

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
Purpose of this Land Management Plan	1
Plan Components	2
Other Important Concepts.....	5
Procedural Points	7
Plan Organization.....	8
Relationship to Other Strategic Guidance.....	9
Environmental Management System	9
About the Flathead National Forest	10
Changes and Trends.....	12
Chapter 1: Vision	15
Desired Conditions.....	15
Forest-Wide Desired Conditions Component.....	16
Soils, Watersheds, and Aquatic Resources	16
Vegetative Composition, Size Class, and Structure.....	19
Air Quality	23
Wildlife and Plant Species Diversity	24
Forest Products.....	26
National Forest System Lands	28
Livestock Grazing.....	30
Minerals and Geology.....	31
Heritage Resources	32
Developed and Dispersed Recreation	33
Designated Wilderness.....	35
Access and Travel Management	37
Partnerships.....	39
American Indian Rights and Interests.....	40
Geographic Area Desired Conditions Component	43
Hungry Horse Geographic Area	45
Middle Fork Flathead Geographic Area	49
North Fork Flathead Geographic Area	53
Salish Mountains Geographic Area	57
South Fork Flathead Geographic Area	61
Swan Valley Geographic Area.....	65
Chapter 2: Strategy	69
Program Emphases.....	69
Soils, Watersheds, and Aquatic Ecosystems.....	70
Vegetative Composition, Size Class, and Structure.....	72
Air Quality	74
Wildlife and Plant Species Diversity	75
Forest Products.....	77
National Forest System Lands	77
Livestock Grazing.....	78

Minerals and Geology	79
Heritage Resources	80
Developed and Dispersed Recreation	80
Designated Wilderness and Recommended Wilderness	82
Access and Travel Management	82
Partnerships	83
American Indian Rights and Interests	83
Objectives Component	85
Soils, Watersheds, and Aquatic Ecosystems	85
Vegetative Composition, Size Class, and Structure	85
Wildlife and Plant Species Diversity	86
Forest Products	87
National Forest System Lands	87
Livestock Grazing	88
Minerals and Geology	88
Heritage Resources	88
Developed and Dispersed Recreation	88
Designated Wilderness	89
Access and Travel Management	89
American Indian Rights and Interests	90
Suitability of Areas Component	91
General Suitability—Forest-Wide	91
General Suitability—by Management Area	95
Special Areas Component	119
Chapter 3: Design Criteria	125
Guidelines Component	125
Soils, Watersheds, and Aquatic Ecosystems	125
Vegetative Composition, Size Class, and Structure	126
Wildlife and Plant Species Diversity	126
Forest Products	129
National Forest System Lands	130
Livestock Grazing	130
Minerals and Geology	131
Heritage Resources	131
Developed and Dispersed Recreation	131
Designated Wilderness	132
Access and Travel Management	132
Other Design Criteria	133
Glossary	135

Figures

Figure 1: Vicinity Map of the Flathead National Forest.....	11
Figure 2: Timber Volume Sold on the Flathead National Forest.....	27
Figure 3: Vicinity Map of the Flathead National Forest Geographic Areas.....	42
Figure 4: Map of the Hungry Horse Geographic Area.	44
Figure 5: Map of the Middle Fork Flathead Geographic Area.	48
Figure 6: Map of the North Fork Flathead Geographic Area.	52
Figure 7: Map of the Salish Mountains Geographic Area.	56
Figure 8: Map of the South Fork Flathead Geographic Area.	60
Figure 9: Map of the Swan Valley Geographic Area.	64
Figure 10: Timber Suitability Map.	94
Figure 11. Bar graph of Management Area acres across the Flathead National Forest....	95

Tables

Table 1: Strategic planning framework.....	9
Table 2: Species composition desired condition.....	21
Table 3: Vegetation size class desired condition.	22
Table 4: Designated wilderness on the Flathead National Forest.....	36
Table 5: Motorized trails in the Hungry Horse GA MA 2.2.....	47
Table 6: Motorized trails in the North Fork Flathead GA MA 2.2.....	54
Table 7: Motorized trails in the South Fork Flathead GA MA 2.2.....	63
Table 8: Motorized trails in the Swan Valley GA MA 2.2.....	66
Table 9: Species listed under the Endangered Species Act.	76
Table 10: Timber suitability classification.	93
Table 11:Management areas and generally suitable for timber harvest and production. .	96
Table 12: Potential classification of eligible wild, scenic, and recreational rivers.....	102
Table 13: Special Areas of the Flathead National Forest.	120
Table 14: Animal species of interest with guidelines specific to a group or species.....	127
Table 15: Animal species of concern with guidelines specific to a group of species,...	127

Blank page