

Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area
RMP Objectives and Proposed Management Actions Table
Draft Working Document
For NCA Public Meetings – June 28, June 30, and July 1, 2004

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Alternative A Current Management	Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration	Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.
Objectives Common to All Alternatives:			
To maintain or improve the current functioning condition of riparian areas along the NCA’s existing 101 miles of reservoir and stream shoreline.			
Increase raptor populations by increasing raptor nesting, perching, feeding and roosting opportunities.			
In accordance with planning criteria and the Clean Air Act, meet or exceed the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and the Prevention of Significant Deterioration regulations with all authorized actions.			
Land uses will be authorized and managed so as to reduce the occurrence and severity of hazardous material incidences on public lands and to minimize human health threats and natural resource risks from hazardous material contamination and associated actions.			
Provide a diversity of quality, resource based recreational opportunities while protecting resource values, minimizing user conflicts, and promoting public safety.			
Management Actions Common to All Alternatives:			
Air Quality			
1. Emissions from point and nonpoint sources would be limited by requiring and implementing mitigation measures and/or Standard Operating Practices (SOPs). Delete from table ... move to BMP			
2. An approved burn plan that includes information and techniques to reduce or alter smoke emission levels would be in place prior to implementing any prescribed burn. Delete from table ... move to BMP			
3. All prescribed fire actions would be coordinated with other affected agencies. Delete from table ... move to BMP			
Cultural and Tribal Resources			
4. Cultural resources would be appropriately protected from adverse impacts and only after consultation with affected Tribes would those impacts be mitigated.			
5. Use authorizations for land with significant cultural resources would only be allowed if impacts are avoided or mitigated.			
6. Sites needing protection or specific areas for monitoring where cultural resources are deemed to be at risk from natural or human caused factors would be identified. Delete from table ... move to BMP			
7. In consultation with the Tribes, provisions for data recovery would be made when other pro-active measures are not available.			
Fire			
8. The following criteria would be used when setting specific suppression objectives. In the event of multiple ignitions: (1) Suppress wildland fires that threaten life and property and the wildland urban interface, (2) suppress fires that threaten important habitat, such as shrub communities, (3) suppress fires in other areas (i.e., cheatgrass, crested wheat).			
9. The NCA would be designated as “not appropriate for wildland fire use for resource benefit due to social, political, and ecological constraints. Unplanned wildland fire acres would be minimized.			
10. The use of surface-disturbing equipment would be limited during fire suppression on areas containing significant natural or cultural values, including native shrub communities, the Oregon Trail, and identified paleontological resources.			
11. All burned areas would be evaluated for possible rehabilitation with the goal of restoring shrub and perennial grass-dominated plant communities.			
12. Where appropriate, prescribed fire, herbicides and mechanical treatments would continue to be used on emergency rehabilitation and restoration projects.			

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13. Idaho Army National Guard (IDARNG) would continue to have primary responsibility for initial attack of all fires in the OTA.			
14. In order to reduce hazardous fuels, protect resources and wildland urban interface/communities at risk, prescribed fire and non-fire fuels treatments (mechanical, chemical, biological) would be allowed. Site specific NEPA analysis would be used to determine which method would be employed.			
15. Restoration and rehabilitation efforts would be applied with the intent of improving the existing fire regime condition class (FRCC). The fire management plan, as well as site specific NEPA analyses, would be used to set specific FRCC objectives and priorities for restoration and rehabilitation.			
16. All vegetation projects intended to reduce hazards and protect communities at risk would be collaboratively planned at the landscape scale where possible. Fire Management Plans, as well as Mitigation Plans and risk assessments, would be used to prioritize community assistance activities and set community assistance objectives.			
17. To protect LEPA and its habitat from wildfires, BLM would implement the following actions: (a) Protection of known occupied LEPA habitats would be a priority over the surrounding management area, (b) BLM would evaluate, create, and maintain fuel breaks around areas where frequent fires threaten occupied and suitable LEPA habitats, and (c) aggressive fire suppression tactics would be used in MAs when priority occupied LEPA habitats are threatened.			
Fish and Wildlife			
18. Non-native trees providing little roosting or nesting habitat would be removed.			
Hazardous Materials			
19. All actions authorizing the use or storage of, or the potential for, hazardous materials would have special stipulations developed as part of the permit, lease, or other action to assure human and natural resource safety.			
Lands and Realty			
20. As opportunities arise, lands would be acquired that contain significant natural or cultural resources.			
21. Land exchanges, acquisitions, and other realty actions would be authorized only if they either benefit or have no adverse impacts on raptor populations or habitats.			
Livestock Grazing			
22. Forage availability would be assessed prior to turnout.			
23. Grazing would be managed in accordance with the December, 2003 LEPA CCA.			
24. The use of livestock enclosures would be used as needed to protect sensitive plants and their habitat.			
25. Areas classified as “open” to OHV use would be removed from affected grazing allotments.			
Minerals			
26. No new mineral material sites would be authorized.			
Recreation			
27. The OTA Impact Area would remain closed to public access to mitigate potential safety hazards related to unexploded ordnance and munitions-related chemical contamination.			
28. The Oregon National Historic Trail would be managed according to the Oregon Trail Management Plan			
29. The Oregon Trail SRMA would restrict OHV use to designated roads and trails that do not impact visual and historic values.			

