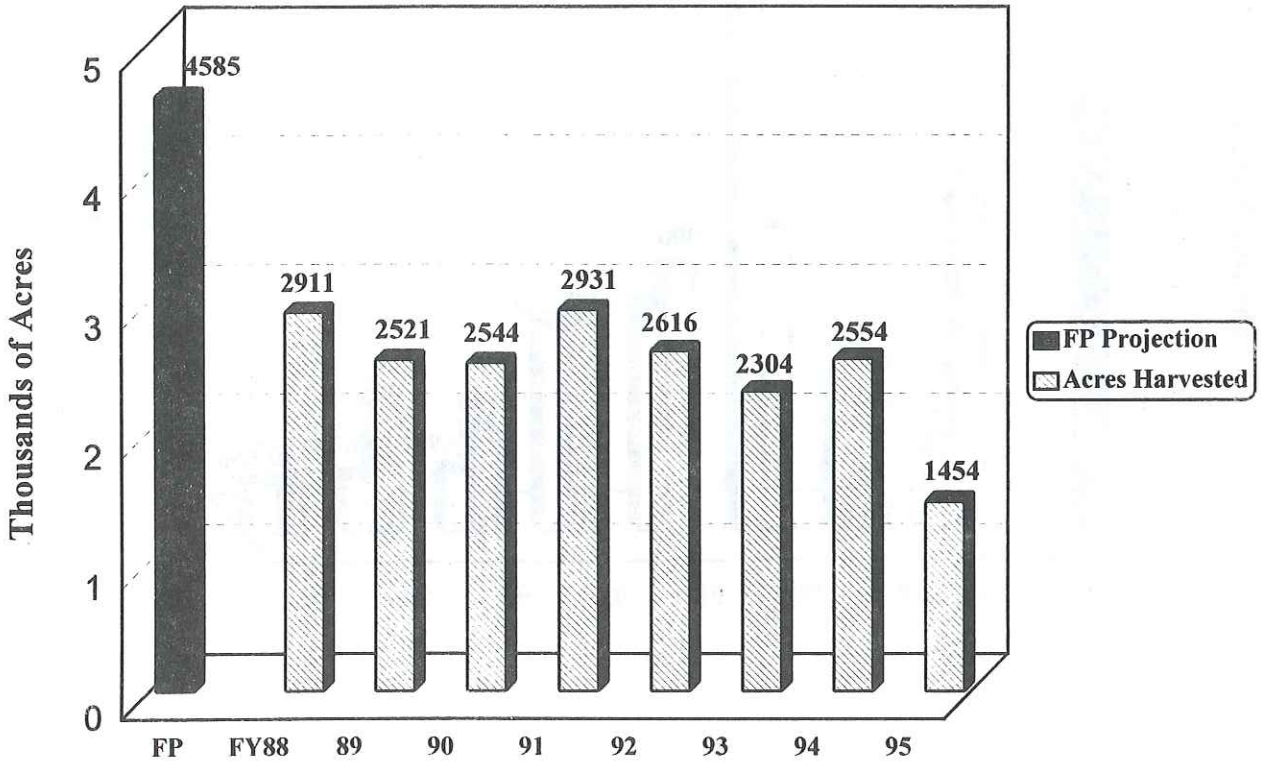
Forage Production

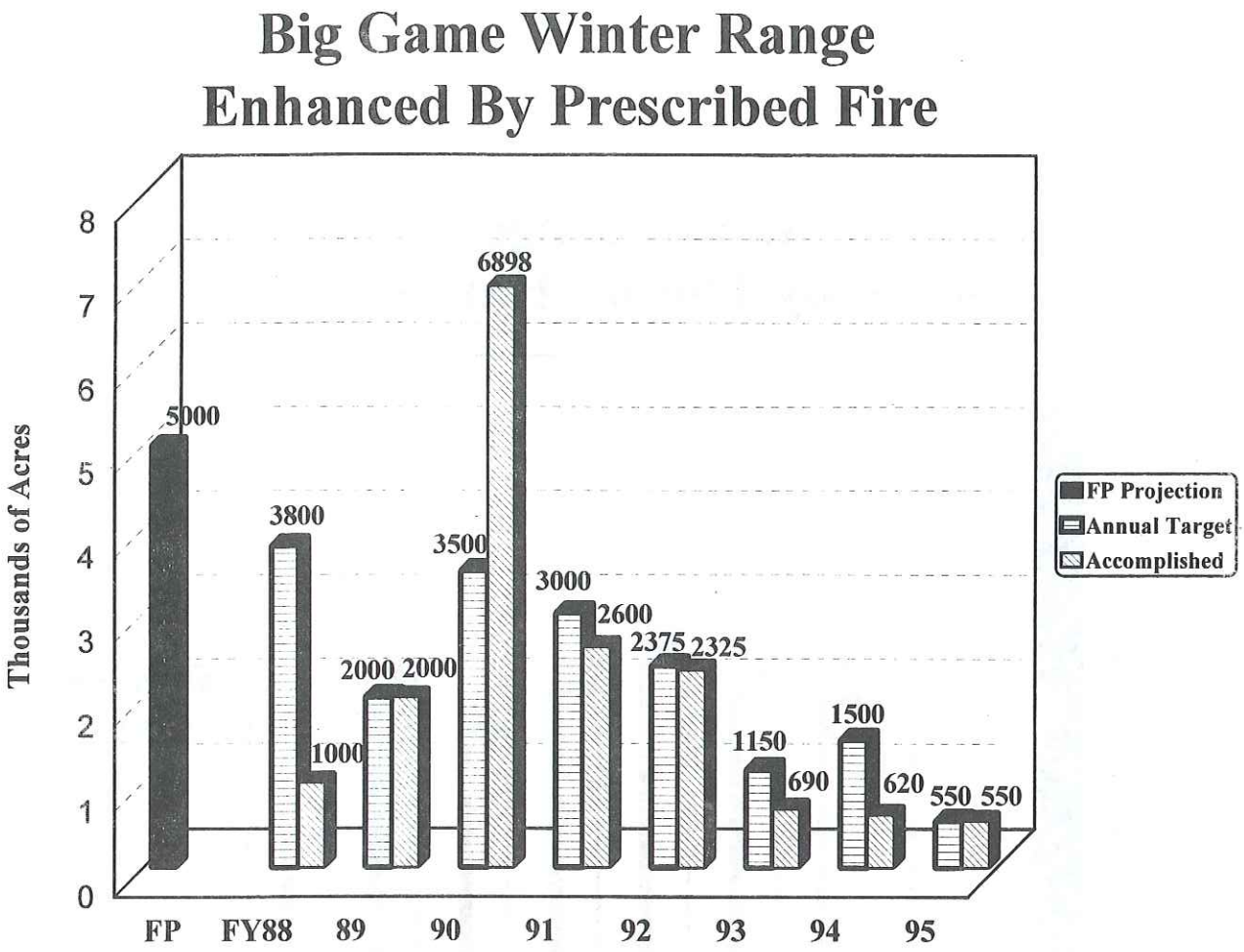
Monitoring Results:

Timber harvest (i.e., clearcut, seedtree and shelterwood), prescribed fire and wildfire acreages are used as forage production indices. Forage production for elk and deer in the coniferous forests of north central Idaho is related primarily to shrub, grass and forb stages of forest plant succession. Creating openings in forest stands by timber harvest and fire, typically increases elk and deer forage. The Forest Plan projected an annual average of 4585 acres of regeneration timber harvest and 5000 acres of prescribed fire for elk and deer winter range. The Forest Plan also estimated wildfire acreage (based on a running 10-year average) to be approximately 4700 acres per year.

Projected acreages for each variable identified in the Forest Plan, and their FY 95 targets and accomplishments, are depicted in the following graphs.

Big Game Forage
Produced by Timber Harvest

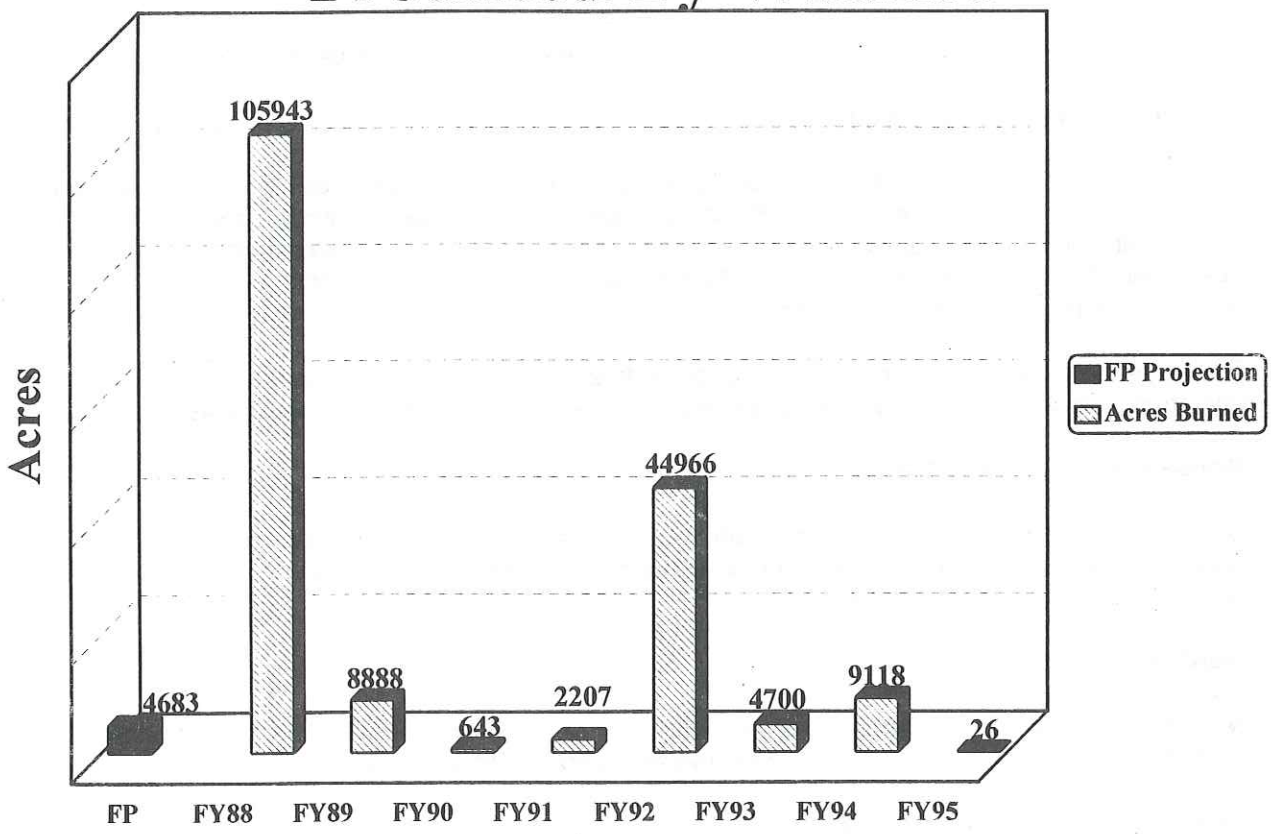




Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Since Forest Plan implementation, timber harvest that increased big game forage has averaged about 2479 acres per year (54 percent of the Forest Plan projection). Prescribed fire projects for big game winter range has averaged about 2085 acres per year (42 percent of projection). Large wildfires of 1988 and 1993 caused wildfire acreages to average approximately 22,061 acres per year (over 450 percent above the estimate). Though timber harvest and big game winter range prescribed fires have fallen short of planned acreages, wildfires have helped to compensate for these shortfalls.

Big Game Forage Produced By Wildfire



Summer Elk Habitat

The Forest Plan identified approximately 1,887,000 acres of elk summer range on the Nez Perce Forest. Of this amount, approximately 866,000 acres (46%) of elk summer range are within the Forest's three designated wildernesses. The Forest Plan designated elk summer range effectiveness objectives, outside wilderness areas, at 25% on approximately 165,000 acres; 50% on approximately 573,000; 75% on approximately 215,000; and 100% on approximately 74,000 acres. The "Guidelines for Evaluating and Managing Elk Habitat in Northern Idaho" are used to determine if land management activities meet the elk summer habitat effectiveness objectives depicted in the Forest Plan.

Monitoring Results:

Compliance with summer objectives for projects implemented in FY95 has been excellent.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Current compliance with Forest Plan elk objectives is good, however some areas remain below objective for a variety of reasons. Assessment of Forest-wide elk summer range conditions continues to indicate: 1) Elk habitat effectiveness objectives are being met or exceeded on about 75% of the Forest's elk summer range; and 2) needed adjustments to meet Forest Plan elk objectives may conflict with motorized vehicle access more than orginally anticipated.

The Forest is conducting a Forest Plan minor amendment process to correct original Forest Plan analysis unit errors and attempt to resolve some incompatibilities created by original objective assignments.

Moose Winter Range (MA 21)

Grand fir and pacific yew canopy cover and yew browse are important components of moose winter habitat. Timber harvest on moose winter range is limited to 5 percent of MA 21, per decade. Only 38 acres of MA 21 were harvested in FY 95.

Monitoring Results:

No site-specific or MA 21-specific monitoring was done on the Forest in FY95. The 38 acres harvested in FY95 is well below the 5% per decade limit and within Forest Plan standards.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Forest Plan direction to limit timber harvest to 5% per decade has been followed for projects initiated under the Forest Plan. Lack of funding has precluded gathering management data or conducting research to better describe preferred moose winter range characteristics.

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Item 1d: Nongame Habitat

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1992)

Variability which would Initiate Further Evaluation: Significant deviation from Forest standards on a project-by-project basis triggers further evaluation.

Old Growth (MA 20)

The Forest Plan states that no timber harvest will be considered in designated old growth forest until decade 10 and/or in replacement stands until decade 16.

Monitoring Results:

No field reviews of compliance with Forest Plan old growth standards was done in FY95 except for incidental review of the Scott Fire Salvage area and the Hungry-Mill Timber Sale area. Database review of acres harvested in FY95 found that no stands designated as old growth were harvested.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Compliance with Forest Plan standards for retention and protection of old-growth from harvest has been accomplished throughout Forest Plan implementation. Improved criteria for determining old-growth sites is being used. These new criteria have promoted field survey and interpretation resulting in improved determinations of old growth forests.

The effects of overstocked stands, and drought stress leading to stand-replacing forest fires especially where retention of old growth is desired, continues to be a concern in ponderosa pine and some Douglas fir cover types. The use of fire or some form of silvicultural prescription to thin understory trees which act as "ladder fuels" is needed to protect designated old growth forest from stand-replacing fires.

Snag Habitats

Monitoring Results:

Several questions pertaining to fire salvage sales were raised and answered during the Scott Fire Timber Salvage. The Forest Plan snag guidelines were designed for green sales, not large scale fire salvage sales. For this reason, the snag management standards for the project were amended to capture larger and more numerous snag replacements. The number of soft snags after such a fire is often very limited.

Maintaining adequate numbers and size classes of snags throughout the landscape continues to be a challenge. Inventorying existing numbers of snags accurately on a landscape scale is proving to be a similar challenge.

Threatened and Endangered Species Habitats

Monitoring Results:

Management and protection of threatened, endangered and sensitive wildlife and their habitats are routinely evaluated in NEPA documents. In FY 95, no cases of "formal consultation" were required for any terrestrial species.

Over 20,000 acres of terrestrial threatened and endangered species (TES) habitats were inventoried. Four structures and 1,100 acres of habitat were improved for threatened and endangered species.

Gray Wolf

Numerous unconfirmed reports over the past seven years suggest individual wolves may occur naturally on the Forest. In 1995, reports of wolves included the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness (Three Links/Pinchot Creek), the Red River area (Trapper Creek/Dixie Summit, Deadwood Creek, and Jack Creek), and in Tollgate Creek and Wing Creak areas of the Clearwater Ranger District. In addition, Idaho Fish and Game white-tail researchers reported scat and sign in the Hungry Ridge area. The information was subsequently classified as highly probable evidence for wolf presence.

Based on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service monitoring of raidio-collared wolves reintroduced to central Idaho in January, a black, 89 pound female ventured 75 miles north to the Forest from the release point along the Salmon River at the Indian Creek airstrip. The animal was seen by two individuals along the Crooked River road. In all, a total of six of the original 15 reintroduced Idaho wolves have ventured into or near the Forest in 1995, mostly along the southern and eastern edges of Idaho County.

Grizzly Bear

Three unconfirmed reports of grizzly bears were documented in FY 95. Other than visual descriptions of physical characteristics, only one report provided photographic evidence. The close-up photo was examined by a grizzly expert from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and confirmed as a black bear. The ongoing Bitterroot Grizzly Bear EIS process is expected to be completed in March 1996. To date no confirmation of permanent grizzly occupation exists on the Forest.

Peregrine Falcon

Only one active natural nest is known on the Forest. Although intermittent activity by indivdiual birds near the nest was observed during 1995 monitoring, no nesting took place. Review of conditions and circumstances by biologists of both the Forest and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service could not explain the event but unusually wet weather was a suspected possibility since nest failures were observed in other locations in the state.

Bald Eagle

The bald eagle was downlisted to threatened status in August by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Bald eagles have been monitored through the Forest's participation in the annual bald eagle mid-winter census. Transects and counts are shown below:

Survey Route	Age	1984	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Salmon River: White Bird to Vinegar Creek	Adult	1	2	1	2	2	5	3	2	10	2	6
	Immature	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	1	0
S.F. Clearwater: Farrens Creek to Crooked River	Adult	3	0	1	2	0	0	1	3	0	3	3
	Immature	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	6
M.F. Clearwater: Clear Creek to Selway	Adult	9	6	5	10	4	1	4	12	7	9	15
	Immature	0	2	2	2	3	1	4	4	1	3	3
Grand Total		14	10	9	17	9	7	13	21	23	19	33

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

The winter survey routes located on the Forest yielded 24 adults and 9 immature birds, an all time high since monitoring began in 1984. Based on the local data, wintering bald eagle populations appear to be increasing. However, variable weather conditions and the prey availability in other locations along its migration route, may account for large variations in local eagle populations. Local winter populations monitored by the Forest indicate the highest numbers are generally along the Middle Fork of the Clearwater and the lowest numbers are along the South Fork Clearwater River. Observations by Forest employees, agencies and citizens have not as yet located or confirmed any active bald eagle nests on the Forest to date.

Forest Service Sensitive Animal and Plant Species Program

Monitoring Results

Cooperative inventories of neotropical migratory bird populations (which include flammulated owls) continued in FY 95. Funding limitations reduced the Forest's potential to monitor other sensitive animal populations, but active information/education programs expanded public awareness for these species. A wolverine was reported near Dixie Summit by an outfitter in April 1995.

Conservation assessments and/or strategies have been developed on broad, landscape scales for white-headed woodpecker, black backed woodpecker, Coeur d'Alene salamander, pine marten, fisher, lynx, wolverine, mountain quail, Townsend's big-eared bat, flammulated owl and boreal owl. These assessments are being used on the Forest to help assess project impacts and provide supplemental guidance in outyear planning.

During monitoring and field reviews, tailed frogs and tadpoles as well as Idaho giant salamanders were discovered. Nest boxes placed around the Five-mile campground on the Elk City Ranger District for sensitive owls have not shown owl occupation. Nine of 14 boxes appear to have become dominated by red squirrels.

Forest Service Sensitive Plant Species

Monitoring Results

A Challenge Cost Share project was initiated in 1994 with the Idaho Conservation Data Center. The project used existing data to develop a conservation stratey for *Allotropa virgata* (candystick)-a Northern Region sensitive plant. The conservation strategy is intended to conserve the populations of candystick across five National Forests in two regions. The strategy was completed in August of 1995. Implementation of the conservation strategy will begin in 1996.

Surveys and project clearances continued for the 28 plants designated by the Regional Forest as sensitive. New sightings were documented for Paysons milkvetch (*Astragalus paysonii*), candystick (*Allotropa virgata*), evergreen kittentail (*Synthyris platycarpa*), Oregon bluebell (*Mertensia bella*), broad-fruit mariposa (*Calochortus nitidus*) and Clustered lady-slipper (*Cypripedium fasciculatum*).

Two new plants on the Northern Region Sensitive Species list (6/94) were found on the Nez Perce National Forest during the 1995 field season. *Carex buxbaumii* was found growing in a wet meadow on the Clearwater Ranger District. *Botrychium pinnatum* was found growing under Engelman spruce seedlings on the Red River Ranger District.

Long term monitoring continued on candystick, broad-fruit mariposa and Payson's milkvetch. The monitoring involves re-reading permanent plots on the Red River, Elk City and Salmon River Ranger Districts. Monitoring is planned to continue for the foreseeable future.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Field survey and biological evaluation workloads have increased dramatically in the last five years. Evaluation and updated species information for newly designated species may cause some approved projects to undergo retroactive modifications. Review of biological evaluations indicate that Forest management practices are maintaining sensitive wildlife species viability.

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Item 1e: Acres of Big-Game Habitat Improvement

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

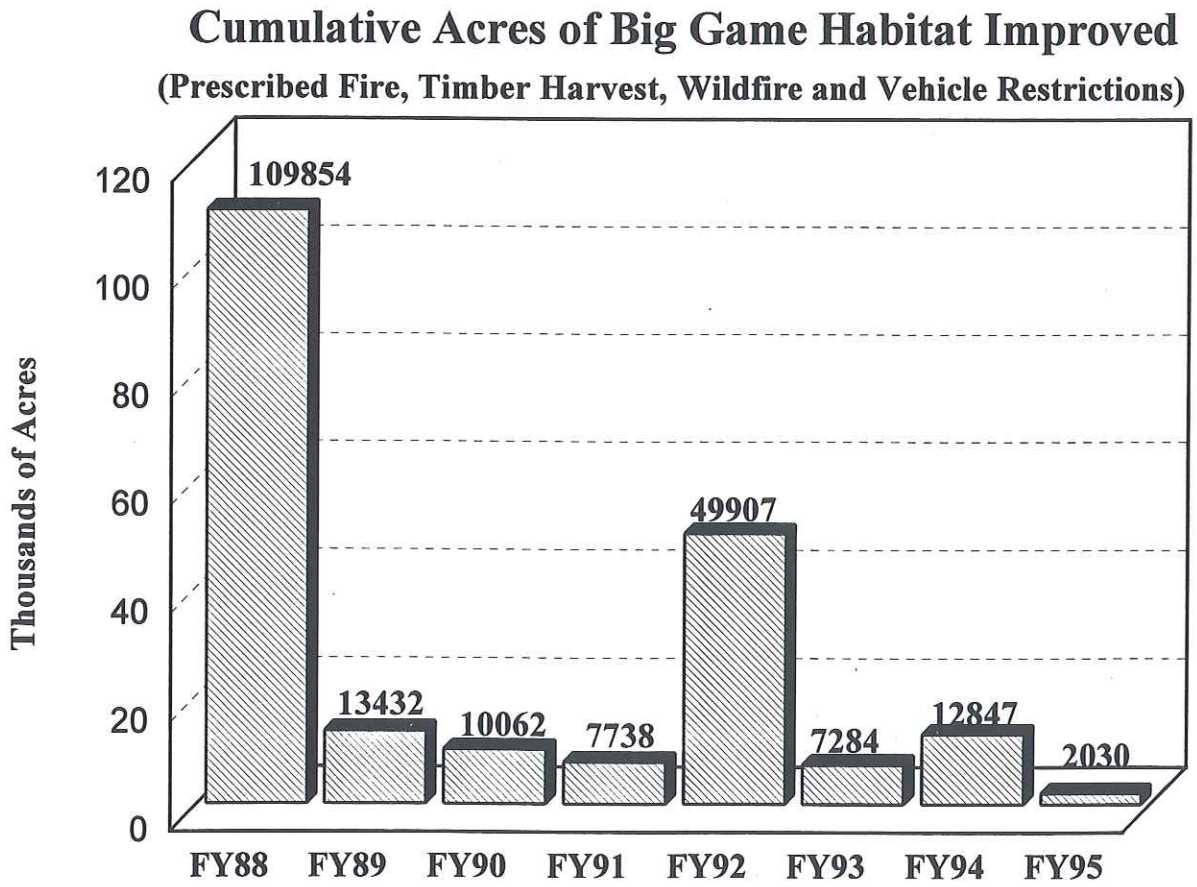
Reporting Period: Annually

Variability which would Initiate Further Evaluation: More than one year of variability from planned improvement acreages, excepting variances due to extreme fire conditions.

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

Monitoring Results:

In 1995, 550 acres of a 550 acre Forest target were accomplished with funds appropriated for wildlife habitat improvement. Habitat improvements were directed at big game summer ranges and were done primarily by prescribed fire. In addition to big game summer range improvements, approximately 147 acres of elk and deer winter range were improved through timber harvest.



Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Approximately 17,993 acres of elk and deer winter range have been improved, using only prescribed fire, since implementation of the Forest Plan. The average annual accomplishment is 2,085 acres per year. This falls short of the annual target of 5,000 acres by 58 percent. The cumulative shortfall over 8 years is approximately 23,130 acres below Forest plan projections.

During FY95, the Forest Wildlife Biologist scheduled a field review with Nez Perce Tribe wildlife biologists to areas recently burned by wildfires. Meetings were intended to encourage participation by the Nez Perce Tribe to determine what if any portion of wildfires on winter ranges should be counted in calculating big game habitat improvement accomplishments. Due to scheduling conflicts and other priority work, Nez Perce Tribal biologists were unable to participate the review exercise and as such, the review was cancelled. The Forest will attempt to reschedule field reviews and negotiations with the Tribe in FY96 in an effort to meet the terms of the Nez Perce Tribe's Forest Plan appeal settlement agreement.

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Item 10: Population Trends of Indicator Species--Wildlife

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 3 to 6 years (FY 1990 to 1995)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Variability thresholds which will trigger further evaluation for each species must be tailored to each species based on the amount of existing data on a given species, natural population fluctuations; and for game species, impacts of harvesting on populations. Evaluation for big-game species will be done cooperatively with Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Variability thresholds for nongame and T&E species for which data is currently limited, can only be determined after sufficient baseline population data is collected. Several years of population data must be collected before variability thresholds can realistically be determined.

Discussion

This section covers those Management Indicator Species not already discussed in the Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive wildlife species categories previously discussed in this report.

Elk

Elk herds are the product of habitat quality, influenced by the effects of weather, hunting and predation. Forest management practices directly affect habitat quality and hunter access. To determine trends in elk herds within a managed forest environment, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game routinely conducts elk winter census surveys. These surveys yield estimates of herd size, productivity, sex and age ratios, and hunting season survival. Favorable trends include increasing counts, from a condition of low herd numbers, to stable counts, when desirable herd counts are present. Downward trends are not desirable. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game use the "Elk Sightability" censusing method, developed in north central Idaho.

Monitoring Results:

Elk surveys were completed only in units 16A and 17 in 1995. Hunt units off the Forest are not reported here. Winter census surveys since 1988 have yielded the following results:

Elk Population Estimated by Sightability*								
UNIT [1]	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
15	---	---	856 +/- 81	---	---	1236 +/- 310	---	---
16	---	---	818 +/- 122	---	---	1432 +/- 156	---	---
16A	1028 +/- 261	---	---	961 +/- 201	---	---	---	475 +/- 114
17	4506 +/- 535	---	---	3783 +/- 279	---	---	---	4,995 +/- 555
19	---	1467 +/- 37	---	---	1497	---	---	---
20	---	1044 +/- 48	---	---	1237 +/- 61	---	1115	---

*Represents total population estimate of animals on the winter range of each unit.

1 Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Big Game Management Unit

Bull:Cow Ratios (Bulls per 100 Cows)									
Unit	Objec-tive [1]	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
15	>20	---	---	20 +/- 5	---	---	11 +/- 5	---	---
16	>20	---	---	10 +/- 5	---	---	22 +/- 4	---	---
16A	>25	35 +/- 14	---	---	23 +/- 8	---	---	---	19.6 +/- 20.6
17	>25	26 +/- 5	---	---	22 +/- 3	---	---	---	20.9 +/- 3.7
19	>25	---	21 +/- 2	---	---	17 +/- 2	---	---	---
20	>25	---	26 +/- 4	---	---	31 +/- 5	---	19	---

1/ Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 5 year Elk Management Plan Objective (1991 to 1995); expressed as number of bulls per 100 cows.

