- first, retain the existing large blocks of high value public lands within the zone;
- second, consolidate public lands ownership within high priority watersheds by seeking to acquire private and State inholdings in those watersheds; and
- third, acquire additional high resource value lands within lower priority watersheds, as long as those acquired lands also improve efficiencies in public lands management.

Public lands within ½ -mile of either side of the Zone 2 boundary will be considered potentially suitable for disposal primarily by exchange (and secondarily by sale or R&PP patent), *unless* that ½ mile extends into a Zone 1 (retention) area. Each individual disposal action would be required to comply with the guidelines in FLPMA, meet the Criteria for Land Ownership Adjustment (see pages 16-17), stand on its own merit through public input and review, and be in compliance with NEPA. **Public access will be considered in all land tenure actions.**

Adjustment Areas (Zone 3, Zone 4, and Zone 5):

Public lands within the three zones labeled as "adjustment areas" are generally smaller parcels that are (a) fragmented because they are interspersed with private and/or State lands or (b) isolated from the larger blocks of public lands within the planning area. These geographic and ownership factors make management of the public lands in Zones 3, 4, and 5 difficult. Most of these lands are therefore identified for disposal through exchange, in order to consolidate land ownership within the three zones. The net result is expected to be larger blocks of public, private, and State lands than at present, with increased public and administrative access to public lands. Although Zones 3, 4, and 5 are considered "adjustment areas" (because most land ownership adjustment in the planning area would occur there), public lands with high resource values would generally be retained in Federal ownership.

Zone 3 lands are small to medium-sized blocks of public lands which are interspersed with State and private lands. Zone 3 lands in the northwest portion of the planning area are also isolated from other public lands managed by the Shoshone Field Office. Zone 3 is a relatively small component of the Field Office area, containing only 127,000 acres or 9% of public lands managed by the Shoshone Field Office. However, the zone has extensive acres in private ownership (359,000 acres or 67% *of the zone*). This zone also has the largest amount of lands in State ownership (48,000 acres or 9% *of the zone*).

The emphasis in Zone 3 is to consolidate ownership, which would maximize public values, provide public access, and improve efficiencies in public lands management. The BLM's priorities for lands management in Zone 3 would be to:

- Maintain the total amount of public land in Zone 3, including lands adjacent to the Sawtooth National Forest and Craters of the Moon National Monument (since these adjoining lands provide public access and improve Federal interagency efficiencies); and
- Acquire, primarily through exchange, additional high resource value lands that improve the manageability of the public lands. (**Note:** These acquisitions would result in disposal of lower resource value and difficult-to-manage tracts of Zone 3 public lands).

Zone 3 lands are potentially suitable for disposal primarily by exchange; however, disposal of lands through sales and R&PP patents would also be allowed in this zone. Specific parcels within the zone may contain potentially high values for resources and land uses such as minerals, recreation, range, riparian, cultural resources, and wildlife habitat. These high-value parcels may not be suitable for disposal individually, except through exchange for equal resource value lands that are adjacent to existing public lands or that improve efficiencies in public land management. Each individual land tenure adjustment action would be required to comply with the guidelines in FLPMA, meet the Criteria for Land Ownership Adjustment (see pages 16-17), stand on its own merit through public input and review, and be in compliance with NEPA. Due to the present land ownership pattern, acquisition of public access would be a high priority in this zone.

Zone 4 lands are small to medium-sized blocks of public lands that are isolated from one another and from other public lands tracts in the Field Office area. Zone 4 public lands comprise only **62,000** acres, or 4% of the public lands administered by the Shoshone Field Office and 9% of all lands in Zone 4. The Isolated Wildlife Tract Program is managed on Zone 4 lands (and some Zone 2 lands) along the Snake River. Public lands in Zone 4 are potentially suitable for disposal primarily by exchange; if land exchanges are not feasible, then land tenure adjustment via sale or R&PP patent would be considered. The land tenure adjustment emphasis in Zone 4 should result in a net decrease in public lands acreage within the zone. However, there may be specific parcels within Zone 4 that contain potentially high values for resources and land uses such as minerals, recreation, range, riparian, cultural resources, and wildlife habitat. These parcels may not be suitable for disposal individually, except through exchange for equal resource value lands that are not fragmented or isolated from existing public lands.