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30. The NCA would be available for commercial outfitter use by special permit where appropriate following NEPA analysis.			
31. The use of paintball guns and equipment would be prohibited within the Snake River Canyon and within ¼ mile of the canyon rim.			
32. Closed routes would be rehabilitated.			
33. Public information and education would be emphasized over regulation and enforcement to increase public awareness and sensitivity to raptors and other resource values, and to reduce user conflicts.			
34. The shooting closure in the OTA Impact Area would not apply to military activity.			
Riparian and Wetland			
35. Manage riparian areas along 36 miles of shoreline (C.J. Strike Reservoir), along with 45 stream miles to improve or maintain proper functioning conditions.			
36. Restore 80 acres of the TWMA wetlands to achieve good ecological condition within five years.			
37. Provide quality habitat for wildlife, particularly species dependent on riparian and wetland habitats by restoring or maintaining plant species diversity and hydrologic functioning of springs, seeps, and wet meadows where possible or appropriate.			
38. Manage 76 miles of stream and shoreline to maintain fisheries and aquatic-riparian habitat.			
39. Identify and monitor noxious weed populations in riparian areas. Initiate weed control measures using biological pest control methods whenever possible. When biological methods are not available, use approved herbicides, tillage and burning.			
40. Implement Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health as part of grazing management plans to ensure that streams are properly functioning. Implement grazing practices that provide sufficient residual vegetation to improve, restore, and/or maintain the hydrologic functioning of wetland areas, and provide plant species diversity and structure for quality wildlife habitat.			
Upland Vegetation			
41. All habitat restoration projects would include shrub varieties that are suitable for raptor prey (small mammal).			
42. Before reinstating prior uses on restored areas, the BLM authorized officer would determine the appropriate types and levels of use and monitoring needed.			
43. BLM, in conjunction with cooperators and in all land use authorizations, would require weed spraying control measures, including spraying when wind conditions are less than seven miles per hour, using large droplet spray only, with reduced pump pressure, and spot spraying.			
44. BLM would strive to conserve remaining stands of sagebrush and other native vegetation in making land management and project level decisions.			
45. Land exchanges would enhance or at least not adversely affect raptor populations or their habitat.			
Soil			
46. Mechanical impacts to the soil surface would be minimized through proper timing and duration for the type of use authorized with regard to soil type and soil moisture content and biological crust vulnerability.			
Special Status Plants			
47. Nonnative invasive species within or adjacent to Bureau Special Status plant sites would be assigned priority for treatment.			
48. BLM and fire cooperators would distribute maps and inform crews on locations of LEPA management areas, LEPA element occurrences, and other Bureau Special Status plants to maximize fire protection and to avoid or minimize impacts from fire prevention and/or suppression activities.			

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49. BLM would use seeding techniques that minimize soil disturbance, such as no-till drills and rangeland drills equipped with depth bands when rehabilitation and restoration projects have the potential to impact occupied and suitable special status species habitat.			
50. Where feasible, BLM would use native plant materials and seed during restoration and rehabilitation activities unless use of adapted non-native, non-invasive species would contribute to maintenance and protection of occupied and suitable special status species habitat.			
51. To protect occupied special status species habitat adjacent to construction activities, temporary or permanent project fencing would be required prior to the implementation of ground disturbing activities.			
52. New, renewing or amending right-of-way or permit holders would be required to re seed the area with a perennial vegetative cover following completion of any ground disturbing activities with the goal of achieving a 40-60% perennial coverage.			
53. BLM would require restoration and rehabilitation to native conditions in trespass cases damaging sagebrush-steppe habitat.			
54. Public lands containing sensitive plant habitat would be retained unless they can be exchanged for lands containing better habitat and/or more important resource values.			
55. Surface disturbing activities and/or human developments would be located away from existing sensitive plant habitat.			
56. No OHV use would be allowed within ¼ mile of occupied LEPA habitat.			
57. Recreation permits would not be issued for proposed activities in occupied sensitive plant habitat.			
58. Grazing would be managed in accordance with the December, 2003 LEPA CCA.			
59. The use of livestock exclosures would be used as needed to protect sensitive plants or their habitat.			
60. Military training activities occurring in LEPA habitat would be managed in accordance with the LEPA Candidate Conservation Agreement. (See Vegetation Map 5).			
Idaho Army National Guard			
61. Military use would continue to the extent compatible with the purposes for which the NCA was established, as expressed in Section 4(e) of the NCA-enabling legislation.			
62. Administrative assembly areas would be randomly located as needed in non-shrub areas, and, when authorized by BLM, frequently used sites would be graveled or cindered.			
63. IDARNG would continue to manage cultural resources in the OTA in accordance with the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan.			
64. Land exchanges would enhance or at least not adversely affect raptor populations or their habitats and, where feasible, would not adversely affect military training.			
65. Existing structures and associated IDARNG facilities would continue to be authorized.			
66. Bladed fire breaks within the Impact Area would be maintained by the IDARNG annually.			
67. IDARNG would continue to use prescribed fire to control hazardous fuels along fences and around target areas in the OTA Impact Area.			
68. IDARNG would continue to have primary responsibility for initial attack of all fires in the OTA.			
69. The shooting closure in the OTA Impact Area would not apply to military activity			
70. IDARNG would continue to manage natural resources in the OTA in accordance with the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.			