Calf:Cow Ratios (Calves per 100 Cows)								
Unit	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
15	---	---	39		---	43 +/- 17	---	---
16	---	---	16		---	21 +/- 4	---	---
16A	32	---	---	30	---	---	---	14.7 +/- 5.1
17	27	---	---	24	---	---	---	22.2 +/- 3.2
19	---	24	---	---	32	---	---	---
20	---	22	---	---	34	---	24	---

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

The above data represent only two data points per big game management unit, for each of the three elk population monitoring components.

Mild winters, varying degrees of hunter success (influenced largely by hunting season weather conditions) can significantly affect population data within any given hunting unit. In addition, the change in the elk tag system by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, has probably influenced hunter distribution.

Bull:cow ratios data suggest no signification change for units 16A and 17 from 1991 estimates. Bull:cow ratios continue to be a serious concern in units 15 and 19.

Update on cow elk harvest study: Evidence from other big game species and analysis of elk populations in other states and countries suggests that elk populations may be most productive when not at highest densities. High densities may result in lower adult survival rates. A study was initiated by Idaho Fish and Game in 1992 to determine appropriate controlled antlerless elk permits. Unit 20 is a part of this study. Thus far, higher harvest rates on cows has not led to population declines and increased calf:cow ratios appears related to higher cow harvest rates.

Region II, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, together with a local citizens advisory committee, is reviewing elk data by unit and is developing proposals for public review that may change future hunter opportunities in some units on the Forest. Proposed changes are designed to restore elk herd qualities.

Moose

Monitoring Results:

Moose populations are not surveyed by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game with any techniques capable of making accurate population estimates.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Moose populations appear to be stable or slightly increasing, based on incidental information and sightings. Although locally common, nowhere on the Forest are moose populations considered high. Numbers of hunt permits for 1995 increased over 1994 in most subunits of hunt unit 15.

Bighorn Sheep

Monitoring Results:

Bighorn Sheep Total Counts					
Unit	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
17	52	---	---	28	43
19	---	52	60	---	---
20	---	106	66*	---	---

*(Incidental count, may not be complete.)

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Aerial survey results from unit 17 suggest a stable population. Bighorn sheep populations in Units 19 and 20 appear to be stable. An outbreak of Pasteurella haemolitica, a pneumonia-like disease which began in 1984, initiated a population decline in Unit 18. A second outbreak of the disease in 1991 further impacted the population in Unit 18. The disease is being tracked and studied by IDFG laboratory in Caldwell.

Most of the individuals transplanted into the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness in 1989 appear to have moved to the Bitterroot National Forest side. Sheep have not been observed in the Tango Bar area since the transplant. A few animals have been observed in the Elevator Mountain Area.

Pileated Woodpecker
Monitoring Results:

Due to inadequate funding and other priorities, including neotropical bird monitoring, none of the five permanent pileated woodpecker survey routes were sampled during FY95. A summary of five years of data is displayed below for pileated woodpecker.

Pileated Woodpecker Relative Abundance Index

Year	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Totals	9	9	6	13	6	No Survey	No Survey	No Survey

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Highly variable results indicate sampling size and regularity should be increased in an effort to improve data reliability. Data through 1992 suggests pileated woodpecker populations are relatively stable. Highest densities of sampled pileated woodpeckers occur in Green Creek Point area where patches of large diameter, decaying grand fir remains intact.

In 1995, the Forest implemented, as part of a Northern Region strategy, an annual survey of fixed transects to determine trends in neotropical migratory birds. Preliminary results from the first year's data revealed 65 different neotropical migrant birds on the Forest. Seventeen transects were surveyed through a partnership with Potlatch Corporation. See Neotropical Migratory Bird section.

Pine Marten/Fisher

Monitoring Results:

Due to inadequate budget levels, fisher/pine martens winter track counts were not done in FY 95.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Difficulty in making positive identification of fisher verses pine marten tracks has complicated previous results. Based on the data collected to date, population trend for fishers is inconclusive. Based on a local study (Jones, J. 1991. Habitat Use of Fisher in North Central Idaho, M.S. Thesis, University of Idaho - available at Nez Perce National Forest Headquarters Office), populations may be as much influenced by incidental trapping as by changes in habitat. Consistent, long term data collection may produce more useful data.

Goshawk

Monitoring Results:

Survey and monitoring efforts to detect goshawks and their nests continued in FY95 within the Cove and Mallard timber sale areas. One new, active nest was discovered within the Noble sale area. Concurrently, a Forestwide goshawk nest habitat and field nesting survey yielded four confirmed and one probable nest detections in the South Fork Skookumchuck Creek, Race Creek, Lower O'Hara Creek, and Fern Creek watersheds. This brings the total number of known nest sites on the Forest to eleven.

The 1995 Forestwide survey concluded that: 1) quality goshawk nesting habitat is well distributed across the Forest; 2) Salmon River and Clearwater Ranger District areas had the highest numbers of watersheds with significant amounts of quality habitat.

Several previously discovered nests which were active in FY94, were not in '95. This is consistent with the pattern of alternating nest use by goshawks in the species' literature. The O'Hara Research Natural Area and Horse Creek watershed areas may also be potentially significant goshawk nesting areas.

Neotropical Migratory Birds

Though not considered indicator species at this time, surveys for species diversity and relative abundance of neotropical migratory birds were done in FY95 through a partnership with Potlatch Forest Industries and the Clearwater National Forest. Twenty-three transects incorporating 214 sample points scattered across the developed portions of the Nez Perce Forest yielded 65 different bird species. The six species of highest relative abundance from survey results (over 100 samples) included: evening grosbeaks, red-breasted nuthatch, dark-eyed junco, golden crowned Kinglet, red crossbill and Townsend's warbler. The least common species from the survey (only single sightings) included: Lazuli bunting, northern water thrush, rufous-sided towhee, white-throated swift, sharp-shinned hawk, Kingfisher, common yellow throat and red-tailed hawk.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Region-wide data are beginning to relate species preferences by forest types and structural stages. For example, Townsend's warblers use a wide range of forest types but are most common in uncut forests. Brown creepers are nearly exclusive to late seral, uncut forests of spruce and cedar hemlock, while olive-sided flycatchers are least common in uncut forests and seem to prefer harvested areas. Human-induced changes on wintering grounds may be responsible for declines in some species.

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Item 11: Validation of Resource Prediction Models: Wildlife

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 2 to 6 years (FY 1989 to 1995)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Major or significant refinements to wildlife models will be determined through coordination with other agencies including the Nez Perce Tribe and should be supported by research findings. Local biologist judgment and experience is currently being used to supplement and temper the elk guidelines model in specific management situations as recommended in the guidelines.

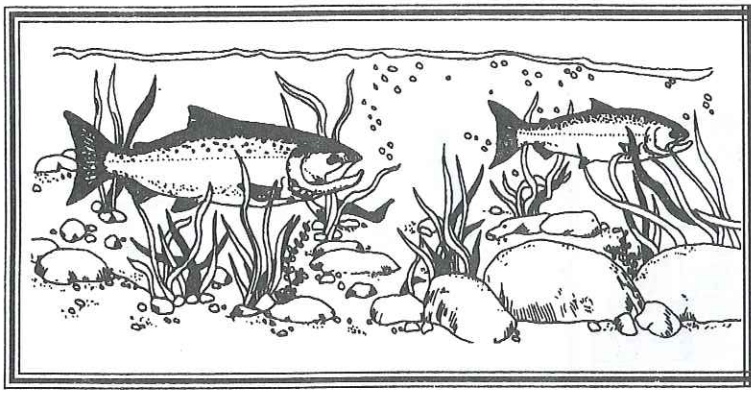
Discussion:

Evolving elk management issues and the influences of popular new access vehicles are not addressed by the current summer elk habitat effectiveness guidelines.

The Forest is actively participating in a cooperative effort to evaluate and offer recommendations to update the elk summer habitat guidelines. Wildlife Biologists and agency managers from the IDFG, Nez Perce Tribe, Clearwater National Forest and Nez Perce National Forest are involved in the inter-agency Venture 20 effort. Biologists are reviewing the elk model methodology for applicability and consistency. Possible changes may include: 1) limiting application of the elk summer range model to post-winter, pre-hunting season period; 2) reducing the influences of security area during the summer; and 3) accounting for motorized trail use.

Elk security area needs during hunting season may be separately addressed with an Elk Vulnerability Model that is being explored and tested concurrently by the same interagency group.

A Forest Plan amendment or revision process with public input will be used if considered elk modeling modifications resulting from the Venture 20 exercise are formally proposed to update the Forest Plan.



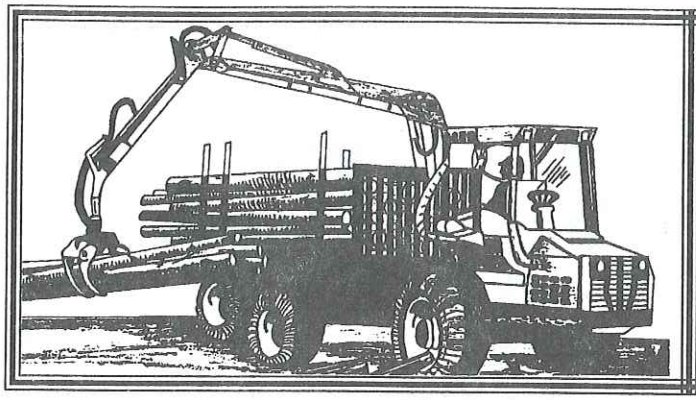
Fish

The following items will not be included in this Monitoring Report. We anticipate that the information regarding these items will be included in next year's report.

Item 1f: Fish Habitat Improvements--Numbers of Acres and Structures

Item 2e: Fish Habitat Trends by Drainage

Item 2p: Impact of Management Activities on the Chinook Salmon



Timber

Item 1h-1: Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) Sold By Components

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Any change in ASQ achievement altering the implementation of the long-term goals and objectives displayed in Forest Plan Chapter 2 (Forest-wide Management Direction) and Chapter 3 (Management Area Direction) may necessitate a Forest Plan Amendment.

Discussion:

The allowable sale quantity (ASQ) is defined as the maximum timber volume that may be sold during the planning period from the suitable land base. The ASQ is a sold-volume ceiling, and is monitored yearly against the average annual ceiling of 108 MMBF chargeable volume. This chargeable volume is divided into two components: regular (green live and recently dead resulting from insect/ disease or fire) and noninterchangeable (pulp/cedar products and endemic mortality). Nonchargeable volume is not considered as part of the ASQ when it is sold, since this component was not used in calculating the ASQ. Products that are included in the nonchargeable component include: firewood, volume removed from unsuitable lands and volume too small or defective to meet Regional utilization standards such as post and poles.

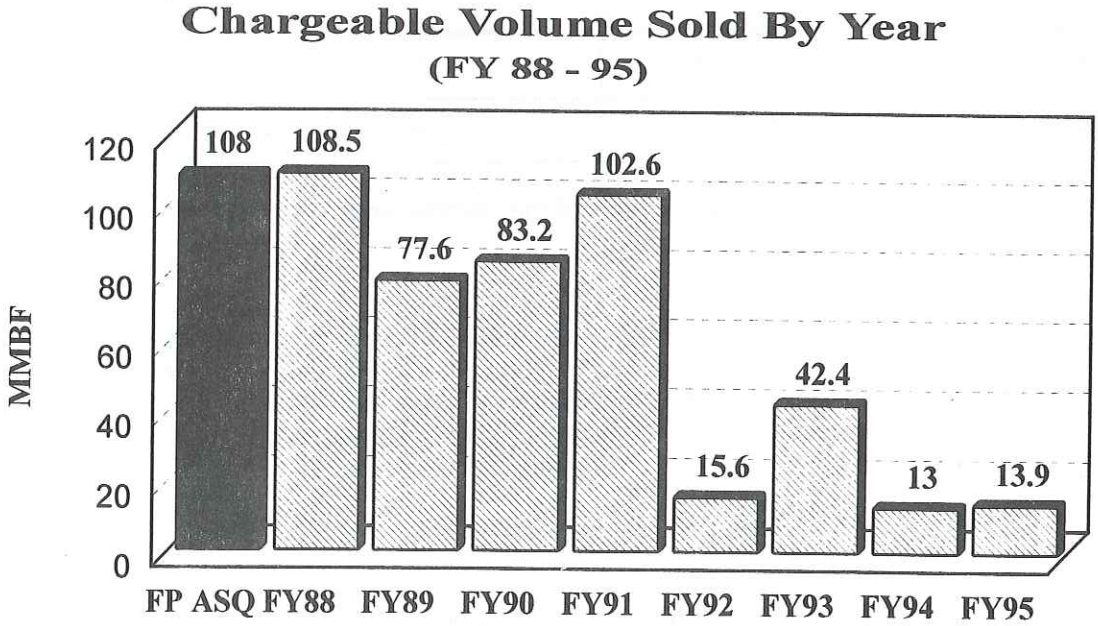
Although this item is monitored on an annual basis, actual ASQ achievement will be based on the decade total. Yearly figures may be above or below the Forest plan ASQ ceiling of 108 MMBF (103 MMBF regular and 5 MMBF noninterchangeable).

Monitoring Results:

CHARGEABLE VOLUME SOLD IN FY 1988-1995[1]
(Volume Credited Toward ASQ on an Annual Basis)

Components	Volume (MMBF)							
	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY95
Regular	104.8	68.9	70.2	94.3	1.3	32.1	6.6	7.5
Noninterchangeable (NIC)								
Pulp	1.3	7.6	10.3	4.8	14.2	10.2	6.4	6.4
Cedar Products	2.4	1.1	2.7	3.5	0.1	0.1	---	---
Total	108.5	77.6	83.2	102.6	15.6	42.4	13.0	13.9

[1] The ASQ accomplishment breakdown was based on the Nez Perce Periodic Timber Sale Accomplishment Report accumulated as of September 30, 1995 (fiscal year summary).



Eight years of sold sale monitoring have shown that the Nez Perce has sold 64 percent of the scheduled acres, which contained only 58 percent of the average annual ASQ volume. There are very strong indications that the timber yield estimates (volume/acre) contained in the Forest Plan were overestimated **(see Table 11-a)**. This issue will be addressed in the Forest Plan revision.

Analysis of the two ASQ components on the Forest (regular green and non-interchangeable) shows that in the first eight years of the planning decade (beginning in 1988) the Forest has sold 47 percent of the sawlog component and 178 percent of the non-interchangeable (NIC) component (pulp and cedar products).

In fiscal year 1995, the Forest sold 2.3 MMBF of the nonchargeable component (not counted as part of the ASQ). This was primarily firewood (both commercial and personal use) and post/pole material.

ASQ VOLUME SOLD TO DATE

Avg. Annual ASQ	1995 Chargeable Volume Sold	Total Chargeable Volume Sold to Date*	% of Avg. Annual ASQ Sold for 8 Years
103.0MM/year (sawlogs)	7.5MM	385.7MM	47
5.0MM/year (pulp/cedar prod)	6.4MM	71.1MM	178
108.0 MM/year (total)	13.9 MM	456.8 MM	53

* In fiscal years 1988-1995, which are the first 8 years of the decade covered under the Forest Plan.

FUTURE ASQ SELL REQUIRED TO MEET DECADAL CEILING

Total Decadal ASQ Ceiling	Total Chargeable Volume Sold to Date*	% of Decadal Ceiling	FY 96-97 Avg. Annual Sell Required to Meet ASQ
1,030MM (sawlogs)	385.7MM	37	322.1MM/year
50MM (pulp/cedar prod)	71.1MM	142[1]	None

* In fiscal years 1988-1995, which are the first 8 years of the decade covered under the Forest Plan.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results

In order to meet the total decadal ASQ ceiling of 1,080 MM, the Forest must offer 632.2 MM (an average of 316.1 MMBF/year) during the last 2 years of the decade. The timber management section on the Forest is currently in a downsizing mode. Timber funding is expected to decrease. Other resource standards are proving to be much more constraining on timber harvest than originally anticipated. We suspect that yields were overestimated in the Forest Plan. Taken together, these factors indicate that selling the full first decade ASQ will not occur.

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Item 1h-2: Financed Volume Offered Attainment by Components

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Discussion:

Each year Congress appropriates funding to accomplish annual timber targets. Given the fluctuation in funding from year to year, these annual "timber targets" are not necessarily the same as the Forest's average annual ASQ. The achievement of financed "timber targets" differs from ASQ achievement in the following ways:

1. Accomplishment of "timber targets" takes place when a sale is offered ... as opposed to ASQ accomplishment credited when a sale is sold. Normally, 45-60 days elapse between sale offering (advertisement in local paper) and sale selling (signing contract). Sales offered near the end of the fiscal year may be credited toward the "timber target" in one fiscal year and credited toward ASQ in the next fiscal year.

2. Nonchargeable offered volume (firewood and posts/poles) may be included in "timber target" achievement. The ASQ volume does not include nonchargeable volume.

Monitoring Results:

CHARGEABLE AND NONCHARGEABLE VOLUME OFFERED IN FY 1988-1995

	Volume (MMBF)							
	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY95
Assigned Target	103.0	108.0	104.0	100.0	77.0	66.0	53.0	50.0
Accomplishment (Volume Offered)[1]	104.6	107.7	84.5	86.9	49.8	34.5	10.3	4.4
% of Target	102	99	81	87	65	52	20	9

[1] Target accomplishment based on yearend Periodic Timber Sale Accomplishment Report (PTSAR) taken from the STARS database yearend summary. Beginning in FY95, volume offered figures do not include volume which was identified as optional removal by the timber sale contract,and later removed by the purchaser.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

The Forest was financed to offer an average of 82.6 MMBF/year during the first 8 years of the decade. Actual accomplishment was 60.3 MMBF/year (73 percent of assigned timber target).

In FY 95, the Forest fell short of meeting its financed timber target by 45.6 MMBF.

Due to reductions in timber and timber-related funding, future financed "timber targets" are not expected to increase. The FY 96 financed "timber target" on the Nez Perce is 24.3 MMBF. For the period FY 96-97, the Forest expects timber funding sufficient to offer between 30-50 MMBF per year.

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Item 1i: Acres Timber Harvested by Method (Includes Precommercial Thinning)

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

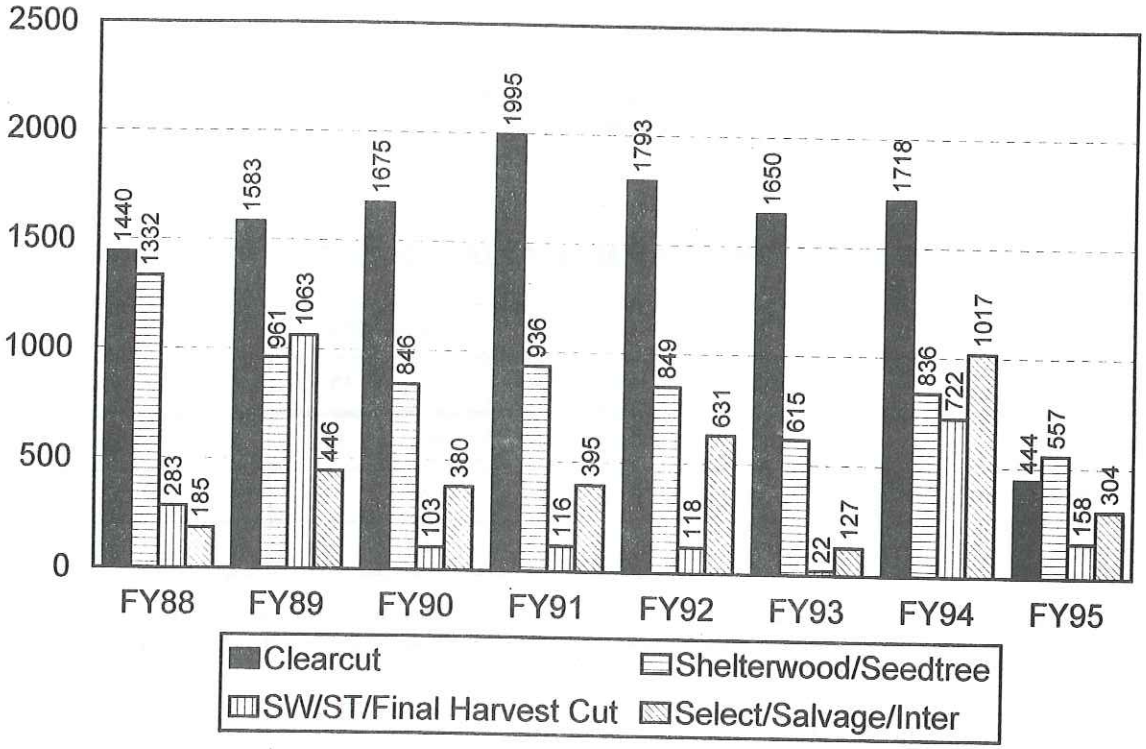
Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Unacceptable results of an interdisciplinary review.

Monitoring Results:

Precommercial thinning occurred on 1,057 acres which is approximately 107 percent of planned accomplishments. Harvesting took place on 1,463 acres (30 percent clearcut, 38 percent seed and prep cut from shelterwood and seed tree, 15 percent salvage, and 17 percent from other cutting methods). It should be noted that harvest acres represent the acres actually harvested in FY 95, and do not necessarily correspond to acres sold. Most sales have a contract life of from 2-6 years. It is likely that some of the harvested acres may have come from sales sold as early as 1991. The volume under contract has been going down for the past 3-4 years. As of the end of FY 95, there was 61 MMBF under contract.

Acres Harvested By Method
FY 88 - 95



Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

In the past, when the Forest had more than one year's worth of harvest volume under contract, the harvest acres were reflective of market conditions. In FY96, with less than one year's worth of volume under contract (based on 85 MM harvest average over the last 5 years), we expect harvest acres to be less.

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Item 2f: Vegetative Response to Treatments

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1997)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Data and analysis which would indicate that projected yields from regenerated stands are in error.

Discussion:

Permanent growth plots provide a means to assess and predict the results of silvicultural treatments. An important function is to assess the accuracy of managed stand yield tables in forest planning models. These yield tables were built using Prognosis (now called Forest Vegetation Simulator - FVS), a growth simulation model.

Since 1979, sixty permanent plots have been established. Most have been installed in regenerated stands following clearcut or shelterwood harvest. Many have been thinned to stocking levels consistent with stocking levels in Plan yield tables. A few were installed in medium-tree stands (age 50-70) which have been commercially thinned (all growth plots are comprised of clusters which represent untreated and treated conditions).

Five permanent plot stands were remeasured in 1995. Three of these were remeasurements representing at least 10 years of growth since plot establishment. Data entry and analysis of comparisons of growth projections with measured growth of these manged stands is underway.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

1995 remeasurements will be sorted by age class and productivity class groups and combined with like groups from previous remeasurements. This work is ongoing and will be helpful for development of when managed stand yield tables when needed for Plan revision. FVS projections appear to be reasonably close to measured growth for the stands analyzed so far. Following are results of comparing seven 20 year old stands which were remeasured in 1993 at age thirty:

	YEAR	AGE	BA	HT	CF	BF
Installation	1983	20	23	26	72	268
Projection	1993	30	65	42	676	2306
Remeasure-ment (actual)	1993	30	65	43	742	2539

BA = basal area in square feet/acre
HT = average tree height
CF = volume in cubic feet/acre
BF = volume in board feet/acre

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Item 4: Acres of Harvested Land Restocked Within 5 Years

Frequency of Measurement: Annual for 1-, 3-, and 5-year-old regenerated stands (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Significant deviation from 5-year regeneration period after data is reviewed by an interdisciplinary team.

Discussion:

Data for this item comes from the Timber Stand Management Record System and is summarized with the reforestation history (1/17/96), reforestation index report, and reforestation status (1/17/96) report.

Monitoring Results:

Ninety-one percent of the acres planted in the past 5 years are progressing toward satisfactory stocking (are stocked). Replants are scheduled on the acres (9 percent) needing additional stocking. Natural regeneration is certified or progressing on 96 percent of acres harvested since 1976. The remaining four percent are scheduled for additional treatment to insure successful regeneration.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Reforestation success has remained static to slightly improving since Forest Plan monitoring began. Dry summers extending into fall and animal damage have been the primary contributors to seedling mortality.

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Item 5: Site-Specific Examination to Determine Suitability of Land for Timber Management

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 10 years (FY 1997)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Significant changes in suitable acres.

Discussion:

Since the Forest Plan was implemented in 1987, land suitability classes have been assigned to individual stands. This is done during the compartment exam process and by interdisciplinary analysis for proposed projects. As stands are delineated, examined, or considered for treatment, suitability is assigned and recorded in the timber stand data base.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

As land suitability has been updated in the timber stand data base it is apparent that differences from forest plan assignments are becoming more significant. The entire suitability process must be re-evaluated in the revised forest plan. New proposed planning regulations have been published in the Federal Register. When and if these regulations are implimented, they should provide additional direction on this issue. This process could revise the specific criteria for describing tentatively suitable forest lands.

The results of monitoring changes in suitability are scheduled to be fully evaluated during the Forest Plan revision.

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Item 6: Maximum Size of Opening for Harvest Units

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annual

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Unacceptable results of an interdisciplinary team review.

Discussion:

Openings, as addressed in the Northern Region Guide, apply to all even-aged silviculture systems which include clearcut, shelterwood, and seed tree. Openings may occur when even-aged systems are initiated. Where timber management is the driving objective, the opening occurs when the regeneration harvest entry is completed as the stocking levels are below the desired future condition. The only exception would be a preparatory cut in a shelterwood system. Even-aged silviculture systems may or may not create openings for other resource objectives depending on the desired outcome of the harvest.

Monitoring Results:

No harvest units were sold or harvested in 1995 which exceeded 40 acres.

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Item 11: Validation of Resource Prediction: Timber (Sold Acres in FY 88-95)

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 2 to 6 years (FY 1988 to 1995)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If validation efforts show a need for changes to existing resource predictions.

Monitoring Results:

Validation Monitoring: The Forest Plan contains estimates of the following four elements for the acres contained in timber sales scheduled to be sold during the first decade. These estimates were used to help derive the Forest's allowable sale quantity (ASQ) ceiling.

- Net volume per acre by silvicultural system
- Total acres by silvicultural system
- Distribution of total acres (%) by silvicultural system
- Total acres by Management Area (MA)

The following four tables display the Forest Plan estimates as well as actual FY 88-95 data taken from sold sales during this period. Sales contained in the actual FY 88-95 sold data include all sales of chargeable (ASQ) volume having an appraisal (Forest Supervisor and District Ranger authority timber sales). Offered sales that did not sell are not included.

