

Files\BLM_2012_10_Long Draw DM - § 3 references coded [1.62% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.33% Coverage

Between July 8, 2012 and July 15, 2012, the Long Draw fire burned 548,379 acres of public land, 7,734 acres of private land, 1,865 acres of Department of Energy land and 218 acres of land administered by the State of Oregon or a total of 558,196 acres. Within that acreage, the Long Draw fire burned: 16,174 acres of the Alvord Desert WSA; 58,953 acres of the Bowden Hills WSA; 31,258 acres of the Owyhee River Canyon WSA; 206,483 acres of lands found to contain wilderness characteristics; 16,343 acres of the Coyote Lake-Alvord-Tule Springs Wild Horse Herd Management Area; 47,829 acres of the Jackies Butte Wildhorse Herd Management Area; 225,959 acres of sage-grouse Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH); and 224,687 acres of sage-grouse Preliminary General Habitat (PGH). The eastern edge of the Long Draw fire was primarily the Owyhee and West Little Owyhee Rivers both of which are designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Long Draw fire burned; 1,904 acres of the West Little Owyhee River Corridor; 998 acres of the Owyhee River Corridor; and 136 acres of the Mendi Gore Playa Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)/Research Natural Area (RNA). The chart below shows the amount in acres of the special designated areas that burned (see maps 3&4).

Reference 2 - 0.18% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the 2012 Long Draw wildfire.

Reference 3 - 0.12% Coverage

The likelihood of the conversion of rangelands to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated this fall;

Files\BLM_2014_10_Buzzard Complex DM - § 1 reference coded [0.28% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.28% Coverage

During the first year post-fire, the portions of the areas within the Saddle Draw burned area judged to be at the highest risk for noxious weed invasion would be inventoried. The majority of this inventory will occur along major travel routes. Spot treatments of herbicide will be applied to noxious weeds located by the inventory.

Files\BLM_2015_01_Tree Springs Extension DM - § 1 reference coded [0.57% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.57% Coverage

Since completion of EA #DOI-BLM-OR-V060-2009-041-EA, BLM has completed an inventory of public lands to determine whether wilderness characteristics are present. The area in question was determined to meet wilderness characteristic criteria. The inventory unit is the Rattlesnake Creek Unit (OR-036-028).

Files\BLM_2015_08_Jaca Reservoir ESR DM - § 4 references coded [5.83% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.47% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Jaca Reservoir Fire.

Reference 2 - 2.77% Coverage

Ground Seeding. Approximately 360 acres within the Jaca Reservoir fire perimeter (See Map 3) that is considered high risk for expansion of medusahead wildrye would be drill seeded with desirable native perennial grass species.

Drilling would occur in the fall of 2015. BLM personnel or contracted consultants would conduct any

necessary resource inventories prior to the drilling. Any potentially significant cultural resource identified in the treatment areas would be avoided by rangeland drills. Equipment used in the burned areas would be cleaned prior to use on the site and would be cleaned following use to eliminate the potential to disseminate weed seeds.

2) Seedling Planting. Approximately 1000 acres of Wyoming big sagebrush and antelope bitterbrush would be hand planted at locations within the Jaca Reservoir burned area (See Map 4). When possible, locally adapted sagebrush and bitterbrush seedlings would be planted. Seedlings would be planted with hand tools, by BLM staff, volunteers, and/or contractors in the spring.

Reference 3 - 0.64% Coverage

This decision is effective immediately due to the immediate risk of erosion and damage to wildlife, specifically:

The likelihood of the conversion of greater sage-grouse habitat to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated this fall;

Reference 4 - 1.95% Coverage

Implementation of the proposed action as described in the Jaca Reservoir Fire ESR Plan will protect soils in the burned area, including preventing potential loss of soil due to wind and water erosion; reduce potential invasion and establishment of noxious weeds and invasive annual grass species; prevent degradation of greater sage-grouse habitat and increase its rate of recovery. Greater sage-grouse is a candidate species for Endangered Species Act listing and it is a high priority for protection within the BLM in Oregon and across the western United States. Seeding would likewise help meet established rangeland health standards in accordance with guidelines for livestock grazing and integrated vegetation management.

Files\BLM_2015_09_Dark Canyon Salvage CX - § 2 references coded [2.30% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.46% Coverage

Burned forests serve as an attractant to several forest damaging insect species such as bark beetles (Scolytinae) and flat-head borers (Buprestidae). This attraction not only leads to the fast deterioration of the burnt wood by insect boring but also puts the remaining healthy trees at risk if epidemic insect levels are reached. Trees stressed from partial burning are at an increased risk of insects and diseases. Salvaging trees will not only focus on utilizing the burnt timber but also promote landscape level forest health by removing partially burned (>30% crown scorched) stressed trees.

Reference 2 - 0.84% Coverage

In addition, killed trees will act as fuel for future fires. Although many of the smaller sized fuels (1-10-hour) have been consumed, there are many standing 100-1000 hour fuels that have been killed and unconsumed. These unconsumed fuels will increase fire risk once the 1-10hr fuels are regrown. This is likely to occur during the next 5 years.