<p>Alternative A Current Management</p>	<p>Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration</p>	<p>Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration</p>	<p>Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.</p>
<p>Objective 1: Cultural & Tribal Resources</p>			
<p>Protect cultural resources from adverse impacts or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	<p>Manage cultural resources by emphasizing mitigation and public interpretation.</p>	<p>Protect (in place) cultural resources from adverse impacts or through mitigation.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B.</p>
<p>Management Actions for Objective 1:</p>			
<p><u>Grazing</u> 71. No livestock grazing would be allowed on the 340 Priest Ranch (Grazing Map 4)</p>	<p><u>Grazing</u> Livestock grazing would be eliminated or seasonally restricted on up to 1,630 acres in the Snake River Canyon. (see Grazing Map 4)</p>	<p><u>Grazing</u> Livestock grazing would be eliminated or seasonally restricted on up to 2,750 acres in the Snake River Canyon. (see Grazing Map 4)</p>	<p><u>Grazing</u> Same as Alternative A.</p>
<p><u>Tribal and Cultural</u> 72. The Guffey Butte-Black Butte Archaeological District would continue to be managed as an ACEC.</p>			<p>The Guffey Butte-Black Butte ACEC designation would be revoked.</p>
<p>73. The 7,888-acre Oregon Trail SRMA would continue to be managed as such.</p>	<p>The Oregon Trail SRMA would be enlarged to approximately 10,000 acres. (see Cultural Map 2)</p>		
<p><u>Recreation</u> 74. Cultural resource protection would be emphasized through public education and interpretation.</p>		<p><u>Recreation</u> Cultural resources would not be emphasized through education or interpretation.</p>	<p><u>Recreation</u> Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>75. OHV use would be restricted to existing roads and trails in the Guffey Butte-Black Butte ACEC.</p>	<p>OHV use would be restricted to designated roads and trails in the Guffey Butte-Black Butte ACEC.</p>		<p>The Guffey Butte – Black Butte ACEC designation would be revoked, but OHV use would be restricted to designated roads and trails in the Guffey Butte-Black Butte Archaeological District</p>

<p>Alternative A Current Management</p>	<p>Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration</p>	<p>Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration</p>	<p>Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.</p>
<p>Objective 2: Fish and Wildlife</p>			
<p>Emphasize maintenance and protection of raptor prey and other wildlife populations and habitats.</p>	<p>Emphasize protection and enhancement of raptor prey and other wildlife populations and habitats and expand areas useable by raptor prey and big game.</p>		
<p>Management Actions for Objective 2:</p>			
<p><u>Grazing</u> 76. Utilization of winterfat would not exceed 50% of the current year’s growth.</p>	<p><u>Grazing</u> Utilization of winterfat would not exceed 40% of current years growth</p>	<p><u>Grazing</u> Utilization of winterfat would not exceed 30% of current year’s growth.</p>	<p><u>Grazing</u> Same as Alternative A.</p>
<p>77. No grazing restrictions would exist in Sandberg’s bluegrass areas, as shown on Vegetation Map 1.</p>	<p>Livestock grazing systems would be established to minimize forage competition with Piute ground squirrels in Sandberg’s bluegrass areas.</p>	<p>Livestock grazing would be limited to the dormant season in Sandberg’s bluegrass areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p><u>Lands and Realty</u> 78. The existing 43,000 acre avoidance area in Owyhee County would be maintained, as shown on Lands Map 3</p>	<p><u>Lands and Realty</u> The existing avoidance area would be increased by 65,500 public land acres, as shown on Lands Map 4.</p>	<p><u>Lands and Realty</u> The existing avoidance area would be increased by 127,000 public land acres, as shown on Lands Map 5</p>	<p><u>Lands and Realty</u> No avoidance areas would be identified.</p>
<p>79. The existing utility corridor shown on Lands Map 2 would be maintained.</p>	<p>An additional utility corridor would be provided south of the Snake River Canyon, as shown on Lands Map 2</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>An additional utility corridor would be provided north of the Snake River Canyon, as shown on Lands Map 2</p>
<p>80. Realty actions affecting special status species would be addressed on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Surface disturbing actions would not be authorized within ¼ mile of special status species unless the action could be appropriately mitigated.</p>		<p>Same as Alternative A.</p>
<p><u>Recreation</u> 81. The current recreational shooting restrictions would be retained as shown on Recreation Map 4</p>	<p><u>Recreation</u> The Plateau shooting restriction area would be enlarged as shown on Recreation Map 13.</p>		<p><u>Recreation</u> Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>82. Vehicles would be restricted to existing roads and trails (Recreation Map 11)</p>	<p>Vehicles would be restricted to designated roads and trails in areas designated as “limited”, and would be allowed to travel anywhere in</p>	<p>Vehicles would be restricted to designated roads and trails in areas designated as “limited”, and would be allowed to travel anywhere in</p>	<p>Vehicles would be restricted to designated roads and trails in areas designated as “limited” , and would be allowed to travel anywhere in</p>

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	areas designated as “open”. (Recreation Map 17)	areas designated as “open”. (Recreation Map 18)	areas designated as “open” (Recreation Map 19)
83. Recreational rock climbing and rappelling would be prohibited along the Snake River Canyon	Recreational rock climbing and rappelling would be prohibited throughout the NCA		Same as Alternative A
<u>Upland Vegetation</u> 84. Degraded habitat would continue to be reseeded as opportunities become available.	<u>Upland Vegetation</u> An average of 1,000 acres of degraded habitat would be improved annually by reseeded with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs, and treated with biological soil crust components. This would include acres seeded to more fire adapted plant communities near the Wildland Urban Interface.	<u>Upland Vegetation</u> An average of 5,000 acres of degraded habitat would be improved annually by reseeded with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs, and treated with biological soil crust components. This would include acres seeded to more fire adapted plant communities near the Wildland Urban Interface.	
<u>Weeds</u> 85. An average of 600 acres of noxious and/or invasive weeds would be treated annually	<u>Weeds</u> An average of 2,500 acres of noxious and/or invasive weeds would be treated annually.	<u>Weeds</u> An average of 4,000 acres of noxious and/or invasive weeds would be treated annually	
<u>Riparian and Wetland</u> 86. One mile of riparian habitat would be improved for wildlife over the life of the plan by removing unwanted exotic trees and shrubs and planting cottonwood, willow, and other desirable trees and shrubs.	<u>Riparian and Wetland</u> Annually, up to one mile of riparian and wetland wildlife habitat would be improved by removing unwanted exotic trees and shrubs and planting cottonwood, willow, and other desirable trees and shrubs	<u>Riparian and Wetland</u> Annually, up to two miles of riparian and wetland wildlife habitat would be improved by removing unwanted exotic trees and shrubs and planting cottonwood, willow, and other desirable trees and shrubs.	
87. No additional ponds would be built at the Trueblood Wildlife Management Area.	One additional 20 acre pond would be built at the Trueblood Wildlife Management Area to increase the amount of feeding areas for migratory shorebirds.		
<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> 88. To provide raptor roost, perch, hunting and nesting sites for raptors and other birds, where	<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> To provide raptor roost, perch, hunting and nesting sites for raptors and other birds, where feasible and	To provide raptor roost, perch, hunting and nesting sites for raptors and other birds, where feasible and appropriate, trees would be planted	Same as Alternative B