Due to the present land ownership pattern in Zone 4, acquisition of public access would be a low priority in this zone. Each individual lands action would be required to comply with the guidelines in FLPMA, meet the Criteria for Land Ownership Adjustment (see pages 16-17), stand on its own merit through public input and review, and be in compliance with NEPA.

Zone 5 is generally described as an "Area of Influence of the Wood River Valley," and includes those lands that are within the viewshed of the communities of Bellevue, Hailey, Ketchum, and Sun Valley, Idaho. This zone was created based on public comments and concerns communicated during the scoping period.

The land ownership characteristics of Zone 5 are very similar to Zone 3: public lands are small to medium-sized tracts interspersed with private and State lands. Zone 5 is a small land area, with only 121,000 acres of public lands (8% of lands administered by the Shoshone Field Office and 41% of lands within Zone 5). More acres within the zone are in private ownership than public ownership (156,000 acres of private lands, or 54% of the zone). State lands account for 20,000 acres or 7% of the zone.

The *general* land management strategy for Zone 5 is very similar to that of Zone 3. However, the concerns of the local Wood River Valley communities are addressed through some unique considerations within Zone 5.

Zone 5's General Land Tenure Management Strategy:

The emphasis in Zone 5 is to consolidate ownership, which would maximize public values, provide public access, and improve efficiencies in public lands management. The BLM's priorities for lands management in Zone 5 would be to:

- Maintain the total amount of public land in Zone 5, including lands adjacent to the Sawtooth National Forest (since these adjoining lands provide public access and improve Federal interagency efficiencies); and
- Acquire, primarily through exchange, additional high resource value lands that improve the manageability of the public lands. (**Note:** These acquisitions would result in disposal of lower resource value and difficult-to-manage tracts of Zone 5 public lands).

Zone 5 lands are potentially suitable for disposal primarily by exchange; however, disposal of lands through sales and R&PP patents would also be allowed in this zone. Specific parcels within the zone may contain potentially high values for resources and land uses such as minerals, recreation, range, riparian, cultural resources, and wildlife habitat. These high-value parcels may not be suitable for disposal individually, except through exchange for equal resource value lands that are adjacent to existing public lands or that improve efficiencies in public land management. Each individual land tenure adjustment action would be required to comply with the guidelines in FLPMA, meet the Criteria for Land Ownership Adjustment (see pages 16-17), stand on its own merit through public input and review, and be in compliance with NEPA. Due to the present land ownership pattern, acquisition of public access would be a high priority in this zone.

Zone 5's Unique Considerations to Address Local Concerns:

Several local concerns are addressed through the unique characteristics of proposed land tenure management for Zone 5. These concerns include (a) the local governments' interest in acquiring public lands to benefit the local community; (b) interagency (BLM and IDFG) and local residents' concerns about wildlife habitat fragmentation; (c) wildfire risks; (d) retention of "open space" (undeveloped landscapes) and scenic values; (e) motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities and access; and (f) floodplain protection.

For each proposed lands transaction within Zone 5, the following factors need to be considered *in addition* to the standard Criteria for Land Ownership Adjustment (see pages 16-17).

- the local (city or county) government's interest in acquiring public lands to support infrastructure and extend community services;
- the extent to which the transaction would provide for high quality continuous habitat by retaining existing wildlife habitat and reducing the extent of fragmented wildlife habitat;
- the extent to which the transaction would reduce hazardous fuels and the risk of wildfire;
- the ability of the lands action to retain "open space" (undeveloped landscapes) and protect scenic corridors,
- the extent to which the lands action would facilitate ongoing or future motorized and non-motorized trails and other public access; and
- the extent to which the lands action would protect floodplains from development.

Furthermore, the lands proposal evaluation must consider the public values acquired and local factors addressed by acquiring State or private lands, versus the public values relinquished and local factors addressed when ownership transfers from the BLM.