Table 11-a -- Sold Net Volume/Acre by Silvicultural System

Silvicultural System	Forest Plan Estimated Volume/Acre (MBF)	FY88 Vol/Acre (MBF)	FY89 Vol/Acre (MBF)	FY 90 Vol/Acre (MBF)	FY 91 Vol/Acre (MBF)	FY 92 Vol/Acre (MBF)	FY 93 Vol/Acre (MBF)	FY 94 Vol/Acre (MBF)	FY 95 Vol/Acre (MBF)	Weighted Avg.* FY 88-95 (MBF)
Clearcut(Units)	32.5	24.5	24.1	19.7	24.9	15.9	16.8	none sold	14.7	22.9
Clearcut(Rd ROW)	32.5	29.4	16.4	17.8	19.0	none sold	24.0	none sold	9.9	20.8
SW Prep Cut[1]	none planned	19.3	none sold	5.3	none sold	none sold	none sold	none sold	none sold	5.9
SW/ST Seed Cut[2]	18.3	15.5	15.4	15.9	15.6	none sold	11.6	none sold	8.4	14.5
SW/ST Final Cut[3]	5.0	5.6	8.4	7.3	5.9	none sold	4.7	13.6	none sold	6.6
Sanitation/Salvage	none planned	8.9	11.1	2.5	4.1	1.8	9.7	1.7	1.9	4.6
Commercial Thin	5.9	none sold	none sold	2.5	12.2	none sold	none sold	4.3	5.9	7.2
Selection Cut[4]	12.6	4.6	none sold	12.8	none sold	8.0	11.9	none sold	none sold	6.9
Weighted Average	22.6	16.3	20.6	15.7	17.3	3.5	10.7	6.0	9.6	15.5

*Weighted by acres sold

Table 11-b -- Distribution of Sold Acres by Silvicultural System

Silvicultural System	Forest Plan Scheduled Distrib.%	FY88 Distrib.%	FY89 Distrib.%	FY 90 Distrib.%	FY 91 Distrib.%	FY 92 Distrib.%	FY 93 Distrib.%	FY 94 Distrib.%	FY 95 Distrib.%	Weighted Avg.* FY 88-95 Distrib.%
Clearcut(Units)	36	40	61	51	35	9	10	none sold	34	38
Clearcut(RdROW)	inc above	3	4	5	9	none sold	3	none sold	12	5
SW Prep Cut[1]	none planned	<1	none sold	2	none sold	none sold	none sold	none sold	none sold	<1
SW/ST Seed Cut[2]	56	24	22	23	37	none sold	46	none sold	35	28
SW/ST Final Cut[3]	3	29	6	10	11	none sold	20	36	none sold	18
Sanitation/Salvage	none planned	1	1	7	7	84	19	61	13	9
Commercial Thin	2	none sold	none sold	1	1	none sold	none sold	4	6	1
Selection Cut[4]	3	3	none sold	1	none sold	7	2	none sold	none sold	1
Totals	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 11-c -- Total Acres Sold by Silvicultural System

Silvicultural System	Forest Plan Scheduled Acres/Year	FY 88 Acres Sold	FY 89 Acres Sold	FY 90 Acres Sold	FY 91 Acres Sold	FY 92 Acres Sold	FY 93 Acres Sold	FY 94 Acres Sold	FY 95 Acres Sold	Average FY88-95 Acres/Year
Clearcut(Units)	1,710	2,607	1,989	2,146	1,923	15	284	none sold	237	1,150
Clearcut(RdROW)	inc.above	239	144	191	503	none sold	87	none sold	86	156
SW Prep Cut[1]	none planned	3	none sold	69	none sold	none sold	none sold	none sold	none sold	9
SW/ST Seed Cut[2]	2,705	1,549	731	990	2,029	none sold	1384	none sold	249	866
SW/ST Final Cut[3]	130	1,921	374	455	602	none sold	608	355	none sold	539
Sanitation/Salvage	none planned	52	23	317	386	145	574	606	92	274
Commercial Thin	100	none sold	none sold	34	67	none sold	none sold	38	42	23
Selection Cut[4]	125	189	none sold	31	none sold	12	45	none sold	none sold	35
Totals	4,770	6,560	3,261	4,233	5,510	172	2,982	999	706	3,052

[1] First entry in a 3 or 4 step shelterwood. The goal is to open up the canopy to improve seed production.

[2] Regeneration cut, where the trees left will provide the seed for the next stand of trees.

[3] Final harvest of a SW/ST ... commonly called an "overstory removal". Figures shown in the actual sold volume/acre include both final harvest of "managed stands" and liberation harvest (overstory removal in natural stands)

[4] This refers to uneven aged management...either group or individual tree selection.

Table 11-d -- Total Acres Sold by Management Area (MA)

CMA Code	Management Emphasis	Forest Plan Scheduled Acres/Year	FY 88 Ac.Sold	FY 89 Ac.Sold	FY 90 Ac.Sold	FY 91 Ac.Sold	FY 92 Ac.Sold	FY 93 Ac.Sold	FY 94 Ac.Sold	FY 95 Ac.Sold	Average FY88-95 Acres/Year
10	Riparian	180		139	103	176		38	1	4	58
12	Timber	2,543	5,083	2,374	3,305	3,501	160	1,792	621	605	2,180
13	Aggreg(12/17)	75									
14	Aggreg(12/16/17)	60									
15	Aggreg(12/16)	702									
16	Elk/Deer Winter Range	500	1,245	509	150	1,424	---	404	359	---	511
17	Visual/Scenic	388	71	173	647	409	12	---	---	97	176
18	Aggreg(16/17)	197									
20	Old Growth	none planned	35	22	--	--	---	713	---	---	96
21	Moose Winter Range	110	126	44	28	--	--	35	18	---	31
23	Municipal Water-sheds	15	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
	TOTALS	4,770	6,560	3,261	4,233	5,510	172	2,982	999	706	3,052

Management areas (MA) 13, 14, 15, and 18 are aggregates of other management areas. For instance, management area 13 includes intermingled acreages of MA-12 (timber) and MA-17 (visual/scenic); the exact acres of each MA are unknown. During project analysis, these aggregate MAs will be broken into their respective parts based on site-specific data. Sold acres reflect this breakdown.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

From the actual data for sold sales in FY 88-95, the following trends can be identified:

- Actual net cruised volume/acre (all silviculture systems) on sold sales continues to be less (30 percent) than that estimated in the Forest Plan (see Table 11-a). In looking at individual silviculture systems, the largest volume/acre difference between Forest Plan and actual FY88-95 figures continues to be in clearcutting (30 percent less) followed by SW/ST seed cuts (21 percent less). The SW/ST final harvest units yielded 20 percent more net volume than the Forest Plan estimate. Other systems also varied, but the sample size is too small to be significant.

- Actual FY 88-95 data for silvicultural system distribution also varies significantly from the Forest Plan estimates (see Tables 11-b and 11-c). More clearcut and final cut units are being sold, with fewer sold in SW/ST seedcut systems.

- More harvesting is occurring in Management Area 12 (timber emphasis) than was scheduled in the Forest Plan (see Table 11-d).

- The combined FY 88-95 sold acres are 36 percent less than the average annual sold acres estimated in the Forest Plan.

In order to be more consistent with the Forest Plan, future sales should consider less clearcut/final harvest prescriptions and more shelterwood/seed tree regeneration seed cuts. Also, given the falldown in volume per acre in sold sales compared with Forest Plan estimates, the Forest will continue to monitor closely and explore existing inventory data to determine if the FY 88-95 trends can be expected to continue.

Roadless Volume and Acres Sold

The following acres and timber volume sold on the Nez Perce NF were within inventoried roadless areas. During the first 8 years of Forest Plan implementation, the Forest sold less volume in inventoried roadless areas than the decadal Forest Plan projection.

Roadless Volume and Acres Sold by Fiscal Year

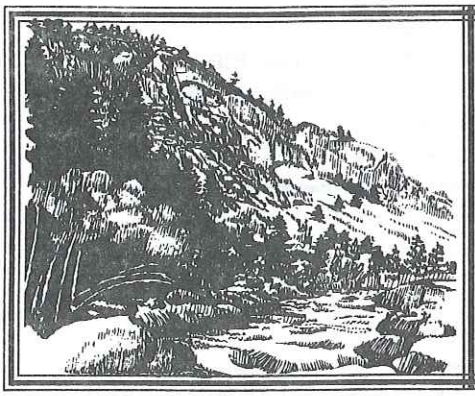
Fiscal Year	Roadless Volume Sold (MMBF)	Roadless Cutting Unit & Road Right-of-Way Acres
1988	6.3	246
1989	1.7	76
1990	7.4	402
1991	31.3	1,568
1992	0.0	0
1993	1.8	75
1994	4.9	359
1995	6.0	452
Total	59.4	3,178

Roadless Volume and Acres as a Percentage of Total Sold

Total Chargeable Volume Sold MMBF (FY 88-95)	Actual Roadless Volume Percent-age	Total Sold Acres Included in Cutting Unit Road Right-of-Way, FY 88-95	Actual Roadless Acres Percent-age	Forest Plan Decadal Roadless Sell Estimate (%)
456.8	13	24,423	13	30

Roadless Acres Sold by Roadless Area

Number	Name	District	Sold Acres	Percent of Total Roadless Sold Acres
1894	Silver Creek-Pilot Knob	Clearwater	75	2
1921	Gospel Hump (Jersey-Jack)	Red River	833	26
1851	Little Slate Creek	Salmon River	667	21
1235	Dixie Summit - Nut Hill	Red River	402	13
1855	Salmon Face	Salmon River	174	5
1844	Clear Creek	Clearwater	150	5
1852	John Day	Salmon River	66	2
1841	Rackliff-Gedney	Selway	359	10
1847	Mallard	Red River	452	
	Total		3,178	100



Soil & Water

Item 1j: Soil and Water Rehabilitation and Improvements

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If the Forest did not achieve its assigned target for the fiscal year.

Monitoring Results:

Implementation Monitoring: The assigned target for soil and water improvements using appropriated funds in Fiscal Year 1995 was 365 acres. The Forest Plan goal is 200 acres per year.

Summary of Improvements Accomplished in Fiscal Years 1988 - 1995

	Acres Improved							
Funding Source	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Soil and Water (NFSI)	74	131	159	120	214	244	243	314
Knutsen-Vandenburg (KV)	52	93	82	85	79	108	79	74
Road Maintenance	113	57	76	25	82	90	77	54
Other Funding	70	147	3	32	12	63	43	5
TOTAL	309	428	320	262	387	505	442	447

The following is a brief summary of 1995 watershed improvement projects by ranger district. A complete report is on file at the Nez Perce National Forest headquarters office.

Salmon River Ranger District

The district reported accomplishment of 50 acres using NFSI funds and 46 acres using KV funds. An additional 37 acres of improvements were accomplished using road maintenance funds, for a total of 133

acres. One project involved revegetation and woody debris placement for recovery of the Rapid River Fire. Flood recovery work from the May 1995 event was undertaken in Slate Creek and John Day Creek. Several projects involved revegetation and road drainage to reduce erosion. Other projects included planting and seeding of riparian areas, landslides, and an abandoned mine.

Clearwater Ranger District

The district reported accomplishment of 90 acres using NFSI funds. An additional 13 acres were accomplished using road maintenance funds, for a total of 103 acres. Much of the work involved planting and seeding of roadsides, landslides, and areas of grazing damage. Flood damage to stream channels from the May 1995 event was repaired at two sites in Castle Creek and Meadow Creek. Contracts were awarded for the obliteration of five miles of roads in the Johns and Mill Creek watersheds.

Red River Ranger District

The district reported accomplishment of 82 acres using NFSI funds, 28 acres using KV funds, and 5 acres using other funds, for a total of 115 acres. Much of the work involved drainage improvement, revegetation, and access restrictions to roads. About 15 acres of abandoned logging roads, skid trails, and landings were obliterated. There was also work done to stabilize an abandoned mining ditch. Several instream sediment traps, which had outlived their usefulness were removed and/or stabilized.

Moose Creek Ranger District

The district reported accomplishment of 5 acres using NFSI funds. An artificial salt lick was filled, recontoured, and prepared for natural revegetation. Additional planning was done to rehabilitate other salt licks and the Upper Bear Lake Dam.

Selway Ranger District

The district reported accomplishment of 45 acres using NFSI funds. An additional 4 acres was accomplished using road maintenance funds.MOst of the work involved road treatments including drainage improvement, revegetation, obliteration, and structural stabilization.

Elk City Ranger District

The district reported accomplishment of 42 acres using NFSI funds. Work continued at the Haysfork Placer Mine, including construction of a new treated timber sediment retention dam, additional plantings, and core drilling for an earthen berm sediment dam. Revegetation work was undertaken on roadsides, riparian areas, and in a recontoured rock pit.

Effectiveness Monitoring: In 1995, the Clearwater Ranger District evaluated improvement work implemented in 1989 in the Earthquake Basin area. The projects included removal of several culverts in abandoned roads and exposed sites were revegetated. In general, the project appears to have been successful. Areas are healing, forbs and shrubs are recolonizing stream crossing areas, and the potential for failures at deeply-buried, unmaintained culverts has been eliminated. It was found that mulching was often inadequate and that much of the direct planting of shrubs was unsuccessful. In one case, the newly constructed channel associated with a culvert removal had eroded part of one bank, but appeared to be trending toward stability.

The Clearwater Ranger District also evaluated projects implemented in 1991 and 1992 in the Clear Creek watershed. The work consisted mostly of stabilizing abandoned roads and skid trails with a combination of waterbars, culvert removals, and revegetation. Of the 20 sites evaluated, 13 were considered stabilized and 7 had some degree of continuing problems identified. At the latter sites, some followup and maintenance needs were noted, though some of these were considered to be low priority.

In 1995, the Clearwater Ranger District initiated monitoring on a 1994 project which involved recontouring of temporary roads in 8 timber harvest units associated with the West Fork II Timber Sale. Photopoints were

established and initial observations made. To date, all the sites appeared stable, with little evidence of soil erosion. Revegetation with desirable species appeared to be underway, with few noxious weeds noted.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Over the past eight years (1988-1995) the Nez Perce National Forest has exceeded the Forest Plan target of 200 acres for soil and water improvements. This trend has continued through 1995 by accomplishing 314 acres with appropriated soil and water improvement funds and 133 acres through other funds. Overall effects of this improvement program on watershed and stream conditions are unknown at this time. Hopefully, trend monitoring at selected instream sites across the Forest will help answer this question.

The three watershed improvement project areas monitored in 1995 on the Clearwater Ranger District were found to be generally successful. It appears that road drainage and erosion problems were more completely and successfully reduced when roads were recontoured than if erosion control measures were implemented on the existing road prism.

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Item 2g: Impacts of Management Activities on Soils

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If more than 20 percent of an activity area has sustained significant or permanent impairment of the productivity of the land.

Monitoring: Soil monitoring is conducted during project planning, implementation, and following completion of management activities to determine how closely Forest Plan management standards are being followed.

Implementation Monitoring determines if the potential for soil damage was evaluated during project development and if designated best management practices (BMPs) were applied.

Effectiveness Monitoring determines if the implemented practices were adequate to

1. maintain 80 percent of an activity area in a productive condition, without detrimental compaction, displacement of surface soil, or puddling (loss of soil structure), and
2. minimize erosion and sloughing on road cuts and erosion on other activity areas.

Validation Monitoring determines whether the data, assumptions, and coefficients used in soil and vegetation response models are correct.

Results: This monitoring item was not written up for FY95.

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Item 2h: Impacts of Management Activities on Water Quality

Frequency of Measurement: Annually

Reporting Period: October 1, 1994 to September 30, 1995

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If violations of Idaho State Water Quality Standards were detected or if Forest Plan fish/water quality objectives were not met within acceptable time frames.

Description and Results:

Effectiveness and Validation Monitoring: As in previous years, the Forest collected streamflow and water quality data at eight gaging stations (Rapid River, Little Slate Creek, Johns Creek, Upper Red River, South Fork Red River, Trapper Creek, Main Horse Creek and East Fork Horse Creek). Variables sampled included stream discharge, suspended sediment, bedload sediment, water temperature, and conductivity.

The Forest's Soil, Air and Water Program also maintained seven storage precipitation gages, five recording precipitation gages, five hygrothermographs, and two snow courses. Additional weather monitoring is conducted by fire personnel.

Until FY92, the Forest issued an annual technical report entitled "Hydrologic Data Summary and Monitoring Analysis". This report summarized streamflow and climatic data collected on the Forest during the previous water year. It also provides a more detailed analysis of water quality and related monitoring results than the annual Forest Plan monitoring report. Due to personnel limitations and workload prioritization, no report has been issued since FY91. The Forest is currently evaluating whether to publish data for FY92 through FY95, or simply compile it for distribution on a request basis.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Analysis of streamflow and sediment yield data from the gaged water quality monitoring stations is ongoing. In FY95, particular emphasis was given to data analysis pertaining to instream water rights claims filed under the Snake River Basin Adjudication. At the present time, results of this analysis are involved in litigation and unavailable for distribution.

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Item 2i: Water Quality: Project Level Administrative Reviews and Field Studies

Frequency of Measurement: Annually

Reporting Period: October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If the reviews or studies discover violations of Forest Plan standards or Idaho Water Quality Standards.

Discussion: Implementation and effectiveness monitoring was accomplished on several different types of actvities in FY95. The monitoring was conducted by Forest personnel with some assistance from other agencies and the public. The following activities related to water quality were reviewed and are summarized within this document:

- Storm and Flood Effects

- Rapid River Fire

Monitoring Results:

Storm and Flood Effects Summary - Beginning in March 1995, the Nez Perce National Forest and surrounding areas began to experience an exceptional period of high precipitation. In Calendar Year 1995, Grangeville established a new annual precipitation record of 37.2 inches, compared to an average of 24.5 inches since 1903. The trend of above-average precipitation has continued into 1996. The first storm of the period to cause significant impacts on the Forest occurred in May 1995. Two other significant storm periods occurred in November-December 1995 and in February 1996. A period of minor flooding also occured in April 1996, but no significant impacts were reported on the Forest.

This is a summary of events known to have occurred in response to the three major storm periods. Events recorded included debris avalanches, debris torrents, slumps/earthflows, road-related failures (i.e. road cut or fill failures, culvert failures, and ditchline erosion), and stream channel erosion. Information on the specific events is on file at the Nez Perce National Forest headquarters office. The information below is based on a variety of sources, including aerial observations and field visits. It is a summary of specific incidents, the magnitude and impacts of which vary greatly. Due to the timing of the storms and difficulty of access, it is anticipated that additional failures will be discovered as the 1996 field season progresses.

Summary of Events Recorded by Storm Period

Storm Period	Natural	Management	Unknown	Total
May 1995	45	52	-	97
Nov-Dec, 1995	80	13	-	93
Feb, 1996	48	25	4	77
Total Number	173	90	4	267
Total Percent	65%	34%	1%	100%

Assignment of natural or management-related cause is imperfect at best. It was often not possible to evaluate causes in detail from aerial observations. In many instances, there are interactions between natural and management factors. For example, changes in natural vegetation due to grazing or noxious weed invasion may have contributed to failures that occurred on basically undeveloped land. Landslides in these situations were categorized as natural. In some cases, the primary cause of a failure may have been natural, but roads or trails were subsequently affected. These situations were also classified as natural events. If a failure initiated on a road or trail, or within a recent timber harvest unit, it was classified as management-related. As more field data become available, causative factors will be refined. An analysis of landslide density, comparing developed and undeveloped landscapes, may also be done.

The percent of natural versus management-related events appears to be highly correlated to the location of the specific storms. The severe portions of the May 1995 storms were isolated to the western fringe of the Forest, extending from Clear Creek on the north to Fiddle Creek on the south. These storms affected a landscape which has been relatively heavily developed, thus many opportunities for management-related failures existed. Conversely, the November-December 1995 and February 1996 storms occurred mostly at the north end of the Forest, affecting mostly the Selway River Basin. Roaded development has occurred only in the lower part of the Selway Basin, thus opportunities for management-related failures was relatively low. In all three storms, effects were generally confined to elevations below 4000 feet, with some exceptions up to 5000 feet in areas south of Slate Creek. The natural events tended to be concentrated on open, grassy, southerly slopes and were mostly debris avalanches and debris torrents. The management-related events included a wider variety of aspects, vegetative situations, and failure types.

Large-scale, severe stream flooding did not occur on the Forest during these storms. Severe flooding did occur on adjacent off-Forest lands and farther north in Idaho during the late-1995 and early-1996 storms. In the May 1995 storm, Meadow Creek within the South Fork Clearwater basin had a large peak flow, and sustained streambed and bank damage, particularly in McComas Meadows. During the same storm period, East Fork John Day Creek in the Salmon River basin sustained a severe debris torrent, which was caused by management-related debris avalanches. Lower Slate Creek also had impacts from natural debris torrents in several small tributaries. In the storms of November and December 1995, the Selway River had a peak discharge with a 3 to 5 year return frequency. The February 1996 storm did not result in a discharge exceeding bankfull on the Selway River. Despite the fact that peak discharges in the larger streams were not exceptional, numerous debris avalanches and debris torrents, mostly of natural origin, contributed sediment and debris to the Selway River. The largest of these occurred in Pinchot Creek. In the February storm, the South Fork Clearwater River reached a 10-year peak, but much of the discharge was from below the Forest.

Repair and rehabilitation estimates on the Forest from the May 1995 storms totaled about $300,000. This included about $100,000 in road repairs such as culvert replacements (including upgrades), slide removals, cut and fillslope repairs, ditchline repairs, and grading. There was about $200,000 in watershed restoration work identified, including road obliteration, streambank stabilization, and revegetation. The storms of November-December 1995 and February 1996 resulted in an estimated total of about $460,000 in repair needs. These damages include about $300,000 in trail repair needs, $120,000 in road repair needs, and $40,000 in watershed restoration needs.

The above-average precipitation and streamflows of the past year have also had beneficial effects. Most streams require periodic high flows for channel maintenance to transport sediment, rearrange bed materials, scour pools, recruit large woody debris, and build flood plains. Summer conditions for cold water species were also enhanced in 1995 by the high precipitation, late snowmelt, groundwater recharge, and low water temperature. Watersheds and streams in the northern Rockies have evolved under a disturbance regime which includes periodic floods. A key element of watershed management is to promote good watershed and stream channel conditions. If this is the case, floods can have many positive effects and negative impacts are usually minimized.

Storm Monitoring Interdisciplinary Field Review - On October 24, 1995, a Forest Plan Interdisciplinary Team field review was conducted of May 1995 storm effects. Attending were seven Forest employees, one Idaho Department of Fish and Game employee, and a member of the public. The areas reviewed were on the Clearwater Ranger District in the lower South Fork Clearwater Basin.

The first area visited was a series of three landslides in the East Fork of Bully Creek. These slides started on road fill slopes and delivered a significant amount of sediment to the creek. One of the roads is a system road open to traffic and the others were abandoned. Additional landslides occurred on other portions of these roads in the spring of 1996. An improvement project is underway to obliterate the abandoned roads to minimize potential for additional future failures. Most of the team members concurred with the proposal, but one member expressed general concern about obliterating roads.

The team then looked at a culvert and ditchline failure in Dry Gulch. Although the ditchline scour was repaired, the fundamental causal factor of inadequate culverts to pass the streamflow remains in place. This problem needs to be corrected.

The team visited lower Castle Creek where sideslope debris avalanches contributed to a debris torrent in the stream. This drainage also experienced a debris torrent in June 1993, which required a channel repair project. The channel project fared reasonably well during the 1995 event, but did require replacement of several structures. This work has been accomplished. Followup revegetation and road treatments are recommended.

McComas Meadows was the final site that the team visited. Meadow Creek experienced a significant overbank flow in May 1995. McComas Meadows was recently acquired via land exchange with one objective being to promote riparian recovery. It was anticipated that rest from grazing and natural revegetation might be an adequate approach to recovery. After the 1995 storm event, it is apparent that more elaborate measures may be required if recovery is to occur within reasonable time frames. An analysis of the situation is planned for 1996, with specific recommendations to follow.

Rapid River Fire

The Rapid River Fire of 1994 burned approximately 3900 acres in the West Fork Rapid River watershed. Twenty percent of these acres burned at moderate to high intensity. Immediately after the fire stream monitoring stations were established at Cannon Creek, Bridge Creek and in the West Fork Rapid River. Channel and substrate measurements were taken, and photo points were established.

In September 1995, these stations were re-examined. It appeared that spring 1995 streamflows had been at or near bankfull. No high intensity storms, such as severe thunderstorms, had occurred in this area since the fire.

The Cannon Creek station is located in a small, steep stream channel at the upper end of the burn. The burn intensity at this station was high, resulting in 100% mortality of the surrounding vegetation. At this station there were some adjustments in the channel cross-section. The number of active side channels had increased. The water depth in the main channel had decreased due to an accumulation of gravel-sized particles. The main source of the new sediment was likely channel erosion, particularly from the side channels. The channel and the adjacent slopes are presently stabilized with large rocks, roots and down logs.

At both the Bridge Creek and West Fork Rapid River stations, there appeared to be little change in the channel cross-sections. There were slight increases in gravel sized particles in the pool sections. Banks and adjacent slopes were very stable.

Soils in the burn area are classified as moderately to highly erosive. Examination of some of the moderate and high intensity burn areas (headwaters of Cannon Creek and the ridge between McCrea and Bridge Creeks) indicated very little surface erosion had occurred. In the high intensity burn area of upper Cannon Creek, several rills had developed on 60+% ground. They were 4-6 inches deep and 30-40 feet long. No other rilling was noted.

In summary, the effect of the Rapid River fire on soil erosion processes and resulting stream sedimentation, during the first year following the fire, appears to be low.

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Item 2j: Impacts of Management Activities on Riparian Areas

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Activity areas found in significant violation of Forest Plan standards.

Discussion: Riparian area monitoring is conducted during project planning, implementation, and following completion of management activities to determine how closely Forest Plan management standards are being followed.

Implementation monitoring determines:

1. if riparian areas are delineated and evaluated during project design,
2. if preferential consideration is given to riparian-area-dependent resources in cases of unresolvable conflict,
3. if appropriate provisions of the Idaho Forest Practices Act (BMPs) are applied, or a variance sought, and
4. if effects on wetlands and floodplains are considered in project development.

Forest implementation monitoring reviews occurred on two fire salvage timber sales. Implementation monitoring continued on proposed activities with the potential to affect Snake River chinook salmon habitat. Riparian harvest prescriptions were adjusted or unit boundaries adjusted to better protect streambank and slope stability, shade, potential for woody debris recruitment, and to reduce erosion risk.

Effectiveness Monitoring determines:

1. if management practices have caused detrimental changes in water temperature or chemical composition, blockages of water courses, or deposits of sediment that seriously and adversely affect water conditions and fish habitat; and

2. if cover and security for riparian-dependent species have been maintained.

Effectiveness monitoring was carried out as part of the review of proposed Forest activities that have the potential to affect anadromous fisheries habitat. Proposed harvest units were screened for occurrence on sensitive land types. Those identified during the screening process were reviewed on site to evaluate risk and adjust harvest prescriptions.

Range riparian monitoring was conducted on active allotments to monitor levels of utilization and stubble height in streamside zones, and assess streambank stability. Stream substrate composition was monitored in selected reaches.

Validation Monitoring is used to describe riparian dependent resources, their values, and predict effects of management (Forest Plan II-12). The riparian classification project initiated in 1989 is being used to identify sensitive stream types to identify areas most likely sensitive to livestock impacts.
Preliminary data was used to describe fire regimes in riparian areas.

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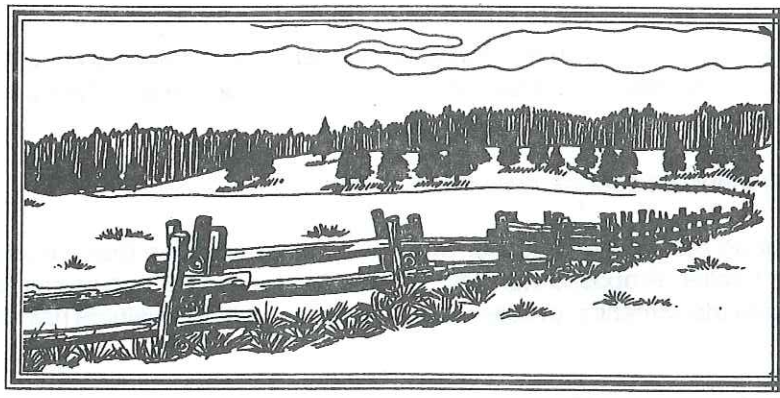
Item 11: Validation of Resource Prediction Models: Water Quality and Fish:

Frequency of Measurement: Annually

Reporting Period: 2 to 5 years (FY 1990 to 1995)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If validation efforts show a need for changes to existing predictive models.

Sediment Yield Model Tests: In 1994, an evaluation of the Forest's sediment yield model was completed through a University of Idaho master's thesis, titled "Evaluation of the NEZSED Sediment Yield Model Using Data from Forested Watersheds in North-Central Idaho". This study was done by Dave Gloss, former District Hydrologist on the Red River Ranger District. The results of the study were summarized in the FY94 Annual Monitoring Report. No further validation work on water quality or fish response models was done on the Forest in FY95.



Range

Item 1g: Animal Unit Months Grazing Permits

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: +/- 10% of Forest Plan Estimate

Monitoring Results:

The Forest permitted 30,700 animal unit months (AUMs) during the 1995 grazing season. The Forest authorized through the yearly billing process 27,700 animal unit months. Actual use information indicated that permittees in general placed less than the authorized level of livestock on the allotments. Forest level actual stocking on the allotments was approximately 15% less than the current permitted levels.

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Item 1l: Range Analysis and Allotment Management Plan Updates

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: +/- 10% of Forest Plan Estimate

Discussion: During FY 95 range management program included, gathering resource data for planned allotment revisions, monitoring riparian zones, conducting allotment inspections, providing information for integrated resource analysis, gathering information to address the listing of Chinook as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act and consulting with National Marine Fisheries Service.

As result of court cases, legal opinions and national direction, grazing was required to be in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws including NEPA, before a new permit could be issued. NEPA requires that the environmental consequences of Forest Service actions, including grazing, be analyzed and disclosed.