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feasible and appropriate, trees would be planted along the Snake River and Reservoirs and on uplands in association with water catchments. However, no new nesting cavities would be constructed. (assume 10 trees – 8 guzzlers in uplands, 20 trees along river and reservoir.	appropriate, trees would be planted along the Snake River and Reservoirs and on uplands in association with water catchments. (assume 15 trees in uplands 11 guzzlers, 40 trees in riparian areas, 5 nest cavities)	along the Snake River and Reservoirs and on uplands in association with water catchments. (assume 20 trees in uplands up to 500 trees in the river reservoir, 11 guzzlers and 5 nest cavities)	
89. Piute ground squirrels would not be transplanted.	Piute ground squirrels would be transplanted to suitable habitat that lacks squirrels (assume up to 250).	Piute ground squirrels would be transplanted to suitable habitat that lacks squirrel (assume up to 1,000).	Same as Alternative A.
<u>Idaho Army National Guard</u> 90. IDARNG would maintain two existing water guzzlers (See Wildlife Map 1)	<u>Idaho Army National Guard</u> IDARNG would maintain and improve two existing water guzzlers (See Wildlife Map 1)		
Objective 3: Special Status Species (Plants and Animals)			
91. Minimize human impacts to special status species.	Special status plant and animal habitat would be in good condition where potential allows, and human uses would be compatible.		Same as Alternative A
Management Actions for Objective 3:			
<u>Grazing</u>			
92. Spring grazing would be limited in pastures containing occupied special status plant habitat as shown on Grazing Map 2 .	Spring grazing would be eliminated from pastures containing occupied special status plant habitat. (See Grazing Map 2)		Same as Alternative A
<u>Special Status Plants</u> 93. Degraded habitat would continue to be reseeded as opportunities and funding becomes available.	<u>Special Status Plants</u> An average of 1,000 acres of degraded habitat would be reseeded annually with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs and treated with components of biological soil crust with an emphasis toward improving special status species habitat, as well as restoring the	<u>Special Status Plants</u> An average of 5,000 acres of degraded habitat would be reseeded annually with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs and treated with components of biological soil crust with an emphasis toward improving special status species habitat, as well as restoring the historic role of fire.	

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	historic role of fire.		
94. No special status plants would be seeded or transplanted.	Suitable habitats would be planted with special status plants as seeds or transplants are available.	Up to 2,000 acres of special status plant habitat would be treated every five years	Same as Alternative B.
95. Piute ground squirrels would not be transplanted.	Piute ground squirrels would be transplanted to suitable habitat that lack squirrels (assume up to 250).	Piute ground squirrels would be transplanted to suitable habitat within the NCA that lack squirrels (assume up to 1,000).	Same as Alternative A.
96. Degraded habitat would continue to be reseeded as opportunities and funding becomes available.	An average of 1,000 acres of degraded habitat would be improved annually by reseeding with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs, and treated with biological crust components. This would include acres seeded to more fire adapted plant communities near the Wildland Urban Interface.	An average of 5,000 acres of degraded habitat would be improved annually by reseeding with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs, and treated with biological crust components. This would include acres seeded to more fire adapted plant communities near the Wildland Urban Interface.	
97. No additional ponds would be developed at the Trueblood Wildlife Management Area.	An additional 20 acre pond would be developed at the Trueblood Wildlife Management Area to increase amount of feeding area for migratory shorebirds.		
98. No riprap would be placed along C.J. Strike Reservoir shoreline.	Riprap would be placed along ¼ mile of eroding shoreline on public land at C. J. Strike Reservoir.		
<u>Recreation</u> 99. The existing recreational shooting restrictions would remain in place.	<u>Recreation</u> The Plateau shooting restriction area would be enlarged as shown on Recreation Map 13 .	<u>Recreation</u> Same as Alternative A.	
<u>Idaho Army National Guard</u>			
100. Occupied LEPA habitat would remain within the existing OTA boundary.	Modify the IDARNG MOU to remove occupied LEPA habitat from the OTA in the area shown on IDARNG Map 11 .		Same as Alternative A.
Objective 4: Soil			