The following land tenure adjustment criteria also specifically apply to Zone 5:

- Exchanges would be considered to the extent that they result in no net loss of public lands within Zone 5. The BLM's goal for this zone is to maintain the public land acreage by exchanging public land in other zones for private land in Zone 5.

- The BLM would prefer disposal through R&PP patent to local or State government entities (since these are expected to provide management of the lands over the long term versus a nonprofit organization) when the BLM's priorities, the local or State government's priorities, and the public's needs are met by the patent process.

- Disposal **to private landowners** through land sales would only be for small (generally less than 10 acres), isolated parcels **generally** left from mining patents or a resurvey by the USDI Cadastral Survey. Many of these parcels are less than an acre and are difficult to identify without researching the Master Title Plats; because of their small size, they often do not show up on land status maps. The priority would be to pool these numerous small parcels for disposal and exchange them for high resource value parcels within Zone 5.

Criteria for Land Ownership Adjustment

In addition to complying with guidelines for land tenure adjustment that are stated in FLPMA, a lands proposal must fit within the relevant zone's management strategy (see "Lands Status and Management Zones" descriptions above) and meet criteria for land ownership adjustment. The proposed action would be compared with the criteria to see if the proposal fits within the highest priorities for retention, acquisition, or disposal.

FLPMA and other Federal laws, Executive Orders, and policies suggest criteria to use when categorizing public lands for retention or disposal, and for identifying acquisition priorities. The following list of criteria is not considered all-inclusive, but represents the major activities and issues affecting lands within the planning area. These criteria are meant to streamline consideration of land tenure adjustment proposals.

These criteria would be among those considered in preparing land reports and environmental analyses for specific land tenure adjustment proposals following completion of the plan amendments. Land tenure adjustments involving sales, exchanges, or R&PP patents may be permitted based on site-specific application of these adjustment criteria. Transfer to other public agencies will also be considered where improved management efficiency would result. All disposal actions would be consistent with the management actions and zones selected in the final decision for the Shoshone Land Use Plans Amendments.

Lands with Highest Priority for Retention or Acquisition

- Those lands specifically identified by the Shoshone-Bannock and/or Shoshone-Paiute Tribes as having special importance related to treaty and/or traditional uses/values;
- Important, crucial, or critical habitat for special status species including proposed species, listed species, and candidate species under the Endangered Species Act; State-listed species; and BLM State Director-designated sensitive species;
- Riparian areas and wetlands;
- Parcels that provide public and/or administrative access to larger blocks of public land;
- Lands with special designation or management emphasis (see category below).

Special Designation/Management Areas Where it is a High Priority to Acquire Inholdings

- Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, or lands adjacent to and important for expansion of such areas;
- National Historic Trails;
- Wild and Scenic Rivers (eligible, recommended suitable, or designated);
- Significant cultural resources and sites eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places;
- Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas.

Areas Generally Retained, but May be Exchanged for Parcels with Higher Resource Values

- Important habitat for fish or wildlife;
- Developed recreation sites and recreation access;
- Recreation opportunities and benefits;
- Significant energy and mineral resources;
- Significant cave resources;
- Significant paleontological resources.

Areas that Are a High Priority for Disposal

- Parcels which are difficult or costly to administer (manageability and/or isolation of the parcel);
- Parcels more suitable for management by another Federal or State agency;
- Parcels of special importance to (and generally adjacent to) local communities for purposes including, but not limited to, community expansion, extended community services, or economic development.

Other Issues to be Considered Prior to any Land Tenure Adjustment Action

- To what extent the individual action will help achieve overall land ownership management objectives at the watershed level, in cooperation with State and private landowners;
- Existing legal accessibility of the land for public uses;
- Amount of public investments in facilities or improvements and the potential for recovering those investments;
- Consistency with cooperative agreements and plans or policies of other agencies.