Because of the numerous permits expiring at the end of 1995 and to insure compliance with these laws prior to the issuance of new permits, a National Strategy was adopted in January of 1995 to expedite the analysis

process. The strategy was designed to complete all of the analysis and to insure that expiring permits would be in compliance with NEPA, and could be issued prior to the 1996 grazing season.

Analysis began on the Meadow Creek, Hungry Ridge, and Allison-Berg Grazing Allotments to insure compliance with Forest Plan Standards and applicable laws. These allotments were selected for analysis due to expiring Term Grazing Permits. A final decision on the management strategy for these allotments is expected early in 1996.

On July 27, 1995 President Clinton signed into law the 1995 Rescission Bill (PL 104-19). A portion of the Bill, Section 504, pertained to grazing on National Forest Lands, specifically allotment NEPA analysis, and grazing permit issuance. Passage of the Rescission Bill has caused the Nez Perce to modify the allotment analysis schedule and our strategy for issuing expiring and waived grazing permits.

Under the Rescission Bill, we are directed to issue new term grazing permits as they expire even if the required NEPA analysis has not been completed. The Forest is to schedule the needed and required analysis. All allotments without current or needed analysis must be scheduled within the next fifteen years. The following Nez Perce Allotment Analysis Schedule has been modified as a result of the Rescission Bill.

The information contained in the schedule reflects the best information available at this time and is based on current and expected funding levels. The schedule may be updated to reflect changes in resource information, Forest management priorities as a result of Forest Plan Revision and funding. At the current funding level and forest priority, all allotments that need revising will be updated by the year 2010.

GRAZING ALLOTMENT ANALYSIS UPDATE SCHEDULE

Allotment Name[1]	Analysis Status	Time Period	Key Resource Values
Race Creek	Revision Complete	1992	Riparian
Blacktail	Revision Complete	1992	Big Game
Glover Ridge	Revision Complete	1992	Big Game
Allison Berg	Being Revised	1996	Riparian
Hungry Ridge	Being Revised	1996	Riparian/Wildlife
Meadow Creek	Being Revised	1996	Big Game
Cannonball	Needs Revision	1997	Wilderness/Recreation
Papoose	Needs Revision	1997	Riparian
American River	Needs Revision	1998	Riparian
Elk Cr.-Lick Cr.	Needs Revision	1998	Riparian
East Fork	Needs Revision	1998	Riparian
Peter Ready	Needs Revision	99-01	Riparian
Butte Gospel	Needs Revision	99-01	Riparian
Hanover	Needs Revision	99-01	Wilderness/Riparian
Florence	Needs Revision	99-01	Riparian
Whitebird	Needs Revision	99-01	Riparian
Big Cove	Needs Revision	99-01	Timber Management
Cow Creek	Needs Revision	02-04	Wilderness/Timber Mgmt.
Sherwin Creek	Needs Revision	02-04	Riparian
Christie Creek	Needs Revision	02-04	Riparian
River View	Needs Revision	02-04	Timber Management
Newsome Creek	Needs Revision	02-04	Timber Management
Elk Summit	Needs Revision	02-04	Timber Management
Hamby	Needs Revision	02-04	Timber Management
Corral Hill	Needs Revision	02-04	Big Game
Fiddle Creek	Needs Revision	05-07	Timber Management
Tahoe-Clear Creek	Needs Revision	05-07	Riparian/Timber Mgmt.
Mallard Creek	Needs Revision	05-07	Riparian
Earthquake	Needs Revision	08-10	Riparian/Big Game
Kirks Fork	Needs Revision	08-10	Riparian
Green Mountain	Needs Revision	08-10	Riparian/Big Game/T&E

[1]See Nez Perce Forest allotment map on following page.
Vacant allotments are allotments with no Term Permit holder.

Grazing Monitoring Results:

The Forest is bringing all allotments into compliance with Forest Plan standards and guidelines through the Term Grazing Permits. During the past year work priorities focused on the Endangered Species Act and consultation under Section 7, monitoring and permit administration. Annual Operating Instructions were developed with additional management requirements and monitoring to reflect the needs of riparian dependent species and the threatened spring/summer and fall chinook.

Inspection and monitoring of many allotments indicated that Annual Operating Instructions were followed. Due to a more proactive role by permittees, increased monitoring and administration and tighter grazing standards, on-the- ground management improved in 1995. Most problem areas identified through monitoring and administration were small in size, and are easily corrected.

Grazing Guidelines

In 1995 the following grazing guidelines were incorporated into the Annual Operating Instructions for grazing allotments. The grazing guidelines are intended to maintain desirable riparian conditions and achieve recovery of streams not in satisfactory condition.

1. Forage Utilization: 30-40% of the current years growth by weight, measured during the grazing period.

1. Shrub Utilization: 20-40% of the available current year's growth, measured as a percent of the leader length browsed.

2. Bank Disturbance: 10% of the bank distance.

3. Stubble Height: 65% of the average ungrazed herbaceous plant height.

Monitoring suggests that, generally, permittees were successful in meeting the grazing standards stated in the annual operating instructions. At those locations where use/disturbance was approaching allowable standards, the permittee herded animals to less sensitive areas. Each time this occurred the permittees were notified and the livestock were promptly removed from the problem area. Below is a monitoring summary for 12 cattle allotments. The results are displayed by stream where monitoring was completed during the 1995 grazing season. The table provides an overview of the grazing intensity on specific allotments.

GRAZING STANDARD MONITORING SUMMARY FOR 12 CATTLE ALLOTMENTS

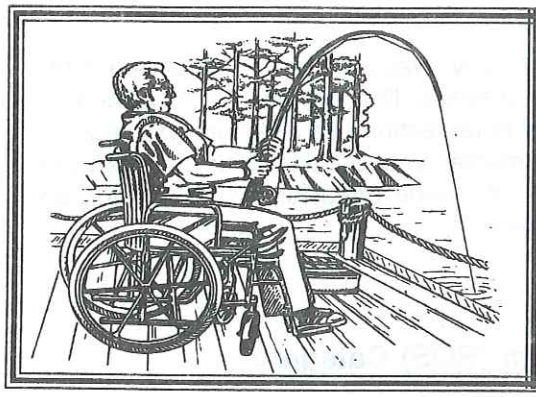
Allotments (Grazing Guidelines)	Forage Util. (less than 30-40%)	Shrub Util. (less than 20-40%)	Bank Disturbance (less than 10%)	% Stubble Remaining (65% or more)
Mallard Allot.				
..Jack Cr.	24%	NA	5%	75%
..Mallard Cr.	0%	0%	0%	100%
WhiteBird Allot.				
..Tollgate Cr.	16%	ND	5%	11 inches
..Goodwin Cr.	26%	ND	3%	8 inches
..S.F. Whitebird Cr.	0%	ND	10%	ND
..Corduroy Cr.	20%	ND	3%	22 inches
..Teepee Cr.	25%	ND	3%	22 inches
..Cayuse Cr.	14%	ND	5%	14 inches
Meadow Allot.				
..Meadow Cr.	20%	ND	10%	ND
..Alder Cr.	10%	ND	ND	6 inches
..N.F. Cougar Cr.	10%	ND	0%	11 inches
..Lightning Cr.	8%	ND	15%	ND
..W.F. Cougar Cr.	10%	ND	0%	11 inches
..Ferris Cr.	60%	ND	30%	ND
..Orchard Cr.	25%	ND	10%	6 inches
Hungry Ridge Allot.				
..American Cr.	20%	ND	5%	14 inches
..Deer Cr.	10%	ND	5%	10 inches
..Big Canyon	20%	ND	ND	ND
Corral Hill Allot.				
..Kay Cr.	20%	NA	10%	ND
American River Allot.				
..American River	Rested (0%)	0%	0%	100%
East Fork Allot.				
..Marten Meadow	35%	NA	10%	ND
Butte-Gospel Allot.				
..Slate Creek	8%	2%	5%	97%
..Boulder Creek	30%	5%	5%	66%
..Mill Creek	35%	5%	7%	60%
Christie Creek Allot.				
..Rhett Creek	20%	5%	17%	88%
..Christie Creek	20%	4%	18%	67%
..Joe Creek	2%	3%	8%	98%
..S.F Christie Creek	18%	6%	44%	78%
..Johnson Creek	25%	3%	25%	65%
..Deer Creek	15%	3%	4%	76%
Cow Creek Allot.				
..China Creek	35%	5%	30%	50%
..Cow Creek	4%	1%	2%	95%
..Kessler Creek	25%	1%	8%	66%
..Kirkwood Creek	30%	5%		74%
..Schoolhouse	15%	3%	7%	72%
Hanover Allot.				
Indigo Creek	35%	0%	7%	65%
Hanover Meadows	33%	0%	7%	65%
Wind River Meadows	35%	0%	15%	66%

GRAZING STANDARD MONITORING SUMMARY FOR 12 CATTLE ALLOTMENTS (continued)

Allotments (Grazing Guidelines)	Forage Util. (less than 30-40%)	Shrub Util. (less than 20-40%)	Bank Disturbance (less than 10%)	% Stubble Remaining (65% or more)
Papoose Allot.				
Papoose Creek	35%	10%	68%	58%
Squaw Creek	15%	0%	1%	90%
N.F. Squaw Creek	15%	4%	2%	90%

NA=not applicable; ND=No Data.

There were monitoring sites where grazing exceeded the prescribed standards. The information collected during 1995 will be used to tailor site specific management strategies for 1996 and focus additional efforts by the permittee and Forest personnel.



Recreation

Item 1a: Recreation Visitor Days

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 Years (FY 1993)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Significantly different trends in recreation use occurring on the Nez Perce following a 5-year evaluation.

Discussion: During the past several years, the Recreation Information Management (RIM) system has been in a state of flux pending implementation of a new tracking system (the Infrastructure data base). Currently, recreation use by activities is being reported. In most cases the estimates of use are not statistically accurate.

Monitoring Results:

RECREATION USE ESTIMATES BY ACTIVITY - FY 1988-1995

	Recreation Use (MRVD)[1]							
Activity Category	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95
Camping, Picnicking, and Swimming	207.0	241.9	241.9	241.9	241.9	243.8	243.9	255.0
Mechanized Travel and Viewing Scenery	173.6	193.2	193.2	201.5	202.7	203.2	216.1	193.2
Hiking, Horseback Travel, and Water Travel	75.3	76.6	76.6	84.0	89.7	90.3	97.5	104.2
Winter Sports	10.0	10.4	10.4	13.3	13.4	14.1	14.1	16.7
Resorts, Cabins, and Organizational Camps	10.0	11.5	11.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	8.7
Hunting	88.9	91.4	91.4	91.4	95.2	95.4	109.8	120.0
Fishing	31.5	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.7	35.6	39.2
Non-Consumptive Fish and Wildlife Use	2.0	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.8
Other Recreational Activities	57.5	59.6	59.6	60.6	60.6	60.6	60.6	66.3
Total	655.8	722.5	722.5	737.2	748.1	752.1	788.5	807.1
Wilderness Use (included above)								
Gospel-Hump	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.7	21.7	23.1
Frank Church-River of No Return	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	22.0	22.1	22.2	23.8
Selway-Bitterroot	51.6	51.6	51.6	51.6	51.6	51.7	51.7	54.9
Total (included above)	83.1	83.1	83.1	83.1	95.1	95.5	95.6	101.8

[1]Thousand recreation visitor days

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

The results of monitoring recreation use were scheduled to be fully evaluated in the fiscal year 1992 Monitoring and Evaluation Report. Apart from traffic count data, however, little effort has been placed on gathering accurate visitor use information since then. Accuracy of recreation use estimates will improve only when gathering such information is given a priority. Implementation of a Forest Service data base called Infrastructure began in fiscal year 1995. This will provide a nationwide format for reporting visitor use data. However, this will not affect the quality of the data collected.

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Item 1b: Acres of Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) Category

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 Years (FY 1992)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Following a 5-year period, variation which would indicate that Forest Plan direction requiring a full range of recreation opportunities is not being met, or if the semi-primitive classes are being lost more quickly than specified in the Plan.

Discussion:

The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) is used to evaluate the recreation potential of the Forest. This spectrum defines six classes of recreation opportunities on a continuum ranging from primitive, where human disturbance is minimal, to urban, where sights and sounds of people are predominant. These classes are defined in relation to physical settings and recreation activities and experiences. The Nez Perce has been inventoried, mapped, and divided into four ROS classes. Currently, the Forest has no rural or urban class settings.

Monitoring Results:

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) mapping for the existing situation was completed in 1979. No subsequent mapping has been done on a Forestwide basis since then to update ROS categories or to determine adopted ROS classifications for areas resulting from Forest Plan implementation. On individual projects and areas, ROS is being considered most of the time as part of the environmental analyses. This does not present a Forestwide picture, however. A comprehensive review of ROS changes will be needed to determine if Forest Plan direction is being met. In addition, an update of ROS will be needed prior to completing the Forest Plan Revision and Planning Area Analyses.

From interim reports, it is evident that timber harvest activities and road construction in previously unharvested and unroaded areas are substantially reducing areas of semi-primitive non-motorized and semi-primitive motorized ROS classes, converting these to roaded natural class. This is consistent with effects identified in the Forest Plan Environmental Impact Statement.

In fiscal year 1995, an interdisciplinary team monitored developed recreation on the Selway Ranger Disdtrict. The purposes were to determine if management of the sites met Forest Plan direction and to discuss recreation management issues in the Selway River corridor.

Reviews indicated that recreation was often considered in environmental analyses and ROS was usually being used as a tool to assess the projects.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Operations and maintenance levels generally comply with the Forest Plan direction for Management Areas 7 (developed recreation sites) and 8.2 (wild and scenic rivers.) Some sites are managed at a reduced service level because of unreliability of the low standard water systems at most developed campgrounds which were monitored. Some improvements were recommended for specific issues to improve compliance with Forest Plan direction.

In reviewing what has been completed using ROS, it has become evident that another category, roaded modified, needs to be formally adopted for use by the Forest. Roaded modified, used throughout the Pacific Northwest Region of the Forest Service, has been used in some Nez Perce analyses. It best describes the recreation spectrum characterized by timber harvest units and road systems, but little in the way of recreation-oriented developments. It falls between the semi-primitive roaded and roaded natural categories.

In 1990, the three north Idaho Forests sponsored an ROS training session which was well attended. This has helped in the understanding and application of ROS to the Nez Perce NF. With reductions and changes in personnel and with heightened awareness of recreation, more needs to be done. What is needed is a review and revision of ROS maps Forest-wide, incorporation of ROS into all environmental analyses, and a mechanism for updating ROS acreage changes in a data base.

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Item 2a: Off-Road Vehicle Impacts

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30,1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1992)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Unacceptable impacts caused by off-road vehicle use.

Monitoring Results:

The Off-Road-Vehicle (ORV) Monitoring Plan referenced in Appendix O of the Nez Perce Forest Plan was replaced with an Access Management Monitoring Plan for the Forest. The development of a systematic method to monitor ORV use and impacts has not been a top priority on the Forest.

ORV use on the Forest has been increasing in popularity and variety. Snowmobiles, motorcycles, four-wheel all-terrain vehicles, and four-wheel drive vehicles all contribute to this use. Some conflicts exist among users, particularly on trails with established foot and stock use.

The most prevalent recreation use violation is illegal use of vehicles on closed roads, many of which are gated. Use is restricted on many roads for wildlife security, to prevent soil erosion, and to reduce road maintenance. However, no in-depth monitoring has been conducted to determine whether adverse effects have occurred due to ORV use. Off-road vehicles can be damaging to soil, water, and vegetation. This is particularly true where trail systems with a 24-inch tread width are used by vehicles with 42 to 52-inch tread width. Other damage by ORVs occurs off roads and trails through hill climbs and in ORV play areas.

Each year, closed gates are broken or circumvented, with resultant impacts. From June 1995 to June 1996, 17 percent of the citations issued were for violations occurring in the winter, 24 percent in the spring, 28 percent in the summer, and 31 percent in the fall. The violations included being on a closed road, damage to gates, and motorized vehicles in designated wilderness. Efforts to reduce the impacts from violations include posting of up-to-date orders at each gate, explanatory signs describing reasons for the closures,

increased enforcement actions, publicity of successful prosecutions, and weekend patrols to provide contact with visitors and an opportunity to explain travel restrictions.

Little is being done in the way of ORV monitoring. Specific instances of detrimental effects of ORV use are handled on a case-by-case basis. Recreation use, particularly motorized, is being used as the principle mitigator for timber harvest. This is having significant effects on the long-term potential for recreation use and opportunities on the Forest. It is expected these effects will increase if timber harvest increases.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Through further development and implementation of the Access Management Plan, the Forest needs to develop a systematic method to monitor ORV use and impacts. Some of the methodology is documented in the Access Management Guidelines, but not enough to satisfy the requirements of the Forest Monitoring Plan.

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Item 2b: Adequacy of Cultural Resource Protection, Impacts on Cultural Resources

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1994)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: A change in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 or other pertinent cultural resource laws and regulations could necessitate altering the cultural resource monitoring procedure to comply with the changes.

Monitoring Results:

During fiscal year 1995, 71 projects were inventoried for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as specified in the Forest Plan. The total number of projects inventoried was limited due to budget constraints. As a result, 7,044 acres were inventoried for cultural resources and 42 new archaeological sites were recorded.

Since implementation of the Forest Plan, several American Indian religious rites areas have been identified on the Forest.

Cultural Resource Inventory Results

Fiscal Year	Number of Projects Inventoried	Number of Acres Inventoried	New Archaeological Sites Recorded
1988	50	3,753	36
1989	22	2,600	17
1990	35	3,137	37
1991	33	4,286	29
1992	33	3,664	37
1993	22	2,290	24
1994	42	3,429	34
1995	71	7,044	42

In addition to the new sites recorded, 71 previously recorded sites were revisited. Of the 53 sites monitored, all were determined as eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Adequacy of Cultural Resource Protection

Fiscal Year	Sites Inventoried	Evidence of Vandalism/Damage
1988	10	0
1989	28	3
1990	7	0
1991	42	2
1992	22	0
1993	32	0
1994	28	0
1995	53	0

Moose Creek Passport in Time Project: The historic Moose Creek Ranger Station which is located within the heart of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness was the location of the Nez Perce National Forest 1995 Passport in Time (PIT) Project. PIT is part of a National Heritage Resource Program which provides opportunities for individuals to work with professional archaeologists and historians on projects involving historic and prehistoric resources.

This year's PIT project involved the excavation of a large dump located near Moose Creek Ranger Station. Several volunteers assisted with the mapping, excavation, and photographic documentation of the dump which contained various tin cans, bottles, airplane parts, horseshoes, and Forest Service dinnerware among various other items. Next year the items discovered in the dump will be analyzed in order to learn more about the activities and lifeways of people who lived at the historic ranger station.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

None of the 53 sites monitored were impacted. Monitoring of the 53 sites revealed that the recommended protection measures were effective.

One current method being used to monitor cultural resources includes re-surveying sites and recording discernible effects or changes through completion of site report amendments or updates.

For Forest projects or undertakings with cultural sites we establish measurements for precise monitoring of sites eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. This is accomplished by identification of a permanent datum or controlled mapping point for each site. Recording bearing and distance measurements from the site datum to its boundaries and associated features allow us to accurately detect and document any changes or effects on a site during monitoring.

With the current Cultural Resource Management funding level it is not feasible to implement this procedure for all known cultural sites (including the ones outside of proposed project areas). An increase in the Heritage budget will be needed in order to develop a systematic procedure for more precise monitoring of sites. This is particularly needed for sites that are surrounded by on-going management activities or are located along highly used areas such as the Salmon and Selway Rivers.

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Item 2c: Limits of Acceptable Change in Wilderness

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1992)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If, after a 5-year review period, changes in wilderness exceeded acceptable limits.

Detailed Annual Reports to Congress were prepared in 1995, describing overall management of the Selway-Bitterroot, Frank Church-River of No Return, and Gospel-Hump Wildernesses. These reports provide good monitoring information on the Nez Perce National Forest's wilderness resources. Copies of the reports are available on request.

A comprehensive wilderness-wide report has been prepared for the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness (SBW), entitled "Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness 1995 State of the Wilderness Report." It contains a detailed monitoring report for the SBW. A copy is available upon request.

The Forest continues to replace substandard signs in all three wildernesses as funding levels allow.

Following is a summary of wilderness implementation plans, Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) planning, and wilderness fire plans for the Nez Perce National Forest:

Selway-Bitterroot:

This wilderness is currently being managed under the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness General Management Direction, 1992. This original document was signed by the Regional Forester in 1982 and was replaced with the 1992 General Management Direction by a Forest Plan amendment.

The 1992 amendment includes Limits of Acceptable Change planning for recreation, trails, and airfield management. Updated management direction for vegetation was added to the General Management Direction in 1996.

The fire management plan, suspended in 1988, was revised in May of 1990, and put into effect during the 1992 fire season. The plan does not allow for planned ignition.

Gospel-Hump:

A management plan for the Gospel-Hump Wilderness was completed in 1985 and incorporated by reference into the Forest Plan for the Nez Perce National Forest. Campsite condition inventories are completed annually, as funding allows, to establish baseline information for the LAC process.

The fire management plan, suspended in 1988, was revised and put into effect for the 1993 fire season. The plan does not allow for planned ignition.

Frank Church - River of No Return:

This wilderness is currently being managed under a management plan tied to the Forest Plan. A coordinated EIS is being prepared for management of this wilderness. Campsite condition inventories are completed annually, as funding allows, to establish baseline information for the LAC process.

The fire management plan, suspended in 1988, was revised and put into effect for the 1993 fire season. The plan allows for planned ignition.

Coordinated Wilderness Management

Coordination of wilderness management programs and activities among adjacent administering units of the same wilderness has improved greatly. Results of this coordination are evident in all wildernesses administered by the Nez Perce NF.

Preseason and on-the-ground coordination meetings were held in 1995 for the Gospel-Hump Wilderness, administered entirely by the Nez Perce NF (Red River and Salmon River Ranger Districts).

Coordinated management of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness (SBW) has been formalized by creating a SBW Leadership Policy Council and Steering Group comprised of members from the Clearwater, Bitterroot, and Nez Perce National Forests, as well as the Regional Office.

A similar coordination structure has been established for the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness (FC-RONR). A number of significant accomplishments in organization and management occurred in FY 95. The Nez Perce National Forest continues to manage 193,000 acres previously administered by the Bitterroot NF.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Coordinated wilderness management efforts are resulting in better, more consistent management on the ground. Improved budget accountability, wilderness planning, and better coordination among all managers of a particular wilderness are all evident. Specific accomplishments, including monitoring efforts, are included in the individual annual reports prepared for each wilderness.

A great deal of effort is being put into the planning process for the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. Wilderness management continues to be closely scrutinized at the local, regional and national levels. Most management activities receive detailed environmental analysis. Concerns raised the most by wilderness managers include insufficient funding and personnel (especially with workforce and funding reductions) and a continuing need to better communicate with the public and Forest Service employees regarding the proper use and management of wilderness.

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Item 2d: Achievement of Visual Quality

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1992)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: After 5 years of monitoring, an assessment indicates visual quality objectives are not being met.

Monitoring Results:

Visual Resource Management (VRM) classes were mapped Forest-wide over twelve years ago, prior to the development and implementation of the Nez Perce National Forest Plan. The major task remains to review these original VRM objectives and update or adapt them to meet current on-the-ground conditions and Forest Plan direction.

An important step toward achieving visual quality direction occurred in 1989 with the approval of Forest Plan Amendment #4. This amendment added definitions to aid in understanding the terms "adopted", "inventoried", and "interim" visual quality objectives (VQO's). It modified existing standards to remove inconsistencies in VQO's, to make the standards more attuned to procedures described in Agriculture Handbook 462 - The Visual Management System, and to specify a methodology for documenting visual quality decisions.

The Nez Perce National Forest recently hired a landscape architect to be shared with the Clearwater National Forest. Visual quality is being considered and documented in most on-the-ground activities. The Forest continues to use para-professionals to provide assistance on a project-by-project basis. There is no consistency in documentation of updates or revisions to existing Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs).

A number of Forest employees attended Scenery Management System (SMS) training in 1995. When fully implemented, SMS will replace the Visual Resource Management (VRM) System presently being used.

Some SMS concepts were used in analyzing scenic resources for proposed salvage timber sales on two Districts.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Some progress in understanding and achieving VQOs is being made on most Districts. The scenic resources inventory on the Forest needs to be updated.

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Item 2n: Management of Designated or Eligible Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River Segments

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 to September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1992)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Following a 5-year period, information which would indicate management direction for designated or eligible wild, scenic, or recreational rivers is not being followed.

Discussion:

The Nez Perce National Forest manages parts of four rivers classified under the Wild and & Scenic Rivers Act, and 13 rivers that are eligible for classification. The four classified rivers include the Selway (40 miles Wild, 21 miles Recreational); Middle Fork Clearwater (11 miles Recreational); Rapid (12 miles Wild); and Salmon (66 miles Wild).

Eligible river segments are listed in Appendix P to the Forest Plan. Appendix P also includes a listing of outstanding features of each eligible segment.

Monitoring Results:

Management of Designated Rivers:

Salmon -- Compatible uses occurring on the Salmon River include private and outfitted boating (float and powerboat), administration of scenic easements, scenic easement acquisition, land exchange, dispersed recreation site maintenance, and trail maintenance. Some mining activity has been occurring on private property within the corridor.

The lack of funding has prevented the District from adequately monitoring recreation use on the river for the entire season of use or adequately administering scenic easements. The District coordinates regular patrols involving a River Ranger, other agency personnel and volunteers. A variety of management activities are conducted during the patrols, including site maintenance, inventory and monitoring, noxious weed management, visitor contact, easement administration, and permit monitoring.

Lack of funding for the lands program has limited land exchanges and the acquisition of additional scenic easements.

Middle Fork Clearwater -- There continues to be a need to update the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River Management Plan.

A shared Scenic Easement Administrator position was established between the Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests to provide consistent Wild & Scenic River easement administration on the Selway, Moose Creek and Lochsa Ranger Districts.

Selway -- The **Wild** segment of the Selway is managed through the management plan direction and a permit system. The river program is staffed with one seasonal river ranger and volunteer river assistants. Four river patrols were made during the control season. The purpose of the patrols is to maintain dispersed recreation sites, monitor use, and assist the public.

The **Recreational** segment of the Selway is routinely monitored for compliance with direction for road management, administrative facilities, scenic easements, visual management, trail management, recreation, and water quality. Easement administration has improved due to the easement administrator position shared with the Clearwater National Forest.

Rapid River -- Trail work and grazing occurred along this corridor. These are in compliance with management direction.

Management of Eligible River Segments

Bear Creek, Moose Creek, and Three Links, located on the Moose Creek Ranger District, are being managed as wild rivers through management direction contained in the Selway-Bitterroot Management Plan. These strategies comply with area management direction.

Slate Creek -- Grazing, road maintenance, mining, trail work, and fish structure construction all occurred within the segment eligible as a Recreational River. These activities are compatible with management direction. The upper reaches of the creek are also eligible for Wild river classification.

White Bird Creek -- A six mile segment located on private and National Park Service lands outside of the Forest boundary was found to be eligible for Recreational classification during the Forest planning process. The State of Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) has agreed to be the lead for a suitability study for this segment. The study will be completed when the IDWR completes the Salmon River basin component of the State Water Plan.

Running Creek -- In compliance with Forest Plan direction, no management activities occurred, except for trail clearing by users along Trail 529. This stream is eligible for Scenic and Wild classification.

Bargamin Creek -- Trail maintenance was in compliance with Forest Plan and Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness Management Plan direction. Reaches of Bargamin Creek are eligible for Scenic and Wild river classification.

Lake Creek -- Trail maintenance was in compliance with Forest Plan and Gospel-Hump Wilderness Management Plan direction. Reaches of Lake Creek are eligible for Recreational and Wild river classification.

Meadow Creek (Tributary to Selway River) -- Grazing allotment is in use status in compliance with Forest Plan direction. Reaches of Meadow Creek are eligible for Recreational and Wild river classification.

South Fork Clearwater River (Recreational) -- Idaho Highway Department waste dump sites are a visual concern (do not meet partial retention), and occupy potential visitor parking sites.

Johns Creek -- Current management is compatible with maintaining eligibility as a potential Wild river.

Lower Salmon River -- A bill was introduced in Congress in 1992 for designation of the lower Salmon River, but not acted upon. Current management is compatible with maintaining its eligibility as a Recreational river.