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Prevent the potential for future localized soil erosion processes on all soils with a moderate to very high soil erosion potential (See Map Soil-1).		Stabilize the current and prevent the potential for future localized soil erosion processes on all soils with a moderate to very high soil erosion potential (See Map Soil-1).	Same as Alternative A
Management Actions for Objective 4:			
<u>Grazing, Lands, and Realty, Recreation, Vegetation, Fire & Fuels, Idaho Army National Guard, Minerals</u> 101. Undue erosion from surface disturbing activities would be prevented or minimized by applying appropriate BMPs and/or SOPs.	<u>Grazing, Lands, and Realty, Recreation, Vegetation, Fire & Fuels, Idaho Army National Guard, Minerals</u> Undue erosion from surface disturbing activities would be prevented or minimized by applying appropriate BMPs and/or SOPs in conjunction with site specific monitoring.		
102. No specific management emphasis is placed on controlling erosional process.	Identify current active erosion processes, prioritize, and implement procedures for stabilization.		
Objective 5: Vegetation			
Limit further loss of existing native shrub habitat to no more than 50,000 acres and restore degraded habitat as opportunities allow (See Vegetation Map 2).	Limit further loss of existing native shrub habitat to no more than 30,000 acres, and increase the acres of restored shrub habitat, (See Vegetation Map 2).	Limit further loss of existing native shrub habitat to no more than 15,000 acres, and maximize the acres of restored shrub habitat, (See Vegetation Map 2).	Same as Alternative B
Management Actions for Objective 5:			
<u>Grazing</u> 103. When forage conditions warrant, approximately 200 acres may be intensively grazed by livestock to reduce flammable fuels in the Wildland Urban Interface.	<u>Grazing</u> When forage conditions warrant, up to 30,000 acres may be intensively grazed in the Sunnyside Spring/Fall portion of the OTA Impact Area to reduce accumulations of hazardous fuels. See Grazing Map 3 .	<u>Grazing</u> When forage conditions warrant, up to 1,000 acres of firebreaks or greenstrips and up to 30,000 acres in the Sunnyside Spring/Fall portion of the OTA Impact Area may be intensively grazed during the Spring to reduce accumulations of hazardous (flammable) fuels, such as cheatgrass. See Grazing Map 3 .	
104. Livestock grazing would be	Livestock grazing would be in	Livestock grazing would be in	Same as Alternative A.

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<p>in conformance with Standards and Guides.</p>	<p>conformance with Standards and Guides and would be restricted during the active growing season</p>	<p>conformance with Standards and Guides and livestock grazing outside the OTA Impact Area would be limited to the Fall/Winter seasons</p>	
<p><u>Recreation</u> 105. Recreation would be managed according to the following OHV Area Designations (Recreation Map 14) Open – 0 acres Limited – 431,475 acres (Limited to Existing Routes) Closed – 42,230 acres</p>	<p><u>Recreation</u> Recreation would be managed according to the following OHV Area Designations (Recreation Map 17) Open – up to 300 acres Limited – 425,565 acres (Limited to Designated Routes) Closed - 57,840 acres</p>	<p><u>Recreation</u> Recreation would be managed according to the following OHV Area Designations (Recreation Map 18). Open – up to 300 acres Limited – 418,375 acres (Limited to Designated Routes) Closed - 65,030 acres</p>	<p><u>Recreation</u> Recreation would be managed according to the following OHV Area Designations (Recreation Map 19) Open – Up to 300 acres Limited - 429,647 acres (Limited to Designated Routes) Closed – 53,758 acres</p>
<p><u>Upland Vegetation</u> 106. Degraded habitat would continue to be reseeded as opportunities become available.</p>	<p><u>Upland Vegetation</u> An average of 1,000 acres of degraded habitat would be improved annually by reseeded with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs, and treated with biological soil crust components. This would include acres seeded to more fire adapted plant communities near the Wildland Urban Interface.</p>	<p><u>Upland Vegetation</u> An average of 5,000 acres of degraded habitat would be improved annually by reseeded with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs, and treated with biological soil crust components. This would include acres seeded to more fire adapted plant communities near the Wildland Urban Interface.</p>	
<p>107. No areas would be set aside for scientific investigation.</p>	<p>Up to 1,000 acres would be set aside from most human activities for research purposes.</p>	<p>Up to 5,000 acres would be set aside from most human activities for research purposes</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B</p>
<p>108. Hazardous fuels would be reduced on an average of 500 acres per year.</p>	<p>Hazardous fuels would be reduced on up to 1,000 acres per year</p>	<p>Hazardous fuels would be reduced on up to 3,000 acres per year</p>	
<p>109. Where appropriate, maintain 3,300 acres of existing greenstrips to reduce the size of wildfires. (See Map Vegetation</p>	<p>Maintain the existing and, where appropriate, construct 200 acres of new greenstrips (See Fire and Fuels Map 3)</p>	<p>Maintain the existing and, where appropriate, construct 300 acres of new greenstrips (See Fire and Fuels Map 3)</p>	

Alternative A Current Management	Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration	Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.
3)			
110. Current types, levels, seasons, locations, etc. of military training would continue to be authorized in the OTA.	Maneuver training would be restricted to designated routes in the 22,015 acre portion of the OTA located north of the Impact Area and east of Pleasant Valley Road, as shown on IDARNG Map 4 .	Maneuver training would be eliminated from the 22,015 acre portion of the OTA located north of the Impact Area and east of Pleasant Valley Road, as shown on IDARNG Map 5 .	Same as Alternative A
Objective 6: Fire and Fuels			
Use appropriate management response on all wildfires, taking into consideration public and firefighter safety, environmental conditions with respect to fire behavior, economic efficiency, and resource management objectives.	Aggressively suppress all wildfires.	Aggressively suppress all wildfires.	Same as Alternative A
Management Actions for Objective 6:			
<u>Grazing</u> 111. When forage conditions warrant, approximately 200 acres may be intensively grazed by livestock to reduce flammable fuels in the Wildland Urban Interface.	<u>Grazing</u> When forage conditions warrant, up to 30,000 acres may be intensively grazed in the Sunnyside Spring/Fall portion of the OTA Impact Area to reduce accumulations of hazardous fuels. See Grazing Map 3 .	<u>Grazing</u> When forage conditions warrant, up to 1,000 acres of firebreaks or greenstrips, and up to 30,000 acres in the Sunnyside Spring/Fall portion of the OTA Impact Area may be intensively grazed during the Spring to reduce accumulations of hazardous fuels. See Grazing Map 3 .	
<u>Recreation</u> 112. There would be no restrictions on open camp fires except during emergency fire situations.	<u>Recreation</u> Open fires would be limited to established (improved) camp sites or metal fire pans.		