Table 3: Shoshone Land Use Plans Proposed Amendments - Land Tenure Adjustment Management Direction

Issue/Concern	Existing Management	Proposed Amendments
Land Tenure Adjustment		
Summary	Land tenure adjustments would continue to be considered on a case-by-case basis as long as the public lands involved are specifically identified for disposal in one of the existing land use plans. These lands were identified for disposal as of July 25, 2000, and may therefore be sold or exchanged under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act.	Land tenure actions would amend the following land use plans: Magic MFP, Bennett Hills/Timmerman Hills MFP, Sun Valley MFP, and Monument RMP. Land tenure management zone designations would be implemented as shown on Map 3 (page 12) (also see zone definitions on pp. 11-16). Each land tenure adjustment proposal would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and evaluated to see if it meets the intent of FLPMA, the guidelines for the relevant land tenure and management zone(s) , and the Criteria for Land Ownership Adjustment presented on pp. 16-17. Land tenure adjustments would seek to facilitate a watershed approach to natural resource management, in order to improve efficiencies in public lands management. The BLM would also seek to acquire high resource value lands made available by willing land owners.
		Depending on the merits of each proposal, disposal of public lands would be a priority if the disposal provided opportunity to consolidate public lands, accommodate the need for community expansion, improve management in areas of high resource values, and/or resolve long-standing unauthorized uses.
Acquisition Priorities	Acquisition priorities would be as stated in the current land use plans.	The BLM's acquisition priorities would be to reconnect habitats within priority watersheds and to acquire other lands with high resource values. An additional acquisition priority within Zone 1 would be to seek to acquire all private and State in-holdings. Acquisitions, including easements, can be completed through exchange, Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) purchases, donations, or receipts from Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act sales or exchanges.

Issue/Concern	Existing Management	Proposed Amendments
Land Sales and Exchanges	The BLM's first priority will always be to use land exchanges rather than land sales. Lands considered for disposal through sale must meet the intent of FLPMA, Section 203(a) (1) (i.e., be difficult and uneconomical to manage) or FLPMA, Section 203(a) (3) (i.e., meet public objectives such as community expansion and economic development).	
	Disposal of public lands through sale or exchange will only be considered on lands currently identified for potential disposal.	Disposal of public lands through sale or exchange would be allowed in Zones 2, 3, 4, and 5. **In Zone 5, sales to private land owners would only be allowed if the tracts are small, isolated parcels generally left from mining patents or a resurvey by the USDI cadastral survey.** Public land sales would be in balance with, and, if possible, pooled with State and private land exchanges to facilitate a watershed approach and thereby improve efficiencies in public lands management. Sales would be a low priority, due to increased emphasis on land exchanges.
	Almost 49,973 acres of public lands were identified for disposal as of July 25, 2000. Proceeds from the sale or exchange of these lands can be used to purchase additional public lands, as provided for in the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act.	Approximately 45,739 acres of public lands identified for disposal as of July 25, 2000, would continue to be available for disposal (see Attachment 1, pp. 36-37). Proceeds from the sale or exchange of these public lands may be used to purchase additional public lands, as provided for in the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act.
State Land Exchanges	Disposal of public lands through exchange for State lands would only be considered on public lands currently identified for potential disposal.	State land exchanges would be in balance with, and, if possible, pooled with private land exchanges to facilitate a watershed approach and thereby improve efficiencies in public lands management.
Private Land Exchanges	Disposal of public lands through exchange for private lands would only be considered on public lands currently identified for potential disposal.	Private land exchanges would be in balance with, and, if possible, pooled with State land exchanges to facilitate a watershed approach in order to improve efficiencies in public land management.