West Fork Gedney Creek -- Current management maintains eligibility as a potential Wild River.

Suitability Studies: Suitability studies have been completed on the following streams considered to be eligible: Bear Creek complex, Moose Creek complex, Three Links Creek Complex, Gedney Creek complex,

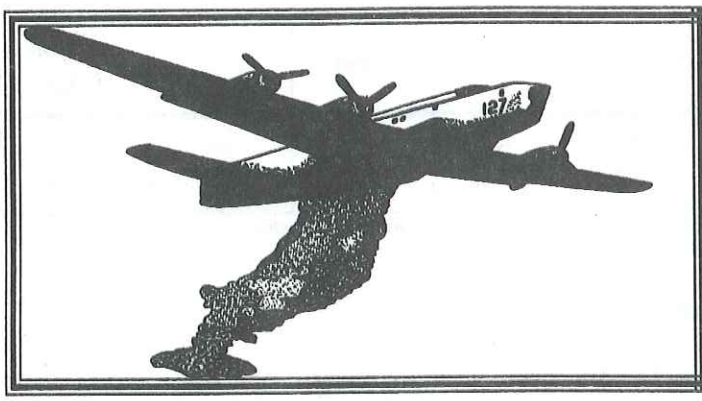
and Running Creek. The final Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS) for these studies was completed in September, 1995.

Funding is not currently available to complete suitability studies on the other eligible streams on the Forest. The current Regional strategy is to complete the suitability studies of the remaining streams as an integral part of the Forest Plan revision process.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Based on limited monitoring information, that management of designated Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers meets management direction for the segments. The Middle Fork of the Clearwater River System Management Plan needs to be updated and administration of scenic easements continues to need emphasis due to increased land sales and subdivisions.

Although the Forest management of eligible segments generally meets Forest Plan management direction, lack of funding in the recreation and lands programs inhibits adequate monitoring and management of both designated and eligible river segments. Some river suitability studies have been completed, but much work remains to complete studies for some of the more complex and controversial eligible rivers such as Meadow Creek and the South Fork of the Clearwater River.



Fire, Insect & Disease

Item 1k: Acres and Numbers of Wild and Prescribed Fires

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 to September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1995)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Unusual number of person-caused fires over the 10-year average indicating a trend of a specific cause(s). Unusual number of acres burned if unexplainable, such as unusually severe fire danger based on the burning index and the energy release component.

Discussion: In 1995, the Nez Perce National Forest experienced a rather slow fire season with 86 fire starts. Frequent rainshowers throughout the fire season kept fire indicies below the 10 year average for most of the fire season. The forest did send 16 intial attack fire people to Canada to help them deal with a record fire season. The Grangeville Smokejumper Base experienced a light season with most fire jumps occuring off forest and out of region. The ramp at the Grangeville retardant base was reconstructed this season to allow for safer manuvering of retardant aircraft. Due to the construction at the base combined with a slow fire season the retardant aircraft was on base less than 10 days.

Monitoring Results:

ACRES AND NUMBER OF WILDFIRES

	Number of Fires							Acres Burned						
Types of Fires	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	10-Yr.Avg.[1]	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	10-Yr.Avg.[1]
Lightning Fires	178	238	264	49	320	61	180	95	176	44,913	2	9,045	9	17,482
Lightning Fires with Control Strategy	155	238	216	48	309	61	168	83	176	44,741	2	5,172	9	11,949
Lightning Fires with Contain, Confine Strategy	23	0	48	1	11	0	12	12	0	172	0	5,172	0	5,663
Person-caused/ Misc.Fires	24	32	16	8	19	5	18	548	2,031	53	4	74	1	1,524
Total Fires	202	270	280	57	339	66	198	643	2,207	44,966	6	9,119	19	19,006

[1] The 10-year average is the average for the past 10 years.

PRESCRIBED NATURAL FIRES (WILDERNESS)[1]

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	10-Year Avg.[2]
Number of Fires	2	13	12	5	0	20	11
Acres Burned	0	3,311	39	0	0	16	1,638

[1] See the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness "State of the Wilderness Report" fire section for further information.
[2] The 10-year average is the average for the past 10 years.

Individual fire reports were completed on all 1995 fires.

The Nez Perce National Forest, along with other Federal, State, and private agencies of the North Idaho Airshed Group, continued their dialogue and cooperation to minimize or prevent the accumulation of smoke in Idaho, to meet State and Federal ambient air quality standards.

The Forest has two fuels targest (acres). One concerns the use of fire protection dollars, and the other, brush disposal funds. The target for use of fire protection dollars is 2,305 acres. The actual acres accomplished were 1,928, a shortfall of 377 acres. Both natural and activity fuels (logging debris) were treated with these funds.

The Forest target, for the treatment of activity fuels with the use of brush disposal funds (3,644 acres), was exceeded. Actual treatment was 3,978 acres, which exceeded the Forest target by 334 acres. Burning conditions during the spring of 1994 were generally favorable. Nearly all of the Forest's broadcast burning and underburning program is now accomplished during the spring months while pile burning activities are generally done during the late fall.

The Forest Fire Management program was not funded at the most cost efficient level as described by the National Fire Management Analysis System. EFFS funding was used to fund much of the aerial attack program as well as portions of the District ground forces.

Fuel treatment and prescribed fire was planned and utilized in accomplishing land management objectives.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

All Individual Fire Reports were submitted as required. Forest Plan and Regional projections for treatment of activity fuels were exceeded. Treatment projections of natural fuels were not attained.

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Item 7: Insect and Disease Activity

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Significant increases in population or damage levels of insects or diseases

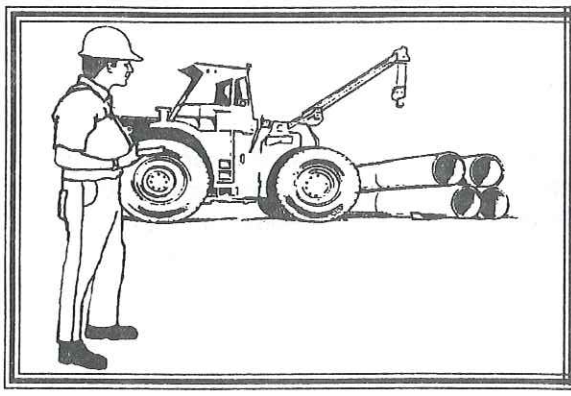
Monitoring Results:

Small populations of insects occurred throughout the Forest as a result of the cool, moist summer of 1995. Western balsam bark beetle and the balsam wooly adelgid continue to be a minor problem in high elevation

subalpine fir. Root disease continues to be a major problem in Douglas-fir and a minor problem in other species.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

In general, insect and disease conditions do not warrant area-wide control efforts. Silvicultural prescriptions will address stand treatment needs and mitigate the effects of insect and disease activity where possible. General insect and disease conditions will continue to be monitored to determine trends.



Facilities

Item 2k: Mitigation Measures Used for and Impacts of Transportation Facilities on Resources

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 6 years (FY 1992)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If reviews or studies indicated that mitigation was not being implemented as specified or if effectiveness was not near the levels predicted.

Discussion:

Facilities on the Forest include buildings and administrative sites, property boundaries, and the transportation system of Forest roads and trails. Construction and maintenance of all facilities improves the safety and health of both Forest employees and the visiting public.

Buildings and Administrative Sites -- Monitoring the health and safety of Forest buildings and administrative sites is not a monitoring requirement of the Forest Plan. Federal, State, and County laws and regulations govern the construction, maintenance, and use of structures, potable water systems, and sewage treatment systems. When new research reveals potential hazards to employees and Forest visitors, testing and monitoring is done and mitigation or removal is completed to prevent human exposure to hazardous materials such as lead, radon, and asbestos in buildings, air, and water.

The Forest has three "Public Community" water systems that serve Fenn Ranger Station, Red River Ranger Station, and Slate Creek Ranger Station. There are also 3 other seasonal work center water systems and 14 lookout and recreation site water systems. Bacteriological testing is done monthly during the year at the community systems and monthly during the use season for the other systems. This year, analysis for radiological contaminants, inorganic chemical contaminants, nitrate, and lead-copper was done on the community systems. If the systems fail testing requirements, they must be corrected or closed to use.

The Forest maintains three sewage treatment plants, one each at Fenn, Red River, and Slate Creek Ranger Stations. Effluent from these plants is tested monthly in accordance with each site NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) Permit requirements. The information is then forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency. The Forest did not discover any problems through effluent testing this year.

Property Boundaries -- There are approximately 350 miles of boundary between Forest lands and private landowners. There is an additional 330 miles of wilderness boundaries on the Forest. These boundaries are

not yet all marked. Maintenance of existing posted boundaries continues at about 15-20 miles per year. Wilderness boundary is located when needed for specific projects. Due to the more difficult terrain and the areas where corners have not been reestablished for nearly 100 years, the rate of boundary location and posting is now about 10-15 miles per year. Currently are processing one potential timber trespass and one small tracts. With the advent of project 615 the Land Net is being loaded into a GIS layer.

Right-of Ways

Although no new roads or trails are currently planned across private property the Forest has a substantial backlog of roads and trails which have been managed under prescriptive rights. Currently the Forest has one road right-of-way in the Regional Office for Office of General Counsel (OGC) review and approval. The Forest is actively working on three to five other road right-of-ways. Transportation planning on several districts is looking at trail needs with a potential of one to five active trail right-of-ways to be started this year. Currently the Forest is working on one to three trail right-of-ways.

In addition to the Forest right-of-way needs on system roads, the Forest is seeing a substantial increase in the request for long term private road easements across Forest lands. These requests are for both system roads and private roads. Currently there are 10 to 15 applications on Forest.

Transportation System (Roads and Trails) -- Monitoring is conducted during project planning, implementation, and throughout the duration of use. Project planning provides rationale for required mitigation. Upon implementation, monitoring is continuous during contract administration as documented in contract daily diaries and during program management as documented in the facility maintenance records.

Monitoring is also performed during interdisciplinary project reviews and in the annual program review.

Mitigation is accomplished using a combination of practices and specific measures. Five specific practices are:

(a) **Transportation Planning,** which is a detailed office effort using maps, photos, historical data, land hazard information, and geotechnical information to identify and avoid possible stability problems and mass hazard areas and to hold road mileage to the lowest possible.

(b) **Route location,** which ground-truths the results of the planning, refines locations,and provides further information on possible problem areas.

(c) **Contract Preparation,** which assures that mitigation measures are incorporated into drawings and specifications to be followed when the facility is built.

(d) **Administration,** which assures compliance with the contract.

(e) **Maintenance,** which assures that the facility continues to function and provide the level of mitigation originally intended.

In addition to Best Management Practices and the practices listed above, specific design measures can be employed to reduce effects of facilities on resources. Some of these measures are:

(f) **Designed and controlled cut slopes, fill slopes, road width, and road grades.** These effectively reduce sediment production by fitting the roads to the land.

(g) **Designed and controlled ditches, cross drain spacing, and culvert discharge.** These prevent water from running long distances over exposed ground. **Dewatered (dry) culvert installations and special drainage** such as rock filter blankets and rock buttresses were demonstrated to be effective in the Horse Creek study.

(h) **Stabilization of road surface and ditch lines with competent rock** (rock that does not rapidly disintegrate). The effectiveness of this measure in reducing surface erosion from these sources is dramatic, often over 90 percent.

(i) **Slash Filter Windrows.** This measure was developed on the Nez Perce Forest as part of the Horse Creek study. It consists of placing logging slash at the base of fill slopes and below culverts where fish passage is not required. It is a very effective treatment; sediment leaving fill slopes is reduced by 80 to 95 percent.

(j) **Seeding and fertilizing cut slopes, fill slopes, and other disturbed areas.** The objective is to reduce soil erosion from these sources after one growing season. Effectiveness has been rated at 85 percent or better once vegetation has become established.

Some of these measures are immediately effective, such as culvert dewatering. Slash filter windrows are effective immediately and during the first few years; after that they may become near capacity and in some instances begin to decompose. By that time though, revegetation becomes established and more effective.

Additional mitigation, in the form of project design in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service through the Level I consultation process, is now an integral part of every project. This process has been established in response to requirements of the Endangered Species Act. As a result of this process, each project receives joint evaluation and assessment of potential impacts and site specific mitigations are selected to address potential for resource impacts.

Monitoring Results:

Implementation Monitoring: All engineering projects for FY 1995 included specific mitigation measures to reduce facilities' impacts on resources. The following mitigation measures were used (not all were used on every project).

- Windrowing of construction slash at the toe of the fill.
- Rock surfacing of the entire road or at contributing areas.
- Layer placement and compaction of major fills.
- Grass seeding and fertilization of cut/fill slopes and disturbed areas.
- Rocking of ditchlines.
- Incorporating critical logging system controls into the design to minimize length of time of exposed soil.
- Straw bales to control erosion.
- Temporary waterbars to control erosion.
- Special project specification 204 (sps 204) to control timing of installation of mitigation measures.
- Installation of gates and or barriers to control traffic.
- Permanent waterbars (for trails)
- Controlled timber haul
- Placement of durable pit run rock blanket on fillslopes at major culvert installations to control erosion.
- Installation of drop inlets at critical locations to control erosion.
- Construction of rock buttress retaining structures.

The following tables identify principal mitigation measures specified/implemented by road project.

Table 2k-1 MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTED ON PROJECTS IN FY 1995

Project	Planned Sedi-ment Mitiga-tion (%)	Windrow Slash	Asphalt/ Rock Surfac-ing	Rock Ditches	Grass Seeding Fertiliza-tion	Straw Bales/ Mulch	SPS 204[3]	Layer Place Fills	Critical Logging Controls (designed into Package)	Tempo-rary Water-bars	Gates Traffic Control	Total Project Cost $[4]
PUBLIC WORKS												
Allison Bridges[2]	NA	NA	X	NA	X	X	X	X	NA	X	X	131,125
O'Hara Campground Rehab[1]	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	X	X	24,850
GAC Parking	80	NA	X	NA	NA	N/A	NA	X	NA	NA	X	
GAC Paving[2]	80	NA	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	NA	NA	X	123,883
Slate Creek Road Repairs	NA	NA	X	NA	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	X	13,197
Clearwater Raod Repairs	NA	NA	X	NA	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	X	70,919
TIMBER SALES												
Jack[2]	80	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	937,811

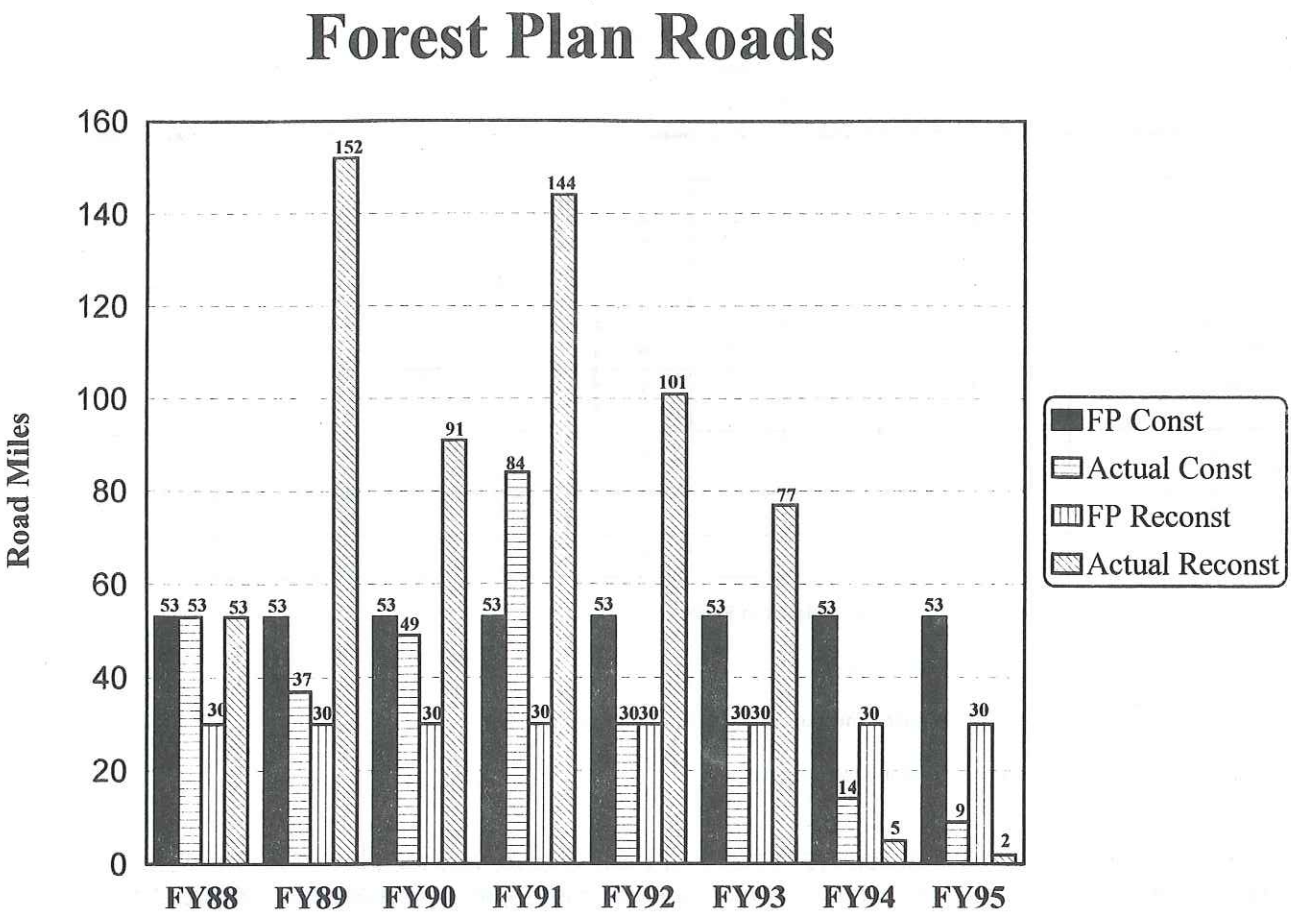
[1] Projects awarded in FY95 that are scheduled to be completed in FY96.

[2] Projects started in FY94 that were completed in FY95.

[3] Special Project Specification - These are mitigation measures for construction practices.

[4] Cost of mitigation measures is only a portion of the total project cost.

A total of 8.6 miles of road were constructed in FY95 and 1.7 miles of road were reconstructed. The Forest Plan predicted an average 53 miles of construction and 30 miles of reconstruction annually in the first decade. Table 2k-1a shows the miles of road constructed and reconstructed annually since FY88, compared directly with Forest Plan predictions.



While the annual miles vary, the total 306 miles of road constructed since 1988 is less than the 424 miles predicted in the Forest Plan. The total miles of road reconstructed far exceed the mileage predicted in the Forest Plan.

Road Maintenance

Over $120,000 of road maintenance funds were spent in FY 1995 on sediment mitigation projects. These included Clearwater road repairs, Slate Creak road repairs, repairing road ditches, reshaping roadways to improve drainage, installing various types of road drainage structures, cleaning ditches, cleaning or replacing culverts, and cleaning sediment traps.

Roads on the Forest are on a rotating schedule for maintenance. The level of maintenance varies by road. Level 1 maintenance takes care of only the drainage problems and access management signs on closed roads. Level 2 maintenance is on restricted roads and takes care of the drainage, signs, and the road surface for high clearance vehicles. Open roads are maintained at Levels 3-5 that address drainage, signs, and the surface for passenger cars. The only difference between levels 3-5 is the type of road surface, ranging from gravel to pavement. The following chart shows the accomplishments for FY 95. If the work was completed to Forest Service Manual standards, it is categorized "To Standard," If some maintenance was performed on the road, but it was not completed fully to standards, it is listed as "Less than Standard."

ROAD MILES MAINTAINED*

Maintenance Level	To Standard (Mi.)	Not To Standard (Mi.)
Level 1	860	831
Level 2	504	501
Level 3-5	500	439
Total	1864	1771

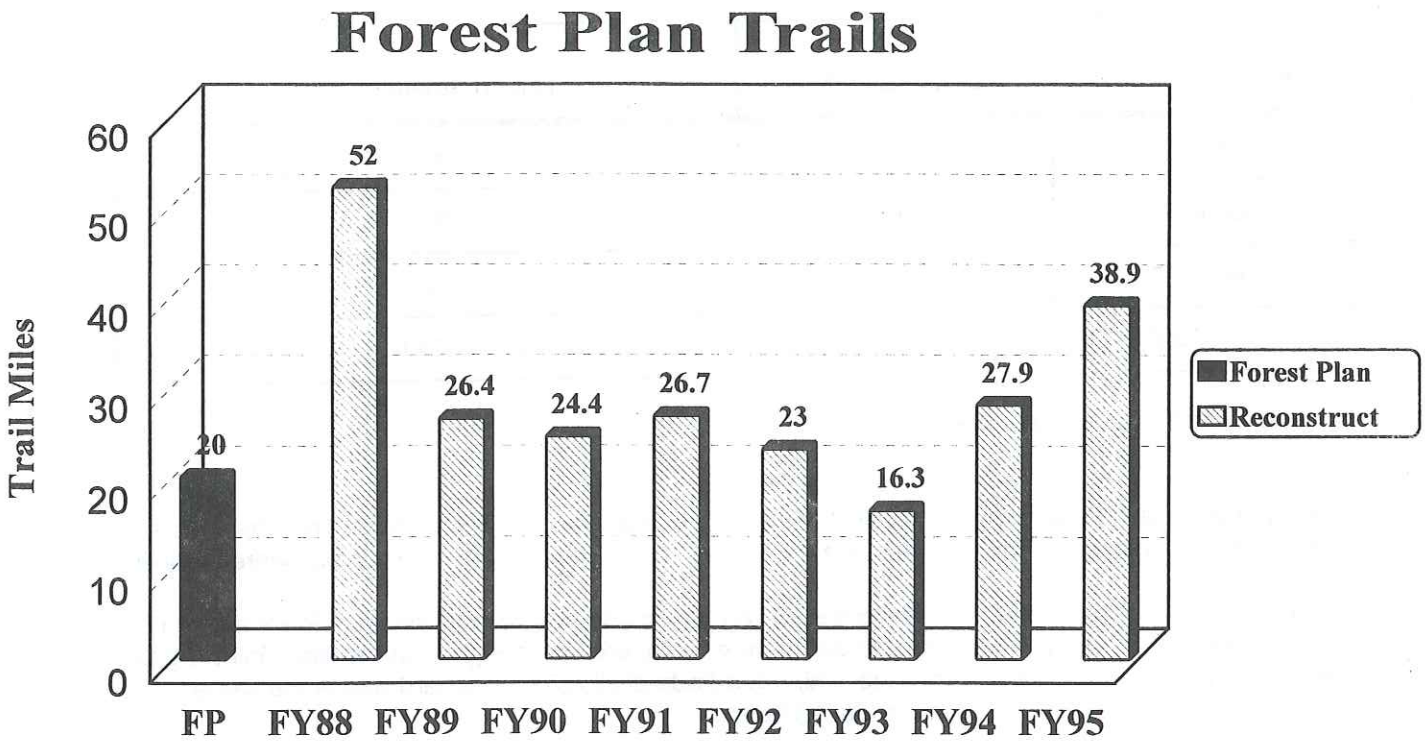
*Includes purchaser maintenance.

Restricted and open roads are periodically trimmed of overhanging brush and trees. The objective is to maintain sight distance for vehicle drivers and is a safety concern. In FY 95, 49 miles of road were brushed.

Signs along the roads are a safety item for the driving public and also give information. In FY 95, 10 new signs were installed on the Forest and 50 signs were replaced. These signs are installed following the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, which is a Federal Highway Standard and is the same for all Federal, State, and County roads in the United States.

Trails

There are currently 3,206 total miles of trail on the Nez Perce National Forest. The Forest Plan projected 20 miles of trail would be reconstructed every year. Chart 2k-1b shows how the miles of trail actually reconstructed exceeded the Forest Plan every year except FY 93.



In FY 95, 1,978 miles of trail had some level of maintenance. While the Forest Plan did not project the trail miles maintained each year, the Forest has been steadily increased the accomplishment, from 1,064 miles in FY 88 to the 1,978 miles accomplished in FY 95.

TRAIL MILES MAINTAINED

Maintenance Level	Total Miles Maintained
Level I	1,801
Level II	115
Level III	62
Less than Level I	0
Total Maintained	1,978
Total System	3,206

Implementation monitoring occurs during the normal execution of the Forest's workload. These documents are also on file in the planning records at the Forest Headquarters in Grangeville.

Effectiveness Monitoring: Effectiveness of mitigation measures is based upon information contained in the research summary "Reduction of Soil Erosion on Forest Roads," Intermountain Research Station General Technical Report INT-264 by Edward R. Burroughs Jr. and John G. King; "Effectiveness of Mitigation Practices and Specific Measures Associated With Facilities Proposed for Wingcreek-Twentymile EIS", Nez Perce National Forest, 1988; State Forest Practices Act and attendant BMP's; "Guidelines for Evaluating and Managing Summer Elk Habitat in Northern Idaho", Wildlife Bulletin No. 11, 1984, Idaho Department of Fish and Game; and in the "Nez Perce Access Management Guide", Nez Perce National Forest, 1988 as amended.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

The measures and practices being used to reduce sedimentation are effective, but do not totally stop all sediment movement. Continual attention and sensitivity to the watershed resource is required to ensure desired results are achieved. Flexibility to incorporate research findings and to take advantage of innovative construction and administrative techniques needs to be maintained.

* * * * * * * *

Item 2l: Adequacy of Transportation Facilities to Meet Resource Objectives and User Needs

Frequency of Measurement: Continuous

Reporting Period: 5 years (FY 1992)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: If public opinion is significantly against the Nez Perce access management program or if the program shows serious negative impacts upon resources.

Discussion:

The monitoring of item 2l is continuous. Due to the nature of transportation systems and their impacts upon management and use of the Forest, monitoring is both very important and very complex. Consequently, monitoring information comes from a variety of sources: facility maintenance records, environmental assessment documents, public letters and requests, and biological evaluations. The Nez Perce Access Management Guide also contains methodology and documentation designed to assist in monitoring.

Reporting for this monitoring item is being expanded in this report compared to past years. Subject headings are being provided to help track monitoring efforts.

Monitoring Results:

Traffic Surveillance

In 1984, Nez Perce Engineering instituted a traffic surveillance program, using inductive loop equipment.

The objective of having a traffic surveillance program is to provide managers data on use of representative Forest roads. This information can be utilized in (1) justification for commitment of capital investment funds for reconstruction of existing system roads; (2) preparation of Recreation Improvement Management (RIM) reports; (3) access management planning; (4) identifying high use/high maintenance roads, and allocation of road maintenance dollars to take care of them; and (5) design criteria, i.e. (ADT) (average daily traffic) counts, turnout spacing, surface types, lane requirements, and signing.

The three highest traffic volume roads on the Forest remain #223, Selway Road; #221, Grangeville-Salmon Road, and #1614, Salmon River road. These roads are arterials and collectors with a majority of the traffic on the County-maintained portions of these roads.

Overall, review of the traffic count program across the Forest suggests that recreation related traffic is remaining fairly constant across the Forest with a noticeable peak around the start of the general big game hunting seasons and that timber harvest related traffic is declining.

Traffic surveillance was not conducted in 1995.

Access Management

Road System

Inventory

The current Forest inventory shows 3,635 miles of road under Forest Service jurisdiction. Of this mileage, 1,141 miles are open and the remaining 2,494 miles are either closed to all vehicular traffic or have use and vehicle restrictions on them.

In 1995, the Forest published the "1995 Access Guide," an itemized listing of access prescriptions for Forest roads. This was produced as a complement to the Forest Visitor Map in an effort to provide more complete information to Forest visitors.

Effectiveness of Access Restriction Devices

The effectiveness of our access restriction devices (gates, barricades, etc.) continues to be questioned by interested parties. Unfortunately, very little quantifiable data exists to answer the questions. Without doubt, violations do occur. Furthermore, the amount and frequency of violations varies across the Forest; some District access coordinators are able to report that violations appear to be at a low level while others have areas of definite concern.

As a means to begin to obtain a measure of the effectiveness of closure devices, the Forest was able to install inductive loop counters at two gate locations in 1993. This was an initial effort to try and evaluate if the methodology would work. The sites chosen were on roads with seasonal restrictions i.e. open during the summer (from June 15 to September 15) and closed to all motorized use during the fall, winter, and spring. Due to the small sample size it is inappropriate to try and extrapolate the data to a generalized Forest-wide statement. The study did document substantial daily use during the open period and a substantial decrease in use during the restricted period. The study was incapable of determining if the u se during the restricted period was due to violations or permitted activities.