Alternative A Current Management	Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration	Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.
113. Hazardous fuels would be reduced on an average of 500 acres per year through a combination of prescribed fire, chemical, and mechanical treatments.	6-4-B. Hazardous fuels would be reduced on up to 1,000 acres per year through a combination of prescribed fire, chemical, and mechanical treatments with an emphasis on restoring the historic role of fire, (in addition to the Upland Vegetation restoration activities).	6-4-C. Hazardous fuels would be reduced on up to 3,000 acres per year through a combination of prescribed fire, chemical, and mechanical treatments with an emphasis on restoring the historic role of fire, (in addition to the Upland Vegetation restoration activities).	
Objective 7: Visual (Scenic) Resources (VRM)			
Minimize additional impacts to the current visual resources of the NCA.	Protect the visual resources in important cultural, historic, scenic, and recreation areas.	Emphasize protecting the visual resources of the Snake River canyon, cultural, historic, and recreation areas.	Emphasize protecting the visual resources of historic areas with a secondary emphasis on the Snake River canyon.
Management Actions for Objective 7:			
114. Maintain current VRM classes as designated in previous land use plans (VRM Map 1).	Designate VRM classes as shown on VRM Map 2 .	Designate VRM classes as shown on VRM Map 3 .	Designate VRM classes as shown on VRM Map 4 .
Objective 8: Idaho Army National Guard			
Current types, levels, seasons, locations, etc. of military training would be authorized within the existing OTA boundary.	Continue authorization of the OTA for military training in a manner that minimizes impacts to existing shrub habitats, supports shrub maintenance projects, and provides modified and/or new training areas to enhance military training opportunities.	Accommodate military training within the existing OTA boundary only to the extent that it meets resource restoration and protection requirements.	Continue current types, levels, seasons, locations, etc. of military training within the existing OTA boundary, and provide modified and/or new areas to maximize military training opportunities.
Management Actions for Objective 8:			
<u>Grazing</u> 115. Provide for concentrated April/May grazing opportunities in the Sunnyside spring/fall portion of the OTA Impact Area.	<u>Grazing</u> Provide for concentrated March/April grazing opportunities in the Sunnyside spring/fall portion of the OTA Impact Area.	<u>Grazing</u> Provide for concentrated March grazing opportunities in the Sunnyside spring/fall portion of the OTA Impact Area.	<u>Grazing</u> Same as Alternative A
116. No additional BLM lands would be provided for military	Military training opportunities would be enhanced by authorizing National	Maneuver training would be eliminated from the 22,015 acre	Military training opportunities would be enhanced by authorizing National

Alternative A Current Management	Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration	Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.
training.	Guard maneuver training on 21,150 acres of BLM land outside of the current OTA boundary, as shown on IDARNG Map 7 .	portion of the OTA located north of the Impact Area and east of Pleasant Valley Road, as shown on IDARNG Map 5 .	Guard maneuver training on 28,300 acres of BLM land outside of the current OTA boundary, as shown on IDARNG Map 8 .
117. Existing recreational shooting restrictions would be maintained, as shown on Recreation Map 4	The existing Plateau shooting restriction area would be enlarged, as shown on Recreation Map 13 .		Same as Alternative A.
118. Military drop zones would be authorized on a temporary, case by case basis.		119. No military drop zones would be authorized	One military drop zone would be authorized as shown on IDARNG Map 2 .
120. A Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) site would not be authorized.	A MOUT site would be authorized near Range 1. (See IDARNG Map 1).	A MOUT site would be authorized near Cinder Cone Butte. (See IDARNG Map 1).	A MOUT site would be authorized near the Snake River Training Facility. (See IDARNG Map 1).
121. Military excavation training would continue only in small, historically used sites. (IDARNG Map 1)	Military excavation training would occur on approximately 30 acres of public land in annual grass habitat, as shown on IDARNG Map 10 .		Military excavation training would occur on approximately 50 acres of public land in annual grass habitat, as shown on IDARNG Map 10 .
122. Occupied LEPA habitat would remain within the existing OTA boundary.	Modify the IDARNG MOU to remove occupied LEPA habitat from the OTA in the area shown on IDARNG Map 11 .		Same as Alternative A.
Objective 9: Lands and Realty			
As opportunities arise, public land ownership would be consolidated within the existing NCA boundary to facilitate administration.		Consolidate public land ownership and realign portions of the NCA boundary to enhance administration and improve resource management.	
Management Actions for Objective 9:			
<u>Lands and Realty</u>			
123. A land exchange would not be completed with IDL.	A land exchange would be completed with IDL to acquire scattered state lands throughout the NCA. (See Lands Map 7)		
124. The NCA boundary would be unchanged.		Recommend to Congress to change the NCA boundary to areas more easily identified on the ground. (See Lands Map 6).	
125. Realty actions affecting special status species would be addressed on a case-by-case basis.	Surface disturbing actions would not be authorized in areas affecting special status species unless the action(s) could be appropriately mitigated.		Same as Alternative A