Files\BLM_2015_09_Leslie Gulch ESR DM - § 2 references coded [2.60% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.24% Coverage

The Leslie Gulch fire burned approximately 7,851 acres on Vale District BLM (see Map 1) lands, approximately 634 acres of privately owned land, and 195 acres of Bureau of Reclamation lands. The Leslie Gulch fire was started by lightning on June 28, 2015. Moderate winds and very dry fuels allowed the fire to escape initial attack. The fire was contained on July 3, 2015. The fire burned portions of the Leslie Gulch Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), Slocum Creek and Honeycombs Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs), and the Spring Creek Fenced Federal Range (FFR) pasture which is within the Three Fingers

Allotment.

Reference 2 - 1.36% Coverage

Stabilize and rehabilitate the area burned and reduce off site loss by establishing ground cover of native vegetation in order to compete with invasive annual grasses and noxious weeds, and to reduce the likelihood of new weed establishment;

- ☐ Reduce the risk of noxious weed and annual grass infestations through Early Detection/Rapid Response (EDRR);
- ☐ Repair or replace damaged facilities needed for management of livestock, including fences;
- ☐ Repair a bighorn sheep water source (one damaged wildlife guzzler); and inform the public of limited access in Wilderness Study Areas through signs placement. ☐ Protect burned areas from livestock grazing until objectives are met;

Files\BLM_2015_10_Grizzly Salvage CX - § 1 reference coded [1.42% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.42% Coverage

Burned forests serve as an attractant to several forest damaging insect species such as bark beetles (Scolytinae) and flat-head borers (Buprestidae). This attraction not only leads to the fast deterioration of the burnt wood by insect boring, but also puts the remaining healthy trees at risk if epidemic insect levels are reached. Trees stressed from partial burning are at an increased risk of insects and diseases. Salvaging trees will not only focus on utilizing the burnt timber, but also promote landscape level forest health by removing partially burned (>30% crown scorched) stressed trees.

Files\BLM_2015_10_Soda Fire ESR BAER Plan DM - § 2 references coded [0.38% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.15% Coverage

Many threats were identified during this assessment; however, the team concluded that the threats listed below pose the greatest risk across the landscape:

- ☐ Expansion of invasive plant species ☐ Habitat recovery for threatened species ☐ Increased runoff, erosion potential, and resulting flooding ☐ Loss of cultural resources

Reference 2 - 0.23% Coverage

Primary objectives of the actions proposed include:

- Minimize threats to human life and property
- Minimize threats to known critical cultural resource values
- Stabilize and prevent degradation to natural resources
- Restore habitat for BLM Type 2 Special Status Species (SSS)
- Mitigate watershed response and stabilize soils
- Reduce post-fire effects and the likelihood of future large wildfires
- Minimize the establishment and spread of noxious weeds and invasive species
- Repair/replace fire-damaged facilities

Files\BLM_2015_12_Dry Gulch ESR DM - § 2 references coded [3.75% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.63% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Dry Gulch Fire.

Reference 2 - 3.12% Coverage

Based on analysis and input from my staff, it is my final decision to implement the treatments as listed in the Dry Gulch ESR plan. This decision is effective immediately due to the immediate risk of erosion and the threat to wildlife, specifically the likelihood of the loss of mountain shrub habitat to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated. My decision is issued under 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 4190.1(a), which

states: Notwithstanding the provisions of 43 CFR 4.21(a)(1), when BLM determines that vegetation, soil, or other resources on the public lands are at substantial risk of wildfire due to drought, fuels buildup, or other reasons, or at immediate risk of erosion or other damage due to wildfire, BLM may make a rangeland wildfire management decision effective immediately or on a date established in the decision.

Files\BLM_2016_01_Windy Ridge DM - § 4 references coded [6.84% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.54% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Windy Ridge Fire.

Reference 2 - 2.93% Coverage

4) Road Repair and Maintenance, to Include the Following: • Five culverts in Dark Canyon and one in Deer Canyon that are at risk to flooding and/or debris flows will be cleaned in FY 2016 to ensure maximum flow capacity. Subsequent to flood events culverts should be inspected in FY 2017 and if necessary re-cleaned. • Culvert overflow dips will be installed on the following roads managed by BLM in the Deer Creek and Dark Canyon watersheds in FY 2016. • Construct drivable berms in FY 2016 on the Deer Creek Road, up-road from the BLM/private land boundary to prevent runoff, sediment and rock debris from being diverted down the road and towards the structures on private land. • Rolling dips will be installed in FY 2016 on the following roads managed by BLM: Deer Creek, Dark Canyon, and Woods Gulch in areas of high and moderate soil burn severity. • Remove one culvert road-stream crossing from a decommissioned road in the Deer Creek watershed in FY 2016.