This type of monitoring was not undertaken in 1994, however a cooperative effort in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation was planned to continue the study in 1995. This study did not continue in 1995. The proposal has been dropped.

Access for Hunters with Disabilities

Policy and guidance have been provided by the Regional Office in Missoula in the form of Manual and Handbook direction for providing access to hunters with disabilities. The Red River Ranger District has been managing such a program for several years.

Trail System

Groomed Snowmobile Trails

Efforts have been undertaken in recent years to provide opportunities for snowmobile recreationists. Through the cooperative efforts of local organizations, the State of Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Nez Perce National Forest, particularly the Ranger Districts, a number of routes are currently managed for winter snowmobile use.

The current inventory includes 303 miles of trail on the Elk City and Red River Ranger Districts maintained in cooperation with the Timberliners Snowmobile Club; 120 miles of trail on the Clearwater and Salmon River Ranger Districts maintained in cooperation with the Snow Drifters Snowmobile Club; and 60 miles on the Selway and Elk City Districts maintained in cooperation with the Valley Cats Snowmobile Club.

Ski Touring Trails

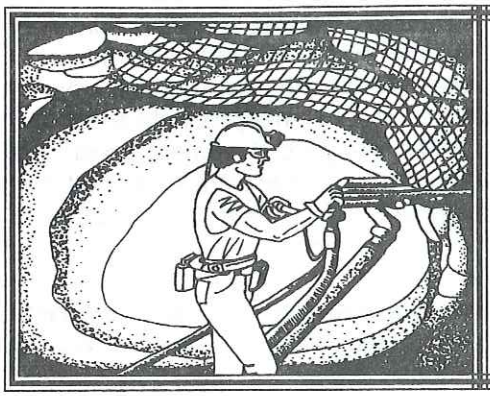
The Clearwater Ranger District, in cooperation with the State of Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, offers opportunities for Nordic skiing. Currently, this groomed trail system includes 22.1 kilometers of trail at various difficulty ratings. There is additionally 15.2 kilometers classed as "most difficult" that receives infrequent grooming.

Motorized Trails

The Salmon River Ranger District, in cooperation with the State of Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation and Off Highway Motor Vehicle grant funding and High Mountain Trail Machine Association, have completed to date 50 miles of the Front Country Off Highway Vehicle motorized trail system in the Florence Basin Area. At completion this system will provide 130 miles of motorized opportunity.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Effects of the access management program require time to be realized. Preliminary indication is that the Nez Perce Access Management program is working and that the Guide does provide the tools necessary for successful attainment of an integrated access management program.



Minerals

Item 2m: Adequacy of Mining Operating Plans and Reclamation Bonds

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Operating plans which need to be updated modified; bonds which need to be increased, decreased or returned; or case files which can be closed out.

Monitoring Results:

In order to meet Forest Plan direction in minerals, it is necessary to have Plans of Operations which contain adequate measures to protect surface resources. It is also important that mining operations be implemented in accordance with the approved Plans. Reclamation bonds must be adequate to cover reclamation of areas disturbed by mining. However, once the operator completes reclamation work, the bond needs to be released. Item 2m measures how well the Forest is implementing the Plan in these areas. Monitoring data is obtained from case files, from routine inspections by District employees, and from interdisciplinary team field reviews.

Out of 72 active Plans of Operation, 2 need modification or updating to more accurately describe existing surface disturbance and/or changes in the operation. This is the same as 1994. A review of bonds being held by the Forest Service indicate that 45 need to be revised or released. Many of these bonds are associated with operations that have been inactive for a number of years, rather than with the active plans of operations. In addition, every year all bonds must be revised and update to accurately reflect current reclamation costs. The following table displays this data:

Ranger District	Active Plans of Operation[1]	Plans Needing Modification	Bonds Needing Revision	Bonds Needing Release
Salmon River	13	0	0	7
Clearwater	0	0	0	0
Red River	10	1	1	0
Moose Creek	0	0	0	0
Selway	0	0	0	0
Elk City[2]	49	1	45	10
TOTAL	72	2	46	17

[1]Does not include Notices of Intent.
[2]In 1995 more effort was made to go through the files and identify operations with bonds that were not active

The Forest Plan management direction for minerals states, "Exploration and development of mineral resources will be facilitated by providing timely responses to Notices of Intent and Operating Plans." In recent years,

issues concerning cultural resources and the listing of the chinook salmon as being threatened, in addition to greater analysis needs relating to watersheds and riparian ares, has greatly slowed response times to mining proposals. Regulation timeframes are not met. Many large mining companies have dropped exploration and development operations on the Forest. As a result the Forest was able to administer ongoing and new operations to a higher level than in previous years.

Beginning in 1993 mining claimants were required to pay a rental fee for each mining claim owned. If the claimant owned 10 or fewer claims they could be exempted from the fee if they had a certain level of production or a valid notice of intent or plan of operation for exploration. As a result the Forest continues to deal with large numbers of notices of intent for very low level prospecting work.

In 1995 the Forest began to monitor the recreational suction dredging occurring on the Forest. This was done in order to have accurate figures for the number of dredges operating, their sizes and how long they operate. In 1995 we had 25 suction dredges operate on the Forest. A majority of the dredges operated from a few days to two weeks. Approximately 4 dredges worked off and on throughout the entire summer.

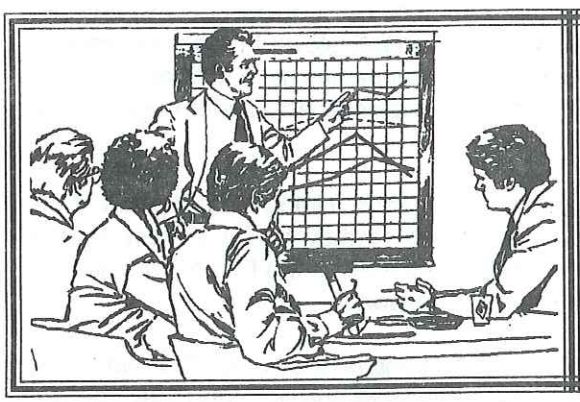
Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

These monitoring results indicate that the Forest is actively working to improve the quality of its minerals management responsibilities in conformance with Forest Plan direction. The number of plans that need revision has decreased significantly since 1993. This reflects increased emphasis on minerals administration by the districts. A large number of the bonds on the Forest need to be revised. As mentioned earlier this reflects both yearly updating of bonds to more accurately reflect current reclamation costs and the need to release bonds associated with inactive plans.

The following chart compares the above figures with those from previous years. Zero percent in each category would indicate the lowest degree of variation from Forest Plan direction.

Year	Plans Needing Modification (percent of total plans)	Bonds Needing Revision (percent of total plans)	Bonds Needing Release (percent of total plans)
1988	13 %	11 %	unknown %
1989	6 %	15 %	7 %
1990	9 %	9 %	8 %
1991	7 %	15 %	3.5 %
1992	4 %	6 %	0 %
1993	20 %	54 %	23 %
1994	6 %	121 %	50 %
1995	1 %	64 %	24 %

On the Forest as a whole, some unnecessary disturbance to surface resources is occurring. The 1995 figures represent effects of a continued reduced workload in activity by major mining companies, which allowed a higher quality of administration. The Forest is seeing a large increase in recreational mining activity, such as recreational suction dredging. Our monitoring of the suction dredgers during 1995 is an attempt to understand number of dredges as well as potential impacts. The major obstacles to achieving full Forest Plan implementation currently seems to be the lack of adequate staffing in minerals. The minerals program is mostly a reactionary program. It is difficult to accurately forecast activity levels for budgeting purposes. As such the program cannot adjust rapidly to large increases in plans. Currently we are experience a decrease in workload and so we are able to more accurately administer operations and review files.



Economics

Item 3: Cost of Implementing Resource Management Prescriptions

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Changes in appropriations and expenditures to the degree that accomplishment of the Forest Plan's long-term goals and objectives are affected will necessitate a Forest Plan Amendment.

Discussion: The Forest's Outyear Program is reviewed and updated annually. The Outyear Program is no longer an attempt to project costs of fully implementing the Plan. Instead, the Forest redistributes funds among resource areas to show current priorities, but with a total approximately past funding levels.

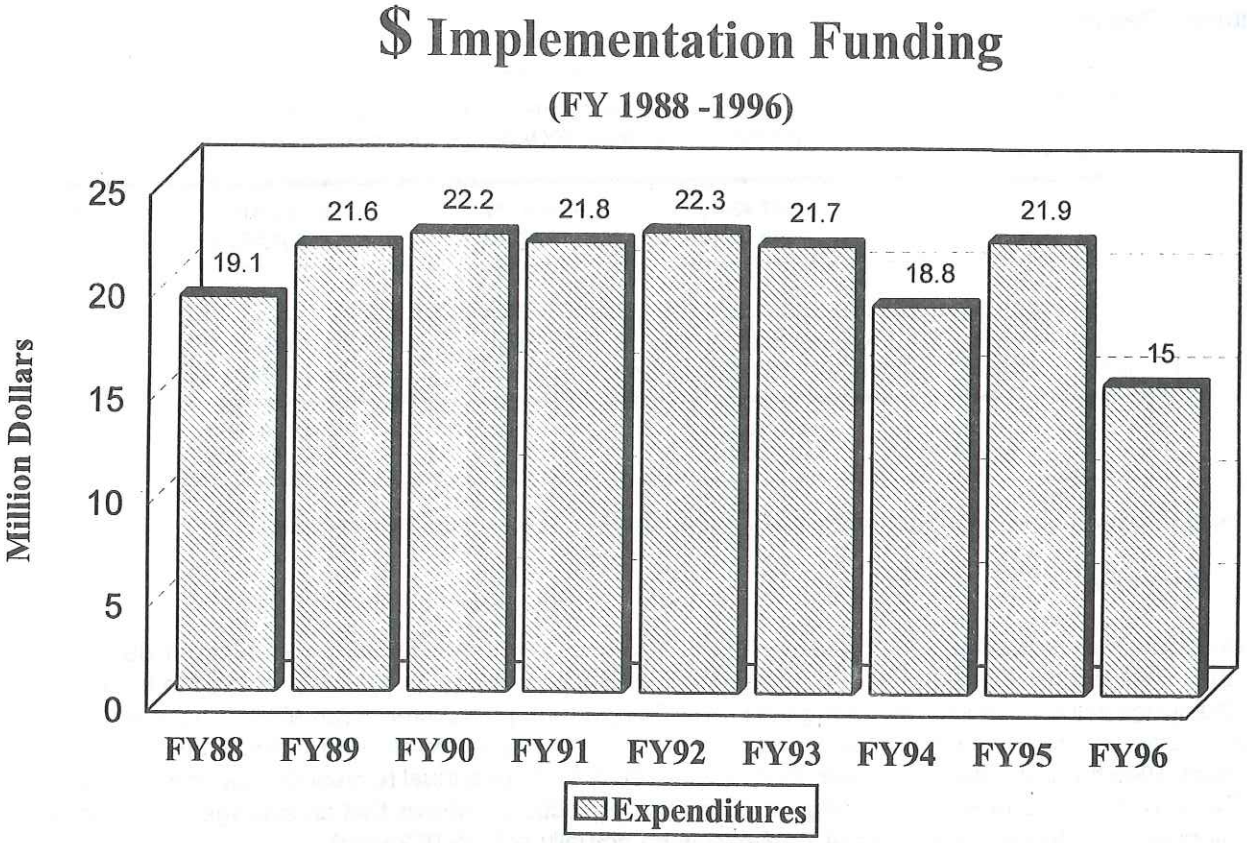
Monitoring Results

Table 2, found in the beginning of this report, displays budget allocations and actual expenditures for the fiscal years 1993, 1994, and 1995. Dollars have been adjusted to constant 1995 values.

Table 3 displays projected annual costs for FY 1996. Corresponding activities and outputs for the period 1993-1995 are displayed in Table 1.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results

Past monitoring has shown that funding levels received have consistently been less than full Forest Plan funding levels. This situation will likely continue. It is unclear what effect these decreased budgets will have on the long-term goals and objectives of the Forest Plan. However, the activity and output levels of some resources projected at full Forest Plan funding levels have not been attained and may not be attained in the future.



The chart shown above shows funding levels expended by the Forest in the past seven years and the projected funding level for FY 96. Dollars for all years have been adjusted to 1995 dollars.

The effects of this funding level can be seen in the sections of this report describing individual resource areas.

* * * * * * * *

Item 3a: Forest Resource-Derived Revenues

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: 8 Years (FY 1995)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Any change in resource-derived revenues altering the implementation of Forest Plan long-term goals and objectives will necessitate a Forest Plan Amendment.

Discussion: Resource outputs to which dollar values were assigned constitute the priced benefits included in the FORPLAN PNV (present net value) calculations. While both market and nonmarket benefits were used in the Forest Plan to determine total priced benefits, only certain resource benefits were used to determine the allocation and scheduling of prescriptions in FORPLAN. Only timber and range revenues are used in calculating returns to the government.

Monitoring Results

Revenues	Projected Annual Forest Plan Revenues (FY 95$)	Actual FY 1988 Revenues (FY 95$)	Actual FY 1989 Revenues (FY 95$)	Actual FY 1990 Revenues (FY 95$)	Actual FY 1991 Revenues (FY 95$)
Timber	$16,062,697	$5,597,420	$8,814,157	$7,962,616	$5,147,479
Range	$ [1]	$43,137	$46,222	$48,568	$42,432

Actual FY 1992 Revenues (FY 95$)	Actual FY 1993 Revenues (FY 95$)	Actual FY 1994 Revenues (FY 95$)	Actual FY 1995 Revenues (FY 95$)
$8,558,834	$9,290,740	$16,305,506	$5,400,900
$40,315	$40,289	$42,951	$33,520

[1]Projected grazing revenues have been held constant over time because grazing fees to not rise with inflation.

Timber Revenues

The differences between projected Forest Plan timber revenues and actual timber revenues in FY 88 - FY 93 were due to two factors. First, we were not experiencing stumpage values as high as predicted in the Forest Plan. Stumpage values used in developing the Forest Plan were approximately $228/MBF in constant FY 95 dollars. The actual experienced stumpage values were considerably lower. Second, timber harvest acres in fiscal years 1988 through 1995 were lower than the predicted average annual harvest displayed in the Forest Plan (Table 1). Also, see table 11-c on page 40 in the timber section. It shows that an average of 64 percent of the annual projected harvest acres (4,770/year) were actually sold (3,052/year).

Prior to the completion of the Forest Plan, sensitivity analysis was performed examining the effect of lower stumpage values on land allocation. Appendix D of the Forest Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) discusses this analysis. The analysis illustrated that while there would be significant changes in revenues, there would be little change in the programmatic allocation of the Forest Plan.

The revenue increase experienced in 1989 over 1988 can be attributed primarily to the increase in timber sale receipts. More timber was harvested in 1989, perhaps a function of more favorable market conditions.

The revenue decrease from 1990 to 1991 was a largely a result of different accounting methods used between 1990 and 1991. In particular, established Purchaser Credits for roads were used in 1990, while charged Purchaser Credits for roads were used in 1991. The method of depreciating roads also changed in 1991.

The revenue increase from 1992 to 1994 was due to the higher volume of timber harvested, higher prices and an evening out of the accounting method used for Purchaser Credit Roads which was changed in the previous year.

The revenue decrease from 1994 to 1995 was due to fewer acres being harvested in 1995.

The following table displays gains or losses from timber harvesting and related activities. In the past, Payments to States has been included in this analysis, but it has been determined that the Payment to States is not a legitimate cost to the timber program. Payments to States is shown in item 8: Effects of National Forest Management Lands, Resources, and Communities Adjacent to the Forest, of this report.

Gain or Loss of the Timber Program

	FY 1988 (FY 95$)	FY 1989 (FY 95$)	FY 1990 (FY 95$)	FY 1991 (FY 95$)	FY 1992 (FY 95$)	FY 1993 (FY 95$)	FY 1994 (FY 95$)	FY 1995 (FY 95$)
Gain/Loss Before Payments to States	371,048	1,721,677	787,931	-2,255,035	-240,688	1,032,998	5,859,725	*

* As of the publication date of this report, the 1995 TSPIRS report which serves as the basis for these figures had not been distributed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Range Revenues

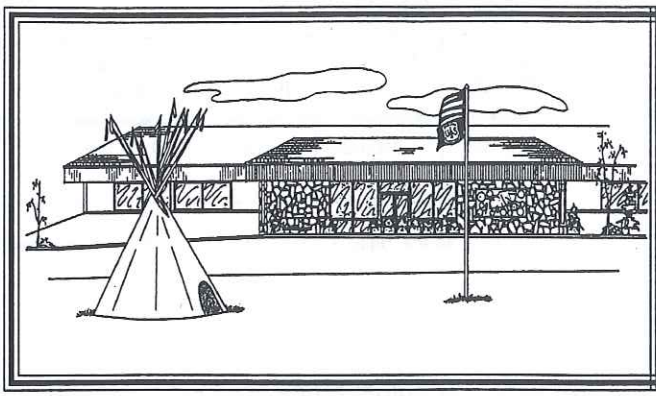
Differences between projected Forest Plan range revenues and actual range revenues are attributed to changes in grazing fees and a change in how revenues are calculated.

The range revenues in the Forest Plan were incorrectly calculated by multiplying the 1986/1987 grazing fee against the permitted Animal Unit Months (AUMs), instead of Authorized Head Months of use. Range revenues are correctly calculated by multiplying the current grazing fees against the Authorized Head Months of use. A "Head" is defined as a grazing animal 6 months or older.

In Fiscal Year 1995, grazing fees were $1.61 per head month for cattle and horses, and $0.32 for sheep. In 1995, 19,188 cattle and horse head months and 8,210 sheep head months were billed.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results

It is unclear what effect the difference in revenues received and expected will have on the Forest Plan's long-term goals and objectives.



Effects on Others

Item 8: Effects of National Forest Management on Lands, Resources, and Communities Adjacent to the Forest

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Reporting Period: Annually

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Unacceptable effects determined by the Forest Interdisciplinary Team.

Discussion:

The Nez Perce National Forest is managed to do what is best for the land and resources which we hold in trust for the American people. Often those most affected by this management direction are the communities and organizations adjacent to the Forest.

Most Idaho communities and agencies are affected to some degree by activities and management direction of the nearby national forest. One of the most obvious is payment in lieu of taxes (the 25% funds) generated from sale or lease of resources, permits, and other income generated on national forest lands. Other effects are wages from the federal work force, income from recreation and tourism, raw material to industry, cooperative agreements between agencies and the Forest Service, and demographic trends which may to some degree be attributable to activities on or condition of National Forest lands.

Following are some examples of the effects of management of the Nez Perce National Forest on adjacent communities and agencies in 1995:

- In 1995, the Forest employed 540 people (compared to 493 in 1994) and had a payroll of $12,000,000. Nez Perce NF employees bring diversity to local communities. Some are American Indian, Asian-Pacific Americans, and Hispanic Americans. Many employees donate their time and talent to a variety of local activities and causes. Nez Perce NF employees serve on local governing boards; school, church, and service club committees; and youth sports organizations.

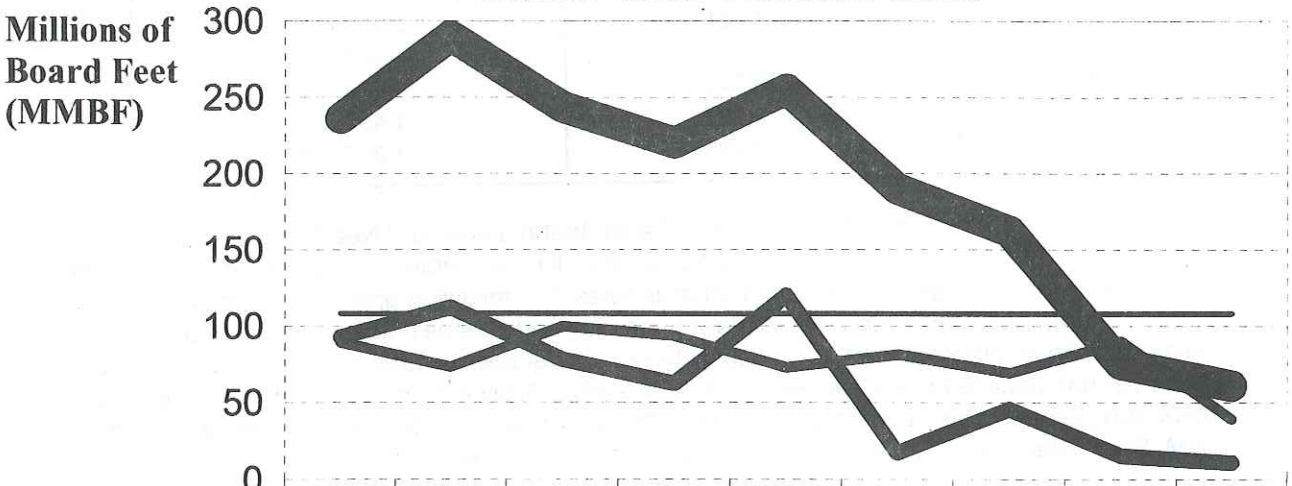
- Payments to Idaho County from the sale of timber, grazing fees, other income, etc. from the Nez Perce Forest totaled $1,217,808 in 1995. Payments to the County from all national forests was $2,394,220, which includes the Bitterroot National Forest ($89,081) and the Clearwater National Forest ($1,087,331). The majority of funds from the Nez Perce NF were from the sale of timber. The following chart displays payments (all receipts) to Idaho County from the Nez Perce National Forest since 1987.

Payments to Idaho County from Nez Perce NF (All Receipts)

Fiscal Year	Nominal Dollars	Constant 1995 Dollars
1995	1,217,808	1,217,808
1994	3,872,891	3,977,459
1993	2,197,978	2,301,283
1992	2,042,981	2,190,075
1991	1,303,797	1,436,784
1990	1,276,546	1,470,581
1989	1,243,278	1,491,934
1988	995,846	1,247,795

- Primary lumber production facilities in the local area (Idaho, Lewis and Nez Perce counties) depend upon national forest logs for raw materials. For a sawmill to be viable it should maintain two to three year's supply of raw material under contract at all times. The following graph shows the uncut volume remaining under contract compared to the volume sold and volume harvested each year since 1987 on the Nez Perce National Forest. Obviously the supply of raw material (volume sold) from the Nez Perce NF has declined drastically since 1991. The effect likely will be reduced production, employment and perhaps closure of some area mills. Other effects could be added dependence on other BLM, State, Nez Perce Tribal, or private timberlands for raw materials.

Volume Remaining Under Contract (Uncut)
Volume Cut/Volume Sold



	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95
ASQ	108	108	108	108	108	108	108	108	108
Actual Harvest	89.1	72.9	99.5	93.4	72.8	81.4	69.2	89.9	38.8
Timber Sold	92.6	112.1	77.9	62.2	120	17.2	45.6	15.2	10.7
Uncut Vol Under Contract	235.9	290	243.6	220	255	189.8	162.1	75.2	60.7

- Total expenditures (money allocated to the Forest by Congress) in fiscal year 1995, was $23,072,500. Beside salaries, rent and other operational expenses, revenues are distributed to the local economies through formal contracts ($1,720,409) and small purchases ($942,258).

- In 1992, the Nez Perce National Forest became a grant administer for funding through the 1990 Farm Bill. In 1995, the Elk City Alliance received $16,950 and the City of Grangeville received $14,500 (straw board feasibility study) in Farm Bill grants.

- The Forest continued cooperative agreements with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the Bureau of Land Management to study bull trout movements in the South Fork Clearwater River. Another continuing project is "Venture 20" - in which the Forest cooperates with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Nez Perce Tribe on a variety of fish and wildlife issues on the Forest. Ranger Districts entered into a number of cost share agreements with local organizations in 1995. The purposes of some of these agreements are to maintain and construct trails, conduct wildlife surveys, improve fish and wildlife habitat and develop recreation facilities.

- The Forest provides the setting for a variety of recreation experiences. Over 500,000 recreation visitor days are estimated annually for such uses as camping, viewing scenery, boating, hunting, and fishing. The Forest is nationally known for the quality of big game hunting and white water boating. Winter sports and wildlife viewing are also increasing. The effects of these activities contribute to area economies and perhaps even real property values.

- Many rivers and streams on the Nez Perce National Forest flow onto adjacent ownerships. Management activities of watersheds on the Forest may affect water quantity and quality off the Forest. Some of these effects are monitored and reported in the Soil and Water section of this report under item 2h.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results

The falling timber supply to industry seems to be one of the most obvious effects of present management of the Nez Perce National Forest on adjacent communities and agencies. It has prompted limited local and state-wide support for turning management, especially timber management, over to the State of Idaho.

One can make assumptions about effects of management of other resources by reviewing trends of monitoring results of specific items in this report. Conflicting public demand for national forest goods and services, however, even within areas adjacent to the Nez Perce, make it difficult to quantify effects of many of our management activities.

* * * * * * * *

Item 9: Effects of Other Government Agencies' Activities on the National Forest

Frequency of Measurement: Annually (October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Variability Which Would Initiate Further Evaluation: Unacceptable effects determined by the Forest Interdisciplinary Team.

Monitoring Results:

State of Montana and State of Idaho (Air Quality): The Forest joined the North Idaho Airshed Group in 1990. This group's objective is to minimize or prevent the accumulation of smoke in Idaho and Montana to meet State and Federal ambient air quality standards when prescribed burning is necessary. From time

to time, the State of Montana and the State of Idaho have asked us to curtail our burning for air quality purposes, but this did not occur in 1995.

State of Idaho Department of Lands (IDL): The Forest provided data to be used by IDL in support of the Idaho Cumulative Watershed Effects procedure.

Nez Perce Tribe: The Forest and the Nez Perce Tribe signed a new MOU in 1995 stipulating that the Forest would train and equip a twenty person fire fighting crew from the Nez Perce Tribe. The training was accomplished in 1995, however, due to the slow fire season, the crew was not used. The crew has been beneficial to the forest in supressing wildfires in the past.

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ): The Idaho Legislature passed Seante Bill 1284 in 1995. This bill eliminated Stream Segments of Concern and replaced the Local Working Committees with a structure of Basin Advisory Groups and Watershed Advisory Groups. The Bill sets up a process to address Water Quality Limited Streams, of which there are currently 92 listed on the Nez Perce National Forest.

The Forest continued participating on the Clear Creek Coordinated Resource Management (CRM) group. The group was disbanded in 1995 when it became evident that there was relatively little landowner support to continue the process.

Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR): Under provisions of the Stream Channel Alteration Act, the Forest consulted with the IDWR with respect to mining, road construction, and instream improvements. The Department is also involved in administering the Snake River Water Rights Adjudication.

State of Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board: Through formal agreement, the Forest Service and the Board coordinate the permit and enforcement process for outfitters and guides providing public services on National Forest System lands.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG): IDFG works with the Forest in both a collaborative role and a resource advocacy role. Their involvement in FY95 included the following: whitetail deer research and incidental wildlife information gathering, information and support to assessment of TES issues on the Forest, assistance in validation of unverified bear sightings or photos for proper identification, participation in developing various species conservation assessments and strategies, input and collaboration to provide updating and improvement recommendations to the existing north Idaho summer elk model and opportunities to utilize an elk vulnerability model, winter surveys for elk and bighorn sheep populations, and providing a cooperative nongame wildlife position stationed in north central Idaho to interact and work with Forest non-game issues.

Idaho Soil Conservation District (ISCD): The ISCD is the lead agency on a meado restoration project in Red River. The project is located on lands administered by the Idaho Department of Fisha nd Game and potentially on adjacent private lands. The Forest provided technical and administrative assistance on the project in 1995.

Idaho State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO): The Idaho State Historic Preservation Office monitors the Nez Perce National Forest's compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. This office reviews all cultural resource reports and site record forms. If a cultural resource is to be impacted by a Forest activity, the impact is mitigated through consultation with SHPO.

The Nez Perce National Forest has recently established a programmatic agreement (PA) with the SHPO. The Forest is also working with the University of Idaho on a cultural resource overview. Once completed, this overview and the PA will result in the more reliable and efficient identification and protection of all cultural resources, thus insuring compliance with the law and SHPO requirements.