<p>Alternative A Current Management</p>	<p>Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration</p>	<p>Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration</p>	<p>Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.</p>
<p>Objective 10: Livestock Grazing</p>			
<p>Annual livestock grazing licenses would be based on annual forage availability and would not exceed the preference.</p>	<p>Annual livestock grazing licenses would be based on forage that is excess to the needs of wildlife and watershed protection.</p>		
<p>Management Actions for Objective 10:</p>			
<p><u>Grazing</u></p>			
<p>126. Livestock utilization of perennial grasses and shrubs would not exceed 50%.</p>	<p>The combined utilization of perennial grasses by livestock and wildlife would not exceed 50%, and the combined utilization of shrubs would not exceed 40%.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	
<p>127. Utilization in annual grass areas would leave a minimum of 250 lbs of cover per acre for watershed protection.</p>			
<p>128. Grazing would be authorized on a season-long basis.</p>	<p>Grazing systems would be implemented that incorporate rotation, deferment or rest.</p>		
<p>129. When forage conditions warrant, approximately 200 acres would be intensively grazed by livestock to reduce flammable fuels in the Wildland Urban Interface.</p>	<p>When forage conditions warrant, up to 30,000 acres may be intensively grazed in the Sunnyside Spring/Fall portion of the OTA Impact Area to reduce accumulations of hazardous fuels (See Grazing Map 3)</p>	<p>When forage conditions warrant, up to 1,000 acres of firebreaks or greenstrips, and up to 30,000 acres may be intensively grazed in the Sunnyside Spring/Fall portion of the OTA Impact Area to reduce accumulations of hazardous fuels (See Grazing Map 3).</p>	
<p><u>Upland Vegetation</u></p>			
<p>130. Degraded habitat would continue to be reseeded as opportunities and funding becomes available.</p>	<p><u>Upland Vegetation</u> An average of 1,000 acres of degraded habitat would be improved annually by reseeding with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs, and treated with biological crust components. This would include acres seeded to more fire adapted plant communities near the Wildland Urban Interface,</p>	<p><u>Upland Vegetation</u> An average of 5,000 acres of degraded habitat would be improved annually by reseeding with a mix of shrubs, bunchgrasses, and forbs, and treated with biological crust components. This would include acres seeded to more fire adapted plant communities near the Wildland Urban Interface.</p>	
<p><u>Idaho Army National Guard</u></p>			
<p>131. Provide for concentrated April/May grazing opportunities in the Sunnyside spring/fall portion of the OTA Impact Area.</p>	<p><u>Idaho Army National Guard</u> for concentrated March/April grazing opportunities in the Sunnyside spring fall portion of the OTA Impact Area.</p>	<p><u>Idaho Army National Guard</u> Provide for concentrated March grazing opportunities in the Sunnyside spring fall portion of the OTA Impact Area.</p>	<p><u>Idaho Army National Guard</u> Same Alternative A.</p>

Alternative A Current Management	Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration	Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.
Objective 11: Recreation			
Special Recreation Management Areas Objective			
Provide special recreation management attention throughout the NCA.	Provide special management attention to public lands with special recreational, scenic and cultural values where current and projected recreational demand warrants intensive management.	Provide special management attention to public lands with educational and interpretive values where current and projected educational demand warrants intensive management.	Same as Alternative B
Management Actions for Special Recreation Management Areas			
132. The existing SRMA designations would be retained. (See Recreation Map 1).	Four SRMAs for recreational, scenic, and cultural opportunities would be designated (see Recreation Map 8).	Three SRMAs for educational and interpretive opportunities would be designated (see Recreation Map 9).	Same as Alternative B.
Environmental Education and Interpretation Objectives			
Increase public awareness and appreciation of raptors and other resource values, as well as reduce resource impacts, and minimize user conflicts.			
Management Actions for Environmental Education and Interpretation:			
133. Maintain and improve the three existing watchable wildlife sites.	Designate two new watchable wildlife sites.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative B
Travel Management Objectives			
Provide motorized access to the majority of the NCA with limited non-motorized opportunities.	Provide motorized access to the majority of the NCA while reducing the number of unnecessary routes, and increasing non-motorized opportunities.	Provide motorized access to the majority of the NCA while minimizing unnecessary routes and providing a diversity of non-motorized opportunities.	Same as Alternative B
Management Actions for Travel Management			
134. Recreation Recreation would be managed according to the following OHV Area Designations (Recreation Map 14) Open – 0 acres Limited – 431,475 acres (Limited to Existing Routes)	Recreation Recreation would be managed according to the following OHV Area Designations (Recreation Map 17) Open – up to 300 acres Limited – 425,565 acres (Limited to Designated Routes)	Recreation Recreation would be managed according to the following OHV Area Designations: (Recreation Map 18) Open – up to 300 acres Limited – 418,375 acres (Limited to Designated Routes)	Recreation Recreation would be managed according to the following OHV Area Designations: (Recreation Map 19) Open – up to 300 acres Limited – 429,647 (Limited to Designated Routes)