Issue/Concern	Existing Management	Proposed Amendments
Desert Land Entry Act/ Carey Act Applications and Lands Transfer	The tracts currently applied for under the Desert Land Entry (DLE) Act and Carey Act are not identified for disposal in the existing land use plans and therefore cannot be disposed of. Future DLE and Carey Act applications would only be processed for lands that are identified as disposal parcels and also meet the criteria of the Acts.	Current Desert Land Entry Act and Carey Act applications would be processed, and lands meeting the criteria of the Acts would be disposed of. The following are identified as current applications: **Current Desert Land Entry (DLE) Applications:** • IDI 29776, 29777 and 29782 between Wendell and Gooding. • IDI 27342, 27343, 27344, 27345, 27406, 27443, 27444, 27472, 27855, 27857, 27858, 27859, 28096, 28144 and 28145 in Hidden Valley between Dietrich and Kimama and below State Highway 24. **Current Carey Act Applications:** • IDI 9897, 9483 and 9487. (These overlap with the same DLE applicants between Wendell and Gooding.) No new DLE or Carey Act applications would be accepted.
Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act Leases and Patents	Existing leases would continue to be allowed. Patent of these leased lands or other proposed lands would only be allowed if the public lands are identified for disposal.	R&PP leases and patents would be allowed in Zones 2, 3, 4, and 5. Proposed patents in Zone 5 must meet the additional criterion for that zone. In Zone 5 the BLM would prefer disposal through R&PP patent to local or State government entities (since these are expected to provide management of the lands over the long term, versus a non-profit organization) when the BLM's priorities, the local or State government's priorities, and the public's needs are met by the patent process.
Aquifer Recharge Sites **(including flood control sites which are ancillary benefits to the aquifer recharge program)**	The existing recharge site and the existing flood control site (ancillary benefit to the aquifer recharge program) would continue to be allowed as per the signed Cooperative Agreements. All future recharge site authorizations would be made through right-of-way grants.	The existing recharge site authorized in Zone 1 would be retained in public ownership and continue to be authorized through the signed Cooperative Agreement. The existing flood control site (ancillary benefit to the aquifer recharge program) authorized in Zone 2 through the signed Cooperative Agreement, and the aquifer recharge site within Zone 2 that has been approved by the BLM through a signed Decision Record, would be made available for acquisition through exchange or purchase with the State of Idaho or other public entity. The BLM will also allow the State or other public entities to exchange or purchase future recharge sites identified within Zones 2 or 4, if the sites are approved through the NEPA process.

Issue/Concern	Existing Management	Proposed Amendments
Communication Sites	The existing communication sites are not identified for disposal and would continue to be managed using current policy and procedures. All future communication site authorizations would be made through right-of-way grants. The existing plans do not address disposal of communication sites to the State of Idaho.	The communication sites within the planning area that have been approved by the BLM through right-of-way grants would be made available for acquisition through exchange with the State of Idaho. The BLM would allow the State to exchange for entire communication site complexes and any other additional area needed for ancillary support for the sites identified in Zones 2-5 (Zones 2-4 in Alternative 4), if the sites are approved through the NEPA process. Ancillary support for existing and future communication sites (e.g., power lines, access roads, etc.) would not be authorized on public lands once the sites are transferred to the State. Any transfer of public lands would be subject to all valid existing rights, including existing rights-of-way.
Isolated Wildlife Tract Program	Continue to manage the Isolated Wildlife Tract Program within the guidelines and direction in the existing land use plans. Continue the present cooperative agreement with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG).	Continue to manage the Isolated Wildlife Tract Program on existing lands, and look for opportunities in partnership with IDFG to exchange the current properties for higher value properties that are adjacent to BLM, have equal or higher wildlife values, and help reconnect fragmented habitats within priority watersheds. As isolated lands are disposed of, the program would be reduced accordingly. Continue the present cooperative agreement with IDFG.