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation: Sixty-five miles of ORV trail maintenance was completed through the trail ranger program and the Forest cooperated in the maintenance of 308 miles of groomed snowtrails with funds, equipment, and people shared with Idaho Parks and Recreation.

Idaho Division of Aeronautics: The Board periodically cooperates with inspections of airfields on the forest.

Idaho Conservation Data Center (ICDC): The ICDC cooperates with the Forest in the development of conservation strategies and provides numerous data queries about rare species sightings for biological evaluation.

Idaho County: The Forest and the County participated jointly in the Idaho County Snowmobile program with groomers, snowplowing, and funding.

Idaho County Sheriff's Office (ICSO): The ICSO monitors Forest Service radios during non-official hours, provides assistance on patrols, security monitoring and arrests. The two agencies also cooperate in search and rescue missions. The Forest provides cooperative assistance by allowing the Sheriff's Office to use available Forest Service equipment when needed.

Nez Perce Tribe/Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission: The Nez Perce Indian Tribe, as in previous years, assisted the Forest in cultural awareness, recruitment and training activities. This assistance was of value in helping the Forest diversify its work force and accomplish resource management objectives. The Nez Perce Tribe is sponsoring a young horsemen's program called Appaloosa. This group will concentrate on learning packing skills through an outfitted educational trail ride program. The Forest Service is supporting this activity by teaching packing skills with forest and the 9 Mile Pack Train.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE): The COE was consulted on projects involving wetlands under provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS): The USFWS provided ESA section 7 informal consultation support and/or concurrence to 107 biological evaluations for listed and proposed species on the forest. In addition, the USFWS provided technical assistance and support to the development of several species conservation assessments and strategies of Forest species and provide for a statewide repository for information related to wolf, peregrine falcon, bald eagle and grizzly bear recovery efforts.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM): The BLM and Nez Perce National Forest were involved in cooperative cadastral surveys. This was very beneficial to both agencies, with excellent results. An annual coordination meeting takes place. Activities coordinated include timber, range, mining, recreation, and water monitoring.

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA): The Forest has continued working with BPA funds and several agencies and landowners to improve fish habitat, stream channel stability and riparian condition along several miles of Red River that's located on state and private lands.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS): On May 22, 1992, the spring and summer run chinook salmon in the Salmon River drainage and the fall run chinook salmon in the Clearwater River were listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. In fiscal year 1993 the Forest finished the Forest-wide summary of project effects on the chinook salmon. Later in the year the Forest began to work on the cumulative effects assessment for major watersheds on the Forest. This work has continued into FY94 and requires a considerable shift in Forest work to address the salmon issue. Two hundred forty one biological evaluations were completed in FY 94.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

As in previous years, in fiscal year 1994 the Forest benefited from cooperative agreements with other government agencies and the Nez Perce Indian Tribe. These agreements resulted in the establishment of

closer working relationships, the sharing of technical support, project cost sharing, and better resource protection.

In order to meet the consultation requirements with NMFS, the Forest has programmed a major part of its funding and personnel to work on biological evaluations on all projects and activities. The purpose of these evaluations is to insure that projects and activities have a no effect or beneficial effect on chinook salmon recovery.

D. Other Monitoring

This section addresses monitoring information that is not identified as a requirement in the Nez Perce National Forest Plan (Table V-1). The Forest feels this information is important to monitor as part of Forest Plan implementation.

1. **Nez Perce National Forest Accessibility for People with Disabilities**

Discussion:

The Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) of 1968 requires that all public buildings, facilities and programs funded in whole or part with federal funds be accessible to and usable by physically disabled persons. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended in 1978 states, "No otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by Federal financial assistance or by any Executive Agency". The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 which provides standards - even when no Federal funds are involved - for addressing discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, transportation, telecommunications, and services operated by private entities.

In 1991 the Nez Perce Forest Human Resource Team identified the need to evaluate accessibility of Forest facilities to people with disabilities. In June of 1991 a survey was initiated, using the newly developed Forest Service accessibility survey tool, to determine the accessibility of Forest campgrounds/picnic areas. In addition, the need was identified to evaluate Forest Service facilities. A special emphasis program was created in 1992 to deal with issues concerning people with disabilities. During the initial monitoring stages of facilities we realized the need for TDD (Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf) to allow better communication with our publics. TTDs have been installed in five District offices and the Forest Headquarters. To access these phone lines, use the following phone numbers:

Forest Headquarters	(208)983-2280
Salmon River Ranger District	(208)839-2328
Clearwater Ranger District	(208)983-0696
Red River Ranger District	(208)842-2235
Moose Creek Ranger District	(208)983-2623
Selway Ranger District	(208)926-7725
Elk City Ranger District	(208)842-2233

General Description of the Different Levels of Accessibility
(A Design Guide/Universal Access to Outdoor Recreation)

Accessible/Easy	Moderate	Difficult
The general level of expected access to elements and spaces integrated into developed recreation sites or portions of sites. These are typically in: urban/rural settings; at sites managed to provide urban/rural recreation experiences; or at sites managed to provide an easy level of accessibility as defined by these guidelines.	The general level of expected access to elements and spaces integrated into moderately developed recreation sites or portions of sites. These are typically in: roaded natural settings; at sites managed to provide roaded natural recreation experiences; or at sites managed to provide a moderate level of accessibility as defined by these guidelines.	The general level of expected access to elements and spaces integrated into lesser developed recreation sites or portions of sites. These are typically in: semi-primitive settings; at sites managed to provide semi-primitive recreation experiences; or at sites managed to provide a difficult level of accessibility as defined by these guidelines.

Monitoring Results:

Mobility Accessibility by Accessibility Levels

Facility	Easy/Accessible	Moderate	Difficult
Fish Creek Pavilion 1994 - 100 People	Will accommodate 75 people	Will accommodate an additional 25 people	0
Fish Creek Campground Sites: 11 total	9 Campsites	2 Campsites	0
Castle Creek Campground Sites: 9 total	0	8 Campsites	0
South Fork Campground Sites: 9 total	6 Campsites	2 Campsites	1 Campsites
Slims Camp Campground	0	0	Accessible at this level*
Selway Falls Campground	0	0	Accessible at this level*
Selway Fish Pond	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level*
O'Hara Bar Campground Sites: 35	0	5 Campsites	10 Campsites
Spring Bar Campground Sites: 17	0	6 Campsites	3 Campsites
Allison Creek Picnic Area Sites: 2 total	0	0	1 Picnic site
Wildhorse Campground	0	0	Accessible at this level*
Slate Creek Ranger District Office	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level
Clearwater Ranger District Office	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level
Nez Perce Forest Headquarters Office	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level
Red River Ranger District Office	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level	Accessible at this level
Moose Creek Ranger District Office	Not Accessible at this level	Not Accessible at this level	Not Accessible at this level
Selway Ranger District Office	Not Accessible at this level	Not Accessible at this level	Not Accessible at this level
Elk City Ranger District Office	Not Accessible at this level	Not Accessible at this level	Not Accessible at this level

*Depending on weather

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Most Forest recreation facilities have been reviewed to determine their accessibility to people with disabilities. Four of the facilities were found to be accessible at the moderate or difficult Accessible levels. In many of the facilities, it was difficult for someone in a wheelchair to use the toilet facility.

The Nez Perce Forest has a number of recreation areas that have a great potential for service to people with disabilities. The activities director from one of the local nursing homes indicated that they would love to take some of their residents to the forest if they could be assured of having accessible campgrounds and picnic facilities. Projects were completed in FY 95 that greatly increase accessibility at the Castle Creek and South Fork campgrounds. Projects to increase accessibility at O'Hara and Spring Bar campgrounds will be completed in FY 96.

The Selway pond project provides fishing access for people with mobility impairments and opened in May 1995.

Most developed recreation site facilities on the Nez Perce have been surveyed and transition plans developed. Each FS office will maintain copies of the transition plans that apply to their area. These transition plans will provide recommendations to the Forest on how to make the facilities accessible to people with disabilities.

By the end of 1996, all ranger station surveys and transition plans will be complete. An addition to the Elk City Ranger District office scheduled for completion in 1996, will make that office accessible. With the completion of the Elk City project, the Supervisor's Office and all district offices, except the combined Moose Creek/Selway at Fenn Ranger Station, will be accessible to everyone.

Moose Creek and Selway Ranger Districts are in the process of combining their districts at the historic Fenn Ranger Station and are in the early planning stages for providing accessible services there.

2. Environmental Analysis Accomplishments Related to Timber

Monitoring Results: The following table and discussion summarize Forest Supervisor authority environmental analysis accomplishments between FY 88 and FY 92. Beginning in FY 93, District Ranger authority environmental analysis accomplishments are also included.

Fiscal Year	No. of Decisions	Included No. of Sales	Total Acres Analyzed	Proposed Harvest Acres	Average Harvest Volume (MMBF) per Timber Sale	Proposed Harvest Volume (MMBF)[1]
88	3	3	24,400	1,662	9.0	27.0
89	8	15	164,480	5,908	6.8	102.1
90	2	7	38,296	4,677	6.0	42.1
91	3	11	81,964	6,164	8.0	88.5
92	1	1	4,034	351	10.4	10.4
93	4	5	25,716	2,461	4.1	20.5
94	4	35	11,230	319	0.04	1.3
95	9	11	6,730	386	0.4	4.1
8-Yr.Avg.	4.3	11.0	44,606	2,741	3.4	37.0
Total	34	88	406,850	21,928	--	296.0

[1]Proposed harvest volume figures in this table are different than those exhibited in Table 1 on pages 5 and 9 because of the rounding off of numbers.

The nine new timber related decisions in FY 95 were all for District Ranger authority sales. Most decisions were categorically excluded and documented with decision memos. The included sales were: Scone Salvage (Salmon River District), Bear Cabin Salvage (Clearwater District), Upper Falls Fire Salvage and 4 other small sales (Selway District) and Campbell Salvage, 4-6 Mile Salvage, Haystack and Limber Meadows (Elk City District). An environmental assessment (EA) was done for the Limber Meadows sale. The sales contained a mix of sawlogs, posts/poles and pulp.

Evaluation of Monitoring Results:

Many National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents require more than one year to complete. This results in high variability from year to year with respect to the number of decisions and acres analyzed.

As of the end of fiscal year 1995 (8 years since the Forest Plan went into effect), the Forest had completed site-specific analysis of 45 percent of the total suitable land base of 911,669 acres. Of the 34 total timber related NEPA decisions, 3 were Environmental Impact Statements, 17 were Environmental Assessments, and 14 were Categorical Exclusions.

The increase in the number of sales and the decrease in the average size of each sale in FY 94 and FY 95 is a reflection of the inclusion of District Ranger authority sales beginning in FY 93. These sales tend to be smaller than Forest Supervisor authority sales and are usually categorically excluded.

3. Forest Monitoring Reviews Conducted with the Public

Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Field Review

The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness field review was hosted by the Powell Ranger District of the Clearwater National Forest and was held at the Wind lakes area on July 21-23, 1995. Members of the review team included USFS wilderness managers, Backcountry Horsemen representatives, a Wilderness Watch coordinator and a member of the Clearwater Chapter of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association. The group hiked from the Tom Beal trailhead to Wind Lakes.

Trail and campsite use levels and access, as well as other wilderness issues were discussed. This field review is held annually. Field review sites are generally concentrated in areas of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness where Forest Plan standards are not being met. In addition to monitoring wilderness items specifically required in the Nez Perce Forest Plan, the review had the following additional goals:

(a) Formulate ways to assure consistency between units in applying Forest Plan standards and management actions.

(b) Expedite consensus building

(c) Explore ways to develop and maintain working relationships between all interested parties and user groups.

(d) Explore ways to build accountability and trust among interested parties, managers and user groups

(e) Develop methods to generate unbiased recommendations and critique

(f) Provide all participants with knowledge about the on-the-ground conditions of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness

(g) Rejuvenate the group's spirit and renew committment.

Summary of Discussion Topics and Comments:

Trail Issues: There were quite a few specific comments on specific trail needs and improvements, including possible trail relocation and rerouting, trail rehabilitation, trail structure repair and reducing trail impacts to streams. The group agreed that it was important to maintain options for people that want an "off trail experience" and that the trail system is an important tool to manage the wilderness.

Campsite Issues: On-the-ground conditions appear to show an improving trend in the condition of campsites and number of sites around the Wind Lakes area. Possible reasons for the improving trend were better user education and less hunting associated use.

Use Levels and Access Issues: The group agreed that we are facing an inevitable increase of use in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness. The USFS should be developing management strategies now to deal with this increase. Limiting access will create a situation where eventually there could be no access. Increases in day use do not necessarily mean a corresponding increase in impacts.

Other Issues: The encounters standard for opportunity class I trails may be exceeded. Some people are using cross-country routes even without a trail. There is not enough information available to know if the encounters rate is a problem. The District should continue their current management efforts in the Wind Lakes area, since conditions are improving. The key issue identified by the group was to maintain the wilderness character of the Wind Lakes basin.

Upper Swiftwater Timber Sale Implementation Monitoring

The Upper Swiftwater EIS and ROD were signed November 8, 1995 allowing the preparation of the 10 MMBF timber sale in the Swiftwater drainage on the Selway Ranger District. Part of the decision was to implement full PACFISH buffers during layout and design of timber harvest units according to Forest Plan Amendment 20 (the PACFISH amendment). District personnel (Marci Neilson-Gerhardt, Katherine Thompson, and Steve Bateman) were responsible for assuring proper interpretation and implementation of PACFISH buffers for riparian areas as well as potentially landslide prone areas. Field monitoring of the sale occurred in November, 1995. Monitoring was accomplished through ocular identification of landslide prone area, and quantitative measurement of buffer widths. The objectives of monitoring include:

(a) Meet the agreement made for the Upper Swiftwater BE that a soil scientist would review harvest units 4 and 5 during or prior to layout.

(b) Meet the requirements for soil, water quality, and riparian protection discussed in Appendix C-81 of the Upper Swiftwater FEIS. This includes exclusion of seeps, springs, bogs and slumps, or any landslide prone area.

(c) Review buffers on identified units for PACFISH compliance.

The Upper Swiftwater timber sale locations that were identified for monitoring include:

Units 4 and 5 - identify landslide prone areas, and check buffers on streams.

Monitoring Findings: Unit #5 was reviewed by the IDT which included the soil/hydrologist, fish biologist, NEPA coordinator, ecologist, forester and sale prep technician. Landslide prone areas were discussed and identified using a team approach. The RHCA buffers were also reviewed

and adjusted. The unit was adjusted to exclude one large slump and several other small mass failure features.

In the review of unit #4, a seep was found in the southeast corner of the unit. This seep is now 50 feet outside the unit boundary, thus giving it an adequate buffer. At 3680' elevation on the east side of the unit an old well-drained slump occurs. This area is not delineated as landslide prone, but a special prescription was discussed where 50 percent of the trees would be left in draws and any small concave depressions with scarps at the head. Sideslopes in this area average 50 - 60 percent. This slump/earthflow is probably greater than 150 years old looking at tree age.

On the northeast corner toward the bottom of unit 4, recent debris slides and smaller active slumps occur. They occur from the top of the dogleg on down toward the creek. Most of the dogleg was taken out of the unit and called landslide prone. The silviculturist and fisheries biologist had already buffered this area and excluded most of the landslide prone areas from the unit prior to this review, so the boundary was just remarked and verified. Some of the slumps that were excluded in the bottom of the unit had springs or perennial streams associated with them. Most of the wet areas were excluded from the unit. All of the landslide prone concerns and questions with RHCA's were discussed and decisions were made so that layout can progress.

Unit 2 - identify if alder boggy area is a wetland, discuss buffer width for small stream, look at possible landslide prone area.

Monitoring Findings: PACFISH buffers were discussed and adjustments were made. No landslide prone features were identified. A small soil concern area was discussed and protection measures for this area can be covered with contract wording and careful tree marking.

Unit 8 - identify if wet area in unit is a slump, and locate buffers on Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs).

Monitoring Findings: Unit #8 is small (<15 acres) with perennial streams on both sides and two within the unit. The streams were located and buffers meeting PACFISH guidelines were recommended. The buffers were marked and agreed upon by the fisheries biologist, hydrologist and sale prep forester. The boundaries were adjusted on the ground so that the prep crew can continue work. The only landslide prone area was a small rotational failure where a spring originated. The buffer for the spring protected this area.

Unit 7 - examine layout of unit to exclude landslide prone area, and buffer wetland.

Monitoring Findings: Unit #7 was reviewed by the soil scientist/hydrologist with sale prep technician. The unit was traversed and landslide prone areas were identified and excluded on the bottom of the unit. A buffer on the the north side of the unit in an alder wetland was reviewed. It was agreed that this area was wet year round and that a 50 foot buffer was appropriate. In this case the sale prep techician, Kevin Norwood had done a very good job identifying the need for the buffer and recognizing the landslide prone areas.

Unit B - examine layout of unit to looking at landslide prone areas and wetlands.

Monitoring Findings: Unit #B was transected by the fisheries biologist, hydrologist/soil scientist, siliculturist, fuels technician, and sale prep forester. An area down to about 3600 feet was discussed as a good area to patch cut up to four acres. The next feature of concern was two springs that occurred close together in a small basin. These springs quickly turn into perennial streams. These streams are associated with a slumpy landform above that has some active areas of movement. As we traversed farther acrossed the unit we crossed a large slumpy area, probably several acres in size with streams on the toe of the slump. As we continued acrossed

this landform we transected several more springs and perennial streams. On the west end of the unit we came to a very steep area with a bedrock outcrop intermingled with with seep areas. This area also included two very recent small debris torrents. The lower west corner of the unit was not reviewed. There is a good chance that the slump above may continue down to this area. Another field visit is needed to evaluate this.

Recommendations made based on the results of the implemetation monitoring:

(a) Continue this type of review on the ground and documents visits to satisfy PACFISH and Forest Plan Compliance

(b) Consider a different prescription than seedtree on unit #7, the concern being removal of most of the trees could put more water on the slumps at the bottom of the unit. Consider leaving more trees toward the bottom of the unit and feathering as you go up, leaving less basal area at the more stable upper part of the unit. This is a common scenario in the Swiftwater/Middle Fork of the Clearwater analysis areas. Developing prescriptions to work in these areas should be a priority.

(c) All recommended changes on units 7, 2 and 5 were implemented on the ground during the reiews of the units. Follow recommendations made during field review for units #4 and #8.

(d) It is important for the sale prep forester to be included in the IDT process, so that they are aware of all resource concerns that may arise during sale layout.

(e) Revisit unit B with a hydrologist, fisheries biologist and sale prep forester. Look at unit in smaller segments and layout as you go. PACFISH buffers and landslide prone areas must be carefully evaluated and avoided. This unit will take a lot of extra effort and supervision on the marking. This unit gives us a good chance to try some prescriptions fitted to the landscape we are working with.

(f) Conduct a field review on unit A with the same IDT as unit B. Try to help locate landslide prone areas and mark RHCA's on the ground. Working with smaller portions of the unit may lower the level of frustration and help focus on manageable areas. Making specific recommendations for units as large as A and B take more time than a one day field review.

Developed Recreation Facilities on the Selway Ranger District

On September 7, 1995, a field review of the Selway Ranger District developed recreation facilities was conducted. Participants included the Selway District Ranger, recreation specialists and engineers from other units on the Nez Perce Forest, a recreation specialist from the Regional Office in Missoula and a water systems engineer for North Idaho Forests. The review objectives are shown below.

(a) Determine if the facilities are being managed and maintained per Forest Plan standards.

(b) Present for discussion and potential resolution, recreation management issues in Selway River corridor.

Selected Monitoring Sites:

FENN POND - Accessible fishing pond cooperatively funded and developed by Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Trout Unlimited, Haar Construction and volunteer labor. This heavily used site includes parking area, accessible facilities (portable toilet, picnic table, boardwalks and fishing decks).

CCC - This two unit site includes gravelled access and an accessible toilet. In July 1995, a major wind storm caused numerous windthrow of large conifers, including one that struck an occupied camper trailer. No injuries were suffered. The site had been surveyed for hazard trees. The tree that hit the trailer, however, had not been determined to be hazardous, based on physical appearance. Subsequent investigation determined that the center of the tree was rotten and that the pathogen had probably entered through roots damaged by vehicle travel within the campsite.

RACKLIFF CAMPGROUND - This full service, six unit developed site is typical of the four developed campgrounds upriver of the O'Hara Bridge. All four drinking water systems require expensive maintenance and water quality monitoring. In 1995, all four of the drinking water water systems were completely or partially unsuitable for drinking water during the summer recreation season, (Selway Falls Campground never met standards this year and the water system was not operated.) Interior signing and barricades are inconsistent, often in need of replacement. Vegetation within the campground is being denuded by vehicle and foot travel.

SLIDE CREEK - This dispersed site includes two campsites and a toilet, located immediately next to a small beach and within 30 yards of the river. Safe vehicle access is being compromised by limited sight distance and a steep approach ramp.

BOYD CREEK - This site is the trailhead for the both the East and West Boyd Creek Trails. Stock facilities are provided outside this five unit campground. An outfitter has approached the District about the possibility of using a portion of the stock facility, accessed by a primitive road, for seasonal use as an end-of-road facility for putting clients on stock for travel to the Remount Base Camp; thus avoiding bringing clients up the Coolwater Road.

CACHE CREEK - This site is typical of 5 to 8 small flats immediately adjacent to the Selway Road and next to the river. Vehicle access has been historically restricted by barriers which have since rotted or been removed by users. No inspections for hazards are done at these sites. Vehicles are causing damage to tree roots and site vegetation.

GLOVER - Vehicle access to this 7 unit campground is compromised by short sight distance and tight curve radius. The campground includes a ramp, feed bunk and hitch rails for stock use, but stock are not permitted in the campground.

Forest Plan Monitoring Results:

- Are site hazards identified, corrected or minimized?

Hazard tree assessments are being monitored, documented and trees removed. Road intersections, stock ramps and barriers/solid object hazards are being cleared of brush/grass. Needed improvements include: 1) timely surveys to assure hazards are removed/mitigated prior Memorial Day and 2) additional training about subtle indications of potential hazard trees.

- Are facilities adequately scheduled for maintenance: 1) Toilets pumped and cleaned to keep odor under control and 2) fire rings and tables clean and in safe condition?

Toilets are pumped twice annually, pending budget. However, there is a wide variability in use, indicating some toilets need pumping at a more frequent interval. Funding is not available to provide a third or fourth pumping.

Fire rings are routinely cleaned; tables maintained in a safe and usable condition. Reliance on the Senior Citizen Employment Program for a seasonal person has been critical to accomplishing these tasks. Continued reliance on this workforce is very questionable.

- Are visitor information centers (bulletin boards, signs, etc) in good repair and presenting appropriate messages?

Signs boards are not standard within or between developed recreation facilities. They are, however, uniformly signed and information controlled. Sign boards are useable but in need of replacement. The District is planning to improve sign board organization and information, particularly maps and local area opportunities.

- Are compliance checks adequate to insure a secure environment for recreationists?

The District has been able to provide five day per week presence between Memorial Day and Labor Day. In FY95, limited funding precluded recreation compliance and monitoring presence during the Labor Day weekend. Forest Service law enforcement presence was provided along the river on one day of that weekend. Contentious encounters from users or user groups have historically been rare in the Selway River corridor.

Per Forest Plan direction:

Physically challenged access has been provided or improved at Johnson's Bar, Fenn Pond, CCC dispersed site, O'Hara Campground and Fog Mountain Road junction. Accessible toilets, trails and some campsite facilities have been installed or constructed since the implementation of the Forest Plan. The major need for accessibility is at the Fenn Ranger Station. Due to the historic nature of the Fenn facilities, retrofitting the existing buildings is impractical, if not in violation of the Historic Preservation Act. The Forest and District have developed conceptual plans for providing accessible facilities at the Fenn compound that would serve the public at the Ranger Station, as well as recreationists using the Fenn Pond. Continued emphasis on the need to provide accessible facilities at Fenn is needed.

The cost-shared construction of the Fenn Pond for fishing has enhanced the spectrum of recreational opportunities in the Selway River corridor. In addition, a proposal to implement concessionaire management of recreation facilities in the river corridor is being developed for contracting in FY 96.

The District has not fully relied on the "Pack it..." policy, as Forest Service provide garbage collection is being provided as most larger dispersed sites .

Operations and maintenance levels generally comply with the direction for Management Areas 7 (developed recreation sites) and 8.2 (Wild and Scenic River). Reduced service levels have been provided for at all developed campsites and campgrounds. Full service levels, have not been consistently provided because of the unreliability of the low standard water systems at most developed campgrounds (see Forest Plan pages III-15 and 20, Resource Element - Recreation).

Suggestions:

- Continue to pursue the need for accessible facilities at the Fenn Ranger Station.

- Abandon deteriorated drinking water systems as they fail to pass required water quality tests unless they can be completely replaced.

- Charge higher fees at moderate to high developed recreation sites (O'Hara being considered 'moderately' developed) and manage primitive/dispersed sites as non-fee (no drinking water or garbage collection; minimum signing and regulations; hazard identification/ reduction; site retention via barricade).

4. Noxious Weed Management

Noxious weeds and invasive exotic plants are a rising concern on federal land across the western states. Many invasive exotics can invade health ecosystems, displace native vegetation, affect species diversity and wildlife habitat. Wide spread infestations may lead to soil erosion, reduce quality of recreation for visitors and threaten the long term viability of rare plants. Invasive exotics have been identified as major threat to our native biodiversity.

The Nez Perce National Forest is moving forward with an active management program for noxious weeds. The program is an integrated approach to managing the weeds on the forest and includes: education/awareness, inventory, Prevention/early detection, treatement and monitoring.

Management priorities for the Nez Perce are, 1) to prevent the establishment of potential invaders, 2) the eradication of new invading noxious weeds, 3) the control of satellite infestations including the treatment of transportation cooridors and areas of concentrated human activities, and 4) the containment of large established infestations.

The noxious weeds that are of greatest concern to the Forest are Dyer's woad, Rush skeletonweed, Yellow starthistle, Diffuse knapweed, Russian knapweed, Toothed spurge, Leafy spurge, Sulfur sinquefoil, Spotted knapweed, Scotch thistle, Orange and Yellow hawkweed, and Common crupina.

District and Forest personnal have worked with many users groups and interested parties, during the 1995 season, in the identification and risks of invasive exotic plants. District personnal lead field trips to review infestation and risk levels in sensitive areas such as wilderness and wild and scenic rivers. Field crews are also educated in the identification of weed species.

Each district has a noxious weed coordinator that directs inventory, control and monitoring activities. Noxious weeds concerns are addressed in ground disturbing activities. There is on-going inventory work where noxious weeds are identified and mapped.

The Forest treated approximately 350 acres, during the 1995 field season, using a variety of tools. Weeds were treated by the use of herbicides, the release of biological control agents, the manual pulling of isolated infestations, mowing, and the seeding of disturbed sites. The treatments are consistent with the estimated level outlined in the Forest Plan. The Forest was involved in the release of approximately 12,000 insects which feed on many of the noxious weeds.

The Forest is involved in the implementation of the Salmon River Weed Management Area. This is 500,000 acre area in the lower Salmon River Canyon where a collabrative plan has been developed between Idaho County, private landowners, and Federal and State land management agencies to work together for the common objective of controlling noxious weeds. The intent of the weed management area is to bring together those responsible for weed management within the Salmon River drainage, to develop common management objectives, facilitate effective treatment and coordinate efforts along logical geographic boundaries with similar landtypes, use patterns and problem species.

A similiar effort is being developed in the Clearwater River Basin. The Forest is part of a coordinating committee of county, federal, state and private representatives. The committee was established to coordinate weed management activites across the entire Clearwater basin.

III. RESEARCH NEEDS

The following research needs have been identified during implementation of the Forest Plan. They will be recommended to the Regional Forester for inclusion in the Regional research program proposal.

1. The Elk Guidelines Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) model represents a composite of factors and variables affecting elk behavior from all over the west. There is a need for cooperative research to help refine the Northern Idaho Elk Guidelines HSI Model so variables characteristic of Northern Idaho will be more properly represented and the model better tailored to local conditions.

   Status: To date, the Clearwater National Forest has taken the lead in generating a proposed method for validating the North Idaho Summer Elk Model. The method, developed with the cooperation of the University of Idaho, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, uses elk pellet transect data. Budget limitations currently prevent the implementation of the method on the Forest.