Alternative A Current Management	Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration	Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.
Closed – 52,230 acres	Closed – 57,840 acres	Closed – 65,030 acres	Closed – 53,758 acres
135. Vehicles would be restricted to <i>designated</i> roads and trails. (Recreation Map 11)	Vehicles would be restricted to designated roads and trails in areas designated as “limited”, and would be allowed to travel anywhere in areas designated as “open”. (Recreation Map 17)	Vehicles would be restricted to designated roads and trails in areas designated as “limited”, and would be allowed to travel anywhere in areas designated as “open”. (Recreation Map 18).	Vehicles would be restricted to designated roads and trails in areas designated as “limited”, and would be allowed to travel anywhere in areas designated as “open”. (Recreation Map 19).
Road and trail density in the three management areas (see Management Area Map 1) would remain at an average of 2.4 miles per square mile.	Road and trail densities throughout the NCA would not exceed an average of 1.7 miles per square mile.	Road and trail densities throughout NCA would not exceed and average of 1.5 miles per square mile.	11-5-D. Road and trail densities throughout the NCA would not exceed and average of 2.0 miles per square mile.
136. Maintain existing non-motorized trails around Halverson Bar.	Designate up to 20 miles of non-motorized trail by 2010.	Designate up to 40 miles of non-motorized trail by 2010.	Same as Alternative B.
Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) Objectives			
Provide a range of developed and undeveloped recreation opportunities by maintaining existing amenities.	Provide a range of developed and undeveloped recreation opportunities with existing and new amenities; and provide new opportunities for non-motorized and unrestricted motorized activities in a semi-primitive setting.	Provide a range of developed and undeveloped recreation opportunities with existing and new amenities; and provide increased opportunities for non-motorized activities, as well as unrestricted motorized activities in a semi-primitive setting.	Provide a range of developed and undeveloped recreation opportunities with existing and new amenities, while emphasizing motorized activities.
Management Actions for Recreation Opportunities			
137. The majority of the NCA would be retained would be managed in a “roaded natural” setting, with limited semi-primitive non-motorized setting opportunities (see Recreation Map 20).	The majority of the NCA would be managed in a “roaded natural” setting, with an additional 5,610 acres designated for semi-primitive non-motorized setting opportunities (see Recreation Map 21).	The majority of the NCA would be managed in a “roaded natural” setting, with an additional 12,800 acres designated for semi-primitive non-motorized setting opportunities (see Recreation Map 22).	The majority of the NCA would be managed in a “roaded natural” setting, with an additional 1,528 acres designated for semi-primitive non-motorized setting opportunities (see Recreation Map 23).
138. Developed recreation facilities would be provided only at Dedication Point and	Additional recreation facilities would be developed at Kuna Butte and Initial Point. (See Recreation	Additional recreation facilities would be developed at Celebration Park Annex, Three Pole, Kuna	Additional recreation facilities would be developed at Black Butte, Celebration Park Annex, Three

Alternative A Current Management	Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration	Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.
Cove Recreation Site and these sites would be expanded, as needed. (See Recreation Map 2)	Map 2).	Butte, and Initial Point. (See Recreation Map 2).	Pole, Guffey Butte, Kuna Butte, and Initial Point. (See Recreation Map 2).
<u>Grazing</u> 139. No livestock grazing would be allowed on the 340 acre Priest Ranch (Grazing Map 4)	<u>Grazing</u> Livestock grazing would be eliminated or seasonally restricted on up to 1,630 acres in the Snake River Canyon. (see Grazing Map 4)	<u>Grazing</u> Livestock grazing would be eliminated or seasonally restricted on up to 2,750 acres in the Snake River Canyon. (see Grazing Map 4)	<u>Grazing</u> Same as Alternative A
<u>Recreation</u> 140. The current recreational shooting restrictions would be retained as shown on Recreation Map 4 .	<u>Recreation</u> The existing Plateau shooting restriction area would be enlarged as shown on Recreation Map 13 .		<u>Recreation</u> Same as Alternative A
141. Two developed recreation sites would be provided, as shown on Recreation Map 2 ; and the remaining 484,640 acres of the NCA would be managed in an undeveloped condition to provide for dispersed recreational opportunities and experiences.	Additional recreation facilities would be developed at Kuna Butte and Initial Point (See Recreation Map 2), and the rest of the NCA would be managed in an undeveloped condition to provide for dispersed recreational opportunities and experiences	Additional recreation facilities would be developed at Celebration Park Annex, Three Pole, Kuna Butte, and Initial Point. (See Recreation Map 2), and the rest of the NCA would be managed in an undeveloped condition to provide for dispersed recreational opportunities and experiences.	Additional recreation facilities would be developed at Black Butte, Celebration Park Annex, Three Pole, Guffey Butte, Kuna Butte, and Initial Point (See Recreation Map 2), and the rest of the NCA would be managed in an undeveloped condition to provide for dispersed recreational opportunities and experiences.
142. There would be no restrictions on open camp fires except during emergency fire situations.	Open fires would be limited to established (improved) camp sites or metal fire pans.		Same as Alternative A
143. Existing VRM classes would protect cultural, historic and scenic resources. (VRM Map 1)	VRM classes would be designated to protect cultural, historic, scenic and popular recreation areas as shown on (VRM Map 2).	VRM classes would emphasize the protection of the canyons and the popular recreation areas. (VRM Map 3)	VRM classes would be designated to protect historic resources with a secondary emphasis on the canyon area. (VRM Map 4)

Alternative A Current Management	Alternative B Protect and Maintain existing Resources with Moderate Restoration	Alternative C Emphasis on Aggressive Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	Alternative D Moderate habitat restoration that Accommodates Traditional Uses.
144. Recommend to Congress, through the Secretary of Interior, that the Impact Area be withdrawn to the Department of Defense.		Recommend to Congress, through the Secretary of Interior, that ownership of the Impact Area be transferred to the Department of Defense.	
Objective 12: Special Designations			
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern Objectives			
Protect special or unique natural, historic, cultural, scenic, and recreational values.		Eliminate designations that do not provide additional protection	
Management Actions for ACECs			
145. The Guffey Butte-Black Butte Archaeological District would continue to be managed as an ACEC.		The Guffey Butte-Black Butte ACEC designation would be revoked.	
146. The 7,888 acre Oregon Trail SRMA would continue to be managed as such.	The Oregon Trail SRMA would enlarged to approximately 10,000 acres. (See Cultural Map 2)		
Wild and Scenic Rivers Objectives			
Protect outstandingly remarkable values associated with rivers and streams.	Determine the suitability of eligible rivers and stream segments for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.		
Management Actions for Wild and Scenic Rivers:			
147. Outstandingly remarkable values and free flowing conditions on 49 miles of the Snake River would be protected. See Recreation Map 5	Recommend 21.5 miles of eligible river for recreational classification under the National W&SR designation (see Recreation Map 6)	Recommend 49 miles of eligible river for recreational classification under the National W&SR designation (see Recreation Map 5)	No river segments would be recommended as suitable for W&SR designation.