Issue/Concern	Existing Management	Proposed Amendments
Management Direction for Future Land Use Permits and Resolution of Unauthorized Use **(e.g., farming, equipment storage, material disposal, fences)**	The BLM has historically granted temporary use permits to authorize various uses on lands that are pending transfer.	While waiting for a land tenure action to be completed, new land use permits, leases, or agreements would not be allowed on the public lands being considered for disposal. In areas not identified for disposal (e.g., Zone 1), consideration of new land use permits, leases, or agreements would be a low priority.
	Current Shoshone Field Office policy does not allow new permits to cross BLM lands for the sole benefit of private farming practices (i.e., dry or wet pivot lines).	**Short-term authorizations or permits** to cross BLM lands for the sole benefit of private farming practices **(such as** dry or wet pivot lines) will not be approved. No form of waste water application will be approved. **A FLPMA right-of-way will be available to provide long-term authorization for actions such as water main lines and power lines grants, if needed to service private agricultural lands.**
	Resolution of long-term and new unauthorized uses will continue to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis as BLM priorities allow.	Resolution of long-term unauthorized uses through land tenure adjustment would be equal in priority to retaining or acquiring high resource value lands.
	Existing cases of unauthorized use may be resolved through disposal by sale or exchange, if the affected lands are currently identified for disposal.	Existing permits, leases, or agreements that currently authorize known trespass will be retired within 18 months of the date the permit, lease, or agreement expires, and all agreed-to rehabilitation will occur to the satisfaction of the authorized officer within 36 months of the date the permit, lease, or agreement expires.
	Renewal of existing land use permits would continue to be handled on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with current policy.	Public lands with unauthorized uses that are temporarily authorized by existing land use permits, leases, or agreements will be evaluated for disposal in a "pooled lands" approach with the assistance of local county governments, in order to meet the needs of all land owners and the public. Isolated BLM parcels (isolated from other BLM properties or isolated due to structures like highways or major irrigation canals) may be sold.
	New cases of unauthorized use, or situations the BLM becomes aware of after these amendments are approved, will be resolved by current laws, regulations, and priorities. In the future, no new land use permits, leases, or agreements will be authorized to validate unauthorized use.	

Issue/Concern	Existing Management	Proposed Amendments
Water Rights	Current Idaho water law and BLM water rights policy will be adhered to. Adherence to Idaho water law will be a condition of use on all existing, new, or renewed farming permits, leases, or agreements. When an existing permit is renewed, current Idaho BLM's State-wide policy is that any privately-held water right place of water use (POU) on public land shall either be removed from public land, or be transferred to the United States through the Bureau of Land Management. It is also BLM's policy that a privately-owned water right with a point of diversion (POD) on privately-owned property, but one or more places of water use on public land, shall be split and transferred to the United States, in proportion to the amount of water used on public land to the total water used on all land, both private and public; this transfer would be made for the duration of time the permitted use of public lands is authorized.	
Private/Public Land Boundary Adjustments Within and Adjacent to Zone 2	Disposal of public lands bordering other land ownerships would not be allowed unless the parcels are currently identified for disposal.	Public lands within ½ -mile of either side of the Zone 2 boundary will be considered potentially suitable for disposal primarily by exchange (and secondarily by sale or R&PP patent), *unless* that ½-mile extends into a Zone 1 (retention) area. Private/public land boundary adjustments within ½-mile of the Zone 2 boundary would be a priority if the land tenure adjustment provided opportunity to consolidate public lands, accommodate the need for community expansion, improve management in areas of high resource values, and/or resolve long-standing unauthorized uses.
Split Estate Mineral Values **(private surface owner/ BLM subsurface owner)**	Although the existing land use plans are silent on the specific action of exchanging or selling BLM sub-surface minerals for private surface lands, current policy allows the sale or exchange of mineral rights.	The exchange or sale of BLM sub-surface minerals for private surface lands would be allowed in Zones 2, 3, 4, and 5. The BLM would seek to reduce or eliminate the split mineral estate whenever the opportunity arises. The priority would be to identify groups of landowners interested in acquiring their sub-surface mineral values, and to pool these values in order to acquire high resource value parcels through sale or exchange. Future lands transactions would follow current policy on transfer of sub-surface mineral values (current policy is to not split estates when completing a land tenure transaction).
Priorities for Consolidating Land Ownership ***First priority will always be to use land exchanges rather than land sales.***	Acquisitions and disposals will be as described in the existing land use plans. Parcels not currently identified for disposal would require an individual, timely, and costly land use plan amendment prior to consideration of the land tenure adjustment proposal, and thus are not a priority to complete.	Priority is to retain and acquire additional high resource value lands made available by a willing land owner, while considering opportunities to consolidate lands. High resource value lands will be retained unless equal or higher resource value lands are available. A priority is also to reconnect habitats within priority watersheds.