2. Moose winter range questions need to be addressed:

   (a) What silvicultural system best maintains the yew component in the grand fir/Pacific yew association?
   (b) How can fuels be managed and still retain Pacific yew?
   (c) What is the optimum spatial arrangement of yew throughout the Forest?
   (d) What is the optimum stand size for yew?
   (e) How many acres of the grand fir/Pacific yew association exist on the Forest?
   (f) Does the Forest Plan adequately address the definition and protection of key moose winter habitat which has no Pacific yew component?

3. The consequences of repeated burning, and of maintenance of forest ecosystems in prolonged seral brush stages, need to be evaluated.

4. Determine the relative effectiveness of fertilization compared to burning for improving wildlife habitat.

5. Determine and define corridor attributes needed to link old-growth stands.

6. Stand dynamics for riparian habitat types are poorly described. Silviculturists need to be able to predict effects of timber management on stand regeneration, competition, future stand composition, and insect and disease patterns. Methods need to be developed to monitor the effects of timber harvest and other activities on riparian areas.

7. Habitat relationships and limiting factors for most sensitive species (plant and animal) are poorly understood. Research is needed to better define critical habitat components for these species and risk posed by Forest management activities.

Accomplishment of Research Needs:

Repeated Burning: In 1993, an evaluation of the results of repeated prescribed fire on big game winter range was initiated. Although the field work was completed in 1991, the published results from the evaluation related only the favorable responses of elk and deer to improved winter forage conditions. Data collected on soil and vegetative response to prescribed fire is yet to be analyzed and the results published. Lack of available funding and staff time has precluded completion of this evaluation.

IV. PLAN AMENDMENTS

Amending the Nez Perce National Forest Plan is a normal process of improving our ability to care for the land. The need to amendment the Plan was anticipated at the outset. Twenty amendments and one revised amendment have been issued.

Following are summaries of those amendments made to date. A copy of any amendment(s) can be obtained by contacting the Nez Perce National Forest Supervisor's Office.

Amendment #1: Clarifies our intent to protect potential Wild and Scenic Rivers upon their inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system, by providing more detailed Forestwide standards.

Proposed changes in the management standards were developed following guidance contained in the Wild and Scenic River Evaluation section of the Forest Service Land and Resource Management Planning Handbook (FSH 1909.12, Chapter 8). (10/88)

Amendment #1 (REVISED): Revised Forest Plan Amendment #1 is exactly the same as the original amendment except that the following statement has been removed. The amendment was necessary to settle an appeal of Amendment #1. (1/91)

> "Boundaries may include adjacent areas needed to protect the resources or facilitate management of the river corridor."

Amendment #2: Clarifies the Forest's definition and management of motorized recreation on the Nez Perce National Forest. (10/88)

Amendment #3: Modifies standards listed in Chapter II (Forestwide Management Direction) and Chapter III (Management Area Direction). Clarification is provided in changes to the minerals section of Chapter VI (Summary of the Analysis of the Management Situation) and the glossary and monitoring items.

The specific standards modified are those relating to minerals, wildlife and fish, and riparian area management, and to provide clarification that will not alter the multiple-use goals and objectives as identified in the Forest Plan.

The need for changes and clarification in management standards was the result of negotiations with the Independent Miners Association's appeal of the Nez Perce National Forest Plan. An interdisciplinary team developed the settlement agreement that addressed the appellant's concerns and a proposal for correcting the Plan. (3/89)

Amendment #4: Modifies standards listed in Chapter II (Forestwide Management Direction), modifies the visual resource standards in Chapter III (Management Area Direction) and modifies specific monitoring requirements in Forest Plan Appendix O dealing with visual resource management.

The need for changes and clarification in management standards was the result of environmental analysis of proposed timber sales and road construction in the Wing Creek-Twentymile area. During the comment period of the Wing Creek-Twentymile Draft Environmental Impact Statement, concern was expressed on conflicting Forest Plan language pertaining to visual resource management. An interdisciplinary team was used to analyze the concerns and develop a proposal for correcting the Forest Plan. (3/89)

Amendment #5: Corrects errors displayed in the Nez Perce National Forest Plan Appendix A, Forest Fishery/Water Quality Direction by Prescription Watershed. These objectives provide management direction in terms of the maximum estimated increase in sediment over baseline conditions that can be approached or equaled for a specific number of years per decade.

Some of the changes are planning errors made in identifying sediment yield and entry frequency guidelines. Site-specific analysis and stream surveys have also revealed that some streams were incor-

rectly identified as not supporting anadromous fish. The errors were identified through environmental analysis of proposed timber sales and road construction. An interdisciplinary team was used in identifying the needed changes and proposing the corrections. (3/89)

Amendment #6: Corrects errors in Forest Plan Chapter II (Forestwide Management Direction), Chapter III (Management Area Direction), Chapter V (Implementation), Chapter VII (Glossary), and Appendix A (Fishery/Water Quality Direction).

The corrections made in this Forest Plan amendment provide clarification that will not alter the multiple-use goals and objectives as identified in the Forest Plan.

An error was identified through environment analysis of a proposed timber sale and associated road construction and habitat improvement project. Forest Plan Appendix A describes current fishery habitat quality in the West Fork of Red River (Prescription Watershed 17060305-04-18) as 50 percent of potential habitat quality. The West Fork of Red River is in a pristine natural condition. This watershed is roadless and no management activities are known to have occurred in either the watershed or the stream. The stream is, therefore, in a pristine, natural condition and it is appropriate to display it at 100 percent of potential habitat quality.

The Forest Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team identified additional typographical errors in the Forest Plan. This Forest Plan amendment includes the correction of those errors. (7/89)

Amendment #7: Clarifies language found in the following sections:

Chapter II (Forestwide Management Direction)
Chapter V (Implementation)
Chapter VI (Summary of the Analysis of the Management Situation)
Appendix O (Forest Plan Monitoring)

The specific items modified provide clarification that will not alter the multiple-use goals and objectives as identified in the Forest Plan.

The need for changes and clarification in management standards was the result of negotiations with the Nez Perce Indian Tribe on their appeal of the Nez Perce National Forest Plan. An interdisciplinary team was used in developing the settlement agreement that addressed the appellant's concerns and developed a proposal for correcting the Forest Plan. (1/90)

Amendment #8: The purpose of Forest Plan Amendment #8 is to clarify language in Appendix O (Forest Plan Monitoring Requirements).

During this past year the Forest Interdisciplinary Monitoring and Evaluation Team identified some items in the Forest Plan Monitoring Requirements Appendix that need correction or clarification.

These items focus on fish and wildlife monitoring. Specifically, the changes relate to forage production, wildlife population trends, and fisheries and watershed monitoring station costs.

The corrections made in this Forest Plan amendment provide clarification that will not alter the multiple-use goals and objectives as identified in the Forest Plan. (1/89)

Amendments #9 and #10: These amendments deal with management practices specific to the Cove and Mallard Timber Sales as described in the recently released Final Environmental Impact Statements for those sales. Amendment No.9 was formally adopted in the Mallard Record of Decision, and Amendment No. 10 was formally adopted in the Cove Record of Decision. Both of these amendments correct oversights in the Forest Plan.

These two amendments apply only to the timber sales analyzed in the Cove and Mallard Environmental Impact Statements. They do not apply to other timber sales on the Forest.

The two amendments will allow clearcutting and sanitation/salvage harvesting within Management Areas 12 and 17. (11/90)

Amendment #11: Forest Plan Amendment No. 11 makes adjustments in the Forestwide monitoring program and updates the fish/water quality objectives in Appendix A to the Plan. The changes in the monitoring program were recommended by the Forest Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team in the Nez Perce National Forest Monitoring and Evaluation Report for Fiscal Year 1989; the objective was to make the program more comprehensive. The revised fish/water quality objectives are based on recent stream surveys. Specific changes in both the monitoring program and the fish/water quality objectives are listed in the Decision Memo for Amendment No. 11. (1/91)

Amendment #12: Amendment 12 makes minor changes to the Wall Creek Municipal Watershed direction (Management Area 22) contained in the Nez Perce Forest Plan. These changes relate to improving the range of management practices identified in the Forest Plan, and specifically to items such as notifying the Water District if a fire occurs in the watershed and taking special precautions with machinery and chemicals. (2/91)

Amendment #13: Amendment 13 brings the Plan into compliance with legal requirements and Forest Service directives dealing with animal damage control. It should be noted that the amendment does not authorize any specific projects. (4/91)

Amendment #14: Amendment 14 has been voided, as directed by the Washington Office of the Forest Service. This amendment dealt with separately showing the allowable sale quantity (ASQ) that came from inventoried roadless areas and roaded areas. (3/91)

Amendment #15: Amendment 15 amends the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness Management Plan and the Forest and Land Management Plans for the Bitterroot, Boise, Challis, Payette, Nez Perce, and Salmon National Forests.

The amendment changes wording in the Wilderness Management Plan related to reducing the storage of items and removal of plumbing fixtures from the wilderness. The amendment only modifies the schedule of implementation. (6/91)

Amendment #16: Amendment 16 adopts programmatic changes in management direction for the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. These changes should enable wilderness managers to better meet both the letter and the intent of the Wilderness Act. (2/92)

Amendment #17: Amendment 17 allows salvage timber harvest within Management Area 20 (old growth wildlife habitat) following the Scott Fire. Analysis showed that salvage harvest would help to speed up the achievement of old-growth vegetative characteristics in the burned area. This amendment is specific to the Scott Fire salvage sale and will not apply to other areas on the Forest. (4/93)

Amendment #18: Amendment 18 brings the Forest Plan into compliance with a court order which addresses outfitter and guide operations in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. (7/94)

Amendment #19: Amendment 19 adds more specific management direction for vegetation in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness General Management Direction. It establishes goals, objectives, standards and guides and monitoring elements for vegetation within ecosystem management principles. It addresses such issues as: noxious weeds, rare plant protection, vegetative diversity and management of pack and saddle stock. (2/95) [Note: Based on negotiations with appellants, the decision was rescinded in May 1995. A new amendment/decision which provides additional clarification is expected in FY95.]

Amendment #20: The Nez Perce Forest Plan was amended by the Chief of the Forest Service to incorporate an interim strategy for managing anadromous fish-producing watersheds (PACFISH). (2/95)

V. LIST OF PREPARERS

The following individuals contributed to the development of the Monitoring and Evaluation Report for the Nez Perce National Forest for fiscal year 1995. Members of the Forest Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team are designated with an asterisk (*).

UNIT	NAME	AREA OF EXPERTISE
Supervisor's Office	Nick Gerhardt*	Watershed
	Jerry Weigand*	Timber
	Dave Hayes*	Timber Planning and Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team Co-Leader
	Leonard Lake*	Range, Botany and Noxious Weeds
	Roger Ward*	Silviculture
	Nancy Rusho*	Minerals
	Dave Green*	Implementation Analysis and Economics
	MaryAlice Stoner*	Recreation/Wilderness/Rivers
	Cindy Schacher	Heritage Resources
	Randy Doman*	Fire
	Pat Green *	Soils/Ecology
	Dick Artley *	Land Management Planning and Forest Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team Co-Leader
	Steve Blair*	Wildlife
	Scott Russell*	Fisheries
	Joe Bonn*	Engineering
	Kathie Snodgrass	Engineering
	Laura Smith	Graphics Illustrator
	Monica McGee	Technical Support
	Dave Holt	Budget and Finance

District review of the draft report was coordinated by the following individuals. The District review involved appropriate staff and resource specialists.

Salmon River Ranger District	Mike McGee*	Salmon River District Monitoring Coordinator
Clearwater Ranger District	Sue Paradiso *	Clearwater District Monitoring Coordinator
Red River Ranger District	Mark Sommer	Red River District Monitoring Coordinator
Moose Creek Ranger District	Mark Woods *	Moose Creek District Monitoring Coordinator
Selway Ranger District	Heather Berg *	Selway District Monitoring Coordinator
Elk City Ranger District	Kara Stockwell	Elk City District Monitoring Coordinator

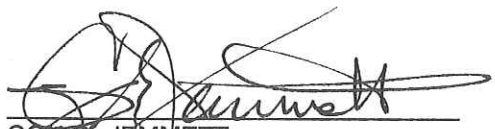
In addition, the report was reviewed by the following individuals:

Coy Jemmett	Forest Supervisor
Ihor Mereszczak	Ecosystem Planning & Operations Staff Officer
Michael Cook	Forest Engineer, Contracting, Purchasing, & Communications Staff Officer
David Poncin	Fire Lands Staff Officer
Jan Robinson	Personnel Staff Officer
Elayne Murphy	Customer Service Information Staff Officer
Phil Jahn	Watershed, Ecology, Biology, Recreation, Wilderness and Lands Staff Officer
Jack Carlson	District Ranger, Salmon River Ranger District
Darcy Pederson	District Ranger, Clearwater Ranger District
Ed Wood	District Ranger, Red River Ranger District
Jerry Bird	Acting District Ranger, Selway/Moose Creek Ranger District
John Bisbee	District Ranger, Elk City Ranger District

VI. APPROVAL

I have reviewed the annual Forest Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Report for Fiscal Year 1995 for the Nez Perce National Forest that was prepared by the Forest Interdisciplinary Team. I am satisfied that the Monitoring and Evaluation effort meets the intent of both the Forest Plan (Chapter V) and 36 CFR §219. I have also considered the recommendations of the Interdisciplinary and Leadership Teams on proposed changes to the Forest Plan and will process the necessary Amendments after appropriate notification.

This report is approved:



COY G. JEMMETT
Forest Supervisor

9 Sep 96
Date

* APPENDIX *

NEW ACTION ITEMS IDENTIFIED IN FY 95

The action items listed below were identified during Fiscal Year 1995 monitoring. These are new action items which have not surfaced in prior Monitoring and Evaluation Reports. Given adequate funding and work priority, these action items will be addressed and resolved in fiscal year 96 and beyond.

WILDLIFE

Item 1: The Forest needs to concentrate on completing more accurate inventories of snags before and after timber harvest. (page 18 of this M&E Report)

Item 2: Reinitiate Pileated woodpecker surveys with sample size and regularity increased to improve date reliability. (page 26 of this M&E Report)

TIMBER

Item 1: Continue to maintain expertice for the remeasurement of permanent growth plots. The data from these plots will be used to help develop yield tables in the revised Forest Plan. (page 40 of this M&E Report)

SOIL AND WATER

Item 1: Determine whether to publich the "Hydrologic Data Summary and Monitoring Analysis Report" for FY 92-95, or simply compile the data for distribution when requested. (page 52 of this M&E Report)

Item 2: Analyze the effectiveness of measures being taken to promote riparian recovery in McComas Meadows in light of the effects to the meadows of the 1995 storm event. (page 54 of this M&E Report)

RECREATION

Item 1: Formally adopt a new "roaded modified" Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) class on the Forest. (page 64 of this M&E Report)

STATUS of ACTION ITEMS IDENTIFIED PRIOR to FY 95

The action items shown below were identified between Fiscal Year 1988 - 1994 and are recurring. It also includes action items identified in FY 95 that were also identified in prior years and remain unresolved. Action to resolve these concerns in Fiscal Year 1995 is shown below. The fiscal year(s) that the action items were identified are shown on the "FYs Shown" line. Action items with an "incomplete" or "ongoing" status will be included in next years report. Action items that are 'complete" or "resolved" will not be repeated.

TIMBER

Item #1: The timber stand inventory system(s) must adapt to the linear nature riparian forest stands; the record system should allow grouping of plots between stands into riparian substands. The record system should be adapted to keep track of small riparian acres within stands.

FYs Shown: FY 89, FY 90 and FY 92

Status: Decided

Discussion: Stands are delineated on aerial photos based on easily observable characteristics. Often riparian boundaries within the stands are not evident on the photos. To separate these riparian areas from existing stands would be a huges job and likely would invalidate much of the inventory effort. The forest has advanced the idea of adding new fields to the record system to keep track of dual management areas within a single stand, however, this proposal will not been approved.

As the forest moves towards more widespread use of GIS technology, we feel that the ability to accurately delineate and analyze riparian areas will become a reality. By FY 97, the GIS technology (hardware/software) should be available to complete this task. Also, as we move closer to our Forest Plan revision, we anticipate that the management area protocols will change.

MONITORING

Item #1: Review the appropriatness of adding a monitoring element to the Forest Plan addressing the Forest situation regarding the existance and treatment of commodity vs. non-commodity vegetation.

FYs Shown: FY 91

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: Under ecosystem management, vegetation with potential commodity use as well as other vegetation will be inventoried and analyzed through the landscape assessment process. Historic and existing vegetation will be evaluated and the desired future vegetation conditions will be defined. Progress towards achieving desired vegetative conditions (including harvest of those with commercial value) will be monitored and displayed in future M&E Reports as the assessments are completed in FY 96-99. Commercial vegetation removal and harvest will continue to be reported at years end in the Annual TSPIRS Report.

RECREATION

Item #1: Delevlop criteria for evaluating impacts of off-highway vehicle (OHV) use. Determine what is unacceptable change on a transportation system or land base as a result of these uses and user types.

FYs Shown: FY 89-91, FY 94 and FY 95.

Status: Not Completed

Discussion: Continued lack of funding and the low priority assigned to this task compared with other recreation related work has resulted in very little work in this area.

The development of a systematic method to monitor off-road motor vehicle (ORV) use and impacts has not been a top priority on the Forest. As a result, specific instances of detrimental effects of ORV use continue to be handled on a case-by-case basis. Recreation, particularly motorized recreation, continues to be used as the principle mitigator for timber harvest. This is having significant effects on the long-term potential for recreation use and opportunities on the Forest and this effect will increase as timber harvest increases under the Salvage Bill.

Item 2: Implement the National system called Infrastructure, which will be used to improve the gathering and documentation of visitor use information.

FYs Shown: FY 94 and FY 95

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: The Nez Perce forest has implemented Recreation Infrastructure, however, more work needs to be done on the RIM syatem as it relates to this database. The current estimates of recreation use by activity are not statistically accurate. Higher priority needs to be given to gathering recreation use information.

Item 3: Review and revise recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) forestwide, incorporate ROS analysis into all environmental analyses and develop a mechanism for updating ROS acreages in the database.

FYs Shown: FY 94 and FY 95

Status: Incomplete

Discussion: The review, revision and acreage updating of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) forestwide was submitted as a project proposal for ecosystem management funding. It was the third priority project submitted for recreation and was not funded.

Item 4: Establish a system of measurements for more precise monitoring of sites eligible to the National Register of Historic Places.

FYs Shown: FY 94 and FY 95

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: In accordance with the Region One Programmatic Agreement with the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer, National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible sites are currently being monitored before, during and after the implementation of specific projects. This

monitoring documents any site changes which may have occurred due to potential project related impacts, vandalism, or the forces of nature.

A more comprehensive monitoring program needs to be established on a multi-year schedule. This monitoring, based on regular cycles would show any changes to sites and would allow for the documentation of such changes and move towards the proper allocation strategy and management of cultural resource sites. A detailed system and methodology need to be developed for the identification and measurement of any changes which may have occurred. However, due to budget restraints this has not been possible. A significant increase in the Heritage Resource Program budget and personnel is needed to implement a systematic monitoring program which would adequately contribute towards the management of all NRHP eligible cultural resource sites on the Nez Perce National Forest.

Item 5: Continue to replace sub-standard signs in the wilderness.

FYs Shown: FY 94

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: The Forest is continuing to replace substandard signs in wilderness as funding levels allow.

Item 6: Continue to strengthen the visual quality program on some Districts.

FYs Shown: FY 94 and FY 95

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: A number of Forest employees attended Scenery Management System (SMS) training. SMS, when fully implemented, will replace the Visual Resource Management (VRM) system presently being used. Some SMS concepts were used in analyzing scenic resources for proposed salvage timber sales. The Forest continues to use para-professionals, detailers, the Regional landscape architect to provide assistance on project-by-project basis. There is still a need to update the scenic resources inventory on the Forest. There is no central method to document updates of existing Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs).

Item 7: The Middle Fk of the Clearwater River Management Plan needs to be updated and the administration of scenic easements needs more emphasis.

FYs Shown: FY 94 and FY 95

Status: Incomplete

Discussion: There continues to be a need to update the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River Management Plan. A shared Scenic Easement Administrator position was established between the Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests to provide consistent Wild & Scenic River easement administration on the Selway, Moose Creek and Lochsa Ranger Districts.

FISHERIES

Item #1: Fishery and water quality objectives for the South Fork of Clear Creek should be consistent with objectives for similar chinook habitat on the Forest. Also, one-half mile of stream in the Clear Creek drainage does not have an assigned water quality objective.

FYs Shown: FY 90.

Status: Incomplete

Discussion: This situation will be corrected through the forest plan amendment process. Other higher priority work has delayed progress on this amendment. Given recent budget reductions and the pending Forest Plan revision work already underway, it is unlikely that an amendment will be made before the revised Plan is complete.

Item 2: Monitoring of fish habitat condition needs to be adequately funded, staffed and given a higher priority for accomplishment.

FYs Shown: FY 93 and FY 94.

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: The Forest is experiencing reduced budgets and as a result, is downsizing the workforce. In FY 96, the Forest will complete a workforce analysis in order to prioritize the work and match with existing skills. The results are unavailable at this time.

WILDLIFE

Item 1: The Forest needs to determine how fire or silvicultural prescriptions might be used to protect designated old growth from stand-replacing fires.

FYs Shown: FY 93

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: Research continues to evolve. We do know that the exclusion of fire in dry, lower elevation ponderosa pine habitats through aggressive fire control has interrupted the natural cycle of frequent interval (5-10 years), low intensity ground fires. These fires served to "thin" the invading fir trees when they are still very small. If left unmanaged, these small trees create what is called "ladder fuels", which provides a pathway for fire to reach the crowns of the pine trees. Prescribed burning under the right conditions and mechanical thinning from below are effective treatments and will be used on the forest in the future.

Item 2: Concise snag identification and marking directions to Forest Service timber marking crews must be included in timber marking guidelines. Consistent, non-contradictory timber sale contract clauses are needed to help retain snags and trees for replacement snags.

FYs Shown: FY 93

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: Field monitoring of 4 timber sales in 1993 revealed the Forest Plan snag management guidelines were not being met in all cases. The problem is not with the timber sale contract clauses. The clauses contain adequate language to meet the desired snag numbers.

Retention of an adequate number of snags requires that they be designated as "leave trees" by marking them with paint. It is vital that the intent of the silvicultural prescription be clearly translated into easily understood marking guides. It is also important that the actual marking is reviewed frequently by silviculturalists and biologists to assure the desired end result is being implemented. State and Federal safety requirements are making it more difficult to retain snags in the working area. New OSHA regulations require that each danger tree shall be felled, removed or avoided. Snag marking in the future must consider safety. Marking snags in clumps and marking snags that are least likely to be considered a "danger tree" are options that will be used in the future.

Item 3: The Forest needs to continue to discuss with the Nez Perce Tribe alternatives to prescribed fire in achieving big game winter range improvements.

FYs Shown: FY 93, FY 94 and FY 95

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: In FY 95, a field review and subsequent discussions of the Scott Fire and Scott Salvage Sale was scheduled with Neż Perce Tribal biologists, but the attempt was again precluded by scheduling conflicts and other priority work of both the Forest and Tribe. Field review and discussions seeking alternative treatments to prescription fire on winter ranges will again be pursued in FY 96.

Item 4: Fisher/pine martin transects need to have consistent annual readings to produce more useful data.

FYs Shown: FY 93, FY 94 and FY 95

Status: Incomplete

Discussion: In both FY 94 and FY 95, consistent annual readings of winter track count transects were precluded by erosion of funding for this kind of activity. Budget earmarked priorities (such as neotropical migratory bird monitoring) and reduced available personnel resources have both contributed to this weakness. The need to monitor fisher populations is greater than that for pine marten due to the relative scarcity and difficulty in monitoring the fisher versus the relative abundance of pine marten track sign.

Item 5: More funds and staff time needs to be made available to adequately determine goshawk population trends.

FYs Shown: FY 93 and FY 94.

Status: Good Progress Made...Needs followup in future years

Discussion: In FY 95, a landscape scale, forestwide effort was focused to establish baseline inventories of suitable habitat, goshawk sightings and nest activity. Efforts to detect goshawks and their nests within the Cove and Mallard Timber Sales areas (per the EIS) continued as well. The FY 95 forestwide survey and monitoring effort concluded the following: 1) Quality goshawk nesting habitat is well distributed across much of the Nez Perce National Forest. Computer queries of timber stands with suitable species, structural, elevation, aspect and slope data were completed on four Districts (Salmon River, Clearwater, Elk City and Selway). "Goshawk landtypes" were rough inventoried on the Moose Creek district. Data from the Red River District was not used because of poor validation of known nest sites with developed data queries. 2) The Salmon River and Clearwater Ranger Districts had the highest numbers of watersheds with significant amounts of high quality habitat. Goshawks routinely alternate nest use within a single nesting territory independent of vegetation changes and land use

patterns simply to reduce chick losses to great horned owls and other natural predators. For this reason, monitoring nest territory fidelity and use as an index of long term population levels will cost much more in dollars and staff time than the Forest is likely to have in the near future. The FY 95 Goshawk Habitat and Nest Survey is available in report form from any Ranger District or the Supervisor's Office.

Item 6: As funding permits, the Forest should gather management data to better describe preferred moose winter range characteristics.

FYs Shown: FY 94

Status: Incomplete

Discussion: Reductions in available budgets along with shifting priorities and reduced staff time continue to reduce the Forest's ability to clarify and better describe moose winter range characteristics. The Forestwide yew wood inventory (from FY 93) remains available for review and to assist in conflict resolution when and if funding and personnel resources can be diverted to the task.

SOIL AND WATER

Item 1: Additional work is needed to improve the quality of placer mining operations in some cases. The lack of specific mandatory "best management practices" is a limitation in achieving this.

FYs Shown: FY 94

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: Placer mining monitoring was highlighted in FY 95 (see Minerals Section in this M&E Report).

Item 2: To prepare for forest plan revision and development of an aquatic ecosystem conservation strategy, synthesis of available research, development of an aquatic classification system and characterization of aquatic community structure and distribution are needed.

FYs Shown: FY 94

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: In FY 96, approximately 37 Region One "peer groups" will be formed to determine analysis, classification and data structure protocols for selected issues. Aquatics will be one of the 37 issues addressed.

Item 3: Continued development of the NEZSED model and improvements in the reliability of observed sediment yield estimates are needed to improve future land management decisions.

FYs Shown: FY 94

Status: Incomplete

Discussion: The priority of such work has not been high enough to warrant funding. Noting done to date.

Item 4: To maintain soil productivity, water quality and maintain viable populations of native species, increased emphasis needs to be given to accomplishing integrated landscape and site specific assessments (page 72 in FY 93 Report).

FYs Shown: FY 93 and FY 94.

Status: Ongoing

Discussion: In FY 96, the Forest will complete an Ecosystem Analysis at the Watershed Scale of Slate Creek. In FY 97, the Forest will begin the first of 3 landscape assessments at the 4th code HUC scale (750,000 - 1,000,000) acres in preparation for Forest Plan revision. This first landscape assessment will cover the South Fork Clearwater River drainage.

FACILITIES

Item 1: By the end of FY 95, all facilities on the forest will be surveyed for accessibility for people with disabilities with transition plans developed. (page 128 in the FY 94 Report).

FYs Shown: FY 94

Status: Ongoing - partially completed

Discussion: Most developed recereation facilities on the forest have been surveyed for accessibility for people with disabilities with transition plans developed. Survey work continues on recreation and administrative facilities.

REFERENCES

The Nez Perce National Forest Headquarters can be contacted in regard to locating copies of the following cited material referred to in this report:

- Thompson, K. 1990. Utilization of Instream Habitat Improvement Structures for Summer Rearing by Juvenile Hatchery and Wild Steelhead Trout in an Idaho Stream. M.S. Thesis, Humboldt State University.

- Burroughs Jr., Edward E., John G. King. 1989. Reduction of Soil Erosion on Forest Roads. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, General Technical Report INT-264.

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- State of Idaho, Idaho Department of Lands. 1990. Rules and Regulations Pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practices Act, Title 38, Chapter 13, Idaho Code.

- Idaho Department of Fish and Game. 1984. Guidelines for Evaluating and Managing Summer Elk Habitat in Northern Idaho. Wildlife Bulletin No. 11.

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- U.S. Congress. 1966. National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

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