Issue/Concern	Existing Management	Proposed Amendments
Zone 5 Considerations	The following definitions apply for the purposes of this table: **"Open space"** is defined as a primitive and peaceful area that provides solitude, and where the public lands user would tread lightly and leave no trace of having been there. The "open space" definition accommodates all approved permits, developments, land uses, and activities at the time a land tenure adjustment occurs. **"Local governments"** include Blaine County and the Cities of Bellevue, Hailey, Ketchum and Sun Valley.	
Lands to Support Local Needs	Acquisitions and disposals within the Wood River Valley will be as described in the existing land use plans. Parcels not currently identified for disposal would require an individual, timely, and costly plan amendment prior to consideration of the land tenure adjustment proposal, and thus are not a priority to complete.	"Reasonably necessary" sized parcels of public land may be made available for disposal through the R&PP Act, preferably directly to local governments, to support local needs for community infrastructure and extended services. Community needs would be accommodated to the greatest extent possible.
"Open Space" Concept	The existing land use plans do not provide any management direction to address the topic of "open space."	In Zone 5 the following would be emphasized to promote open space: Pool numerous small, low public value parcels and acquire through exchanges high resource priority parcels to complement the BLM and local governments' Master and/or Comprehensive Plans.

Issue/Concern	Existing Management	Proposed Amendments
Acquisition of Access	Knowing that limited resources are available to acquire access through individual actions (unless access is acquired as a component of another proposed transaction), future access needs and priorities will be coordinated with the Shoshone-Bannock and Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, IDFG, and local governments to ensure resource values are evaluated along with public needs. Existing public access will be retained.	
	Legal administrative and/or public access may be acquired through purchase, easement, or other means.	When evaluating proposals for acquisition of access, the BLM will seek to address concerns about over-development, over-use, and habitat fragmentation. New points of access would seek to protect both the acquired access area and the resources accessed by that area (e.g., parking area next to a trailhead; pull-off next to a fishing hole). The BLM would seek to balance acquisition of legal public and administrative access. When developing or evaluating land tenure adjustment proposals, the BLM would seek to acquire legal public or administrative access and prevent relinquishment of such access. The emphasis on <u>initiating</u> lands actions in order to acquire access (versus completing other types of lands transactions) would vary by zone. **Zone 1: Public access would be considered in all land tenure actions.** **Zone 2: Public access would be considered in all land tenure actions.** Zone 3: Acquisition of public access would be a high priority. Zone 4: Acquisition of public access would be a low priority. Zone 5: Acquisition of public access would be a high priority.
Forest Resources	No public lands in the timber base are currently identified for disposal to the general public. The Sun Valley MFP identifies public lands with forest resources for transfer to the Forest Service only.	Small, isolated, and hard to manage public lands in the timber base would be considered for disposal if they meet the amendments' criteria for disposal (zone definition and Criteria for Land Ownership Adjustment (pp. 11-17).

ACEC Designations

The Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA) defines an ACEC as an area *"...within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards (43 U.S.C. § 1702 (a)).*" [**Note:** More information on the BLM's designation process for ACECs is found in *BLM Manual § 1613.1*. Specific information on the ACEC nominations evaluated during the amendments planning process is provided in the Shoshone Land Use Plans Draft Amendments/Environmental Assessment.] The Shoshone Field Office presently has five designated ACECs (see Map 4, p. 27).

Three ACECs are proposed for designation in the Shoshone Plan Amendments: King Hill Creek, McKinney Butte, and Tee-Maze (see Map 4). These proposed ACECs satisfy relevance and importance criteria listed in 43 CFR 1610.7-2 and BLM Manual Section 1613, *and also* have a need for special management of the identified resources and values.

Relevance is based on the presence of a significant historic, cultural, or scenic value; fish or wildlife resource or other natural system or process; or natural hazard. All three proposed ACECs met relevance criteria and also had substantial significance and values that met one or more of the "importance" criteria:

- Has more than locally significant qualities which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource.
- Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.
- Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.
- Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety and public welfare.
- Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.

The three proposed ACECs also met the BLM's criteria for designation as Research Natural Areas (RNAs). A research natural area is an area which contains natural resource values of scientific interest and is managed primarily for research and educational purposes.

Table 4 below lists the acreage, identified relevance and importance, and special management actions for each proposed ACEC/RNA.