Reference 3 - 2.14% Coverage

Implementation of the proposed action as described in the Windy Ridge Fire ESR Plan will protect soils in the burned area, including preventing potential loss of soil due to wind and water erosion; reduce potential invasion and establishment of noxious; prevent degradation of greater sage-grouse habitat and increase its rate of recovery. Greater sage-grouse is a candidate species for Endangered Species Act listing and it is a high priority for protection within the BLM in Oregon and across the western United States. Seeding would likewise help meet established rangeland health standards in accordance with guidelines for livestock grazing and integrated vegetation management.

Reference 4 - 1.23% Coverage

The proposed temporary fences will be used in conjunction with existing fences to protect treatment areas from grazing. This fencing and subsequent rest from grazing will allow for plants to recover from the effects from the fire. Vegetation establishment will help reduce the risk that invasive annual grasses pose to critical greater sage-grouse habitat and provide for soil stabilization.

Files\BLM_2016_02_Bendire Complex ESR DM - § 6 references coded [10.62% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.20% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil, and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Bendire Complex Fire. I have determined that the actions detailed below were adequately analyzed in existing NEPA documents. This conclusion is documented in the accompanying DNA review. Furthermore, implementation of these actions does not constitute a major Federal action that will adversely impact the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary and will not be prepared. Based on existing NEPA analysis, comments

from the public, and input from my staff, it is my final decision to implement the actions detailed below.

Reference 2 - 0.61% Coverage

Erosion Control. Preventing hazardous road conditions would occur by installing up to 24 straw waddles in key drainages and along road where erosional forces could wash out roads making them impassible.

Reference 3 - 2.06% Coverage

Seedings. Seeding desirable native perennial grasses where the fire burned hottest and where there is a high potential to become infested with invasive annual grasses on approximately 7,480 acres. Aerial seeding methods would be utilized due to the steepness and rockiness of the terrain. A seed mix composed of competitive native species such as bluebunch wheatgrass and Idaho fescue was deemed necessary by the IDT due to an infestation of invasive annual grasses within the near vicinity of the intense fire. Establishment of fire resistant perennial grass species in the burned area is critical to interrupt the fire and invasive species cycle and protect adjacent sagebrush habitat.

Reference 4 - 1.38% Coverage

Planting. Hand planting approximately 4,764 acres of sagebrush or bitterbrush seedlings in order to accelerate the recovery of these key shrub species, not only for sage grouse, but for other key wildlife such as elk and mule deer and other sage brush obligates. Seed collection and grow out will occur during year one with planting occurring during years two and three. Crab Apple planting will also occur in smaller areas where plants were present prior to the fire

Reference 5 - 1.41% Coverage

Implementation of the ESR treatments identified herein will protect soils in the burned area, including preventing potential loss of soil due to wind and water erosion; reduce potential invasion and establishment of noxious weeds and invasive annual grass species; prevent degradation of greater sage-grouse habitat and increase its rate of recovery. Greater Sage-Grouse is a high priority for protection within the BLM in Oregon and across the western United States.

Reference 6 - 2.96% Coverage

Areas to be seeded were identified by examining the pre-fire plant communities and the burn severity. Areas where the herbaceous vegetation was influenced by invasive annuals or noxious weeds were targeted for seeding. Seeding will provide for soil stabilization and will reduce the potential invasion of greater sage-grouse habitat by invasive annual grass species and noxious weeds. Planting shrub seedlings will increase the rate of recovery for sage-grouse habitat and provide future cover and browse for other wildlife species. Seeding will also help stabilize and reduce visibility on cultural resources that were previously documented in the burned area. Seeding would likewise help meet established rangeland health standards in accordance with guidelines for livestock grazing and integrated vegetation management. The BLM will not seed areas where the pre-burn plant community was resistant to invasive species and, therefore are expected to recover without seeding.

Files\\BLM_2016_03_Lime Hill ESR DM - § 3 references coded [7.74% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.67% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Lime Hill Fire.

Reference 2 - 4.19% Coverage

1) Ground Seeding. Approximately 310 acres in the Benson Creek area that is considered high risk for

expansion of medusahead wildrye may be drill seeded with desirable perennial grass species. The ground seeding would consist of a seed mix with introduced grasses in the Benson Creek area where there is heavy infestation of annual grasses within a currently-existing crested wheatgrass/intermediate wheatgrass seeding. The mix would include Siberian wheatgrass, Ephraim crested wheatgrass, intermediate wheatgrass, mountain brome, and Sandberg bluegrass. The seeding would only occur if desirable plants are not adequately establishing in burned areas.

BLM personnel or contracted consultants would conduct any necessary resource inventories prior to the drilling. Any potentially significant cultural resource identified in the treatment areas would be avoided by rangeland drills. Equipment used in the burned areas would be cleaned prior to use on the site and would be cleaned following use to eliminate the potential to disseminate weed seeds.

Reference 3 - 2.87% Coverage

Implementation of the proposed action as described in the Lime Hill Fire ESR Plan will protect soils in the burned area, including preventing potential loss of soil due to wind and water erosion; reduce potential invasion and establishment of noxious weeds and invasive annual grass species; prevent degradation of greater sage-grouse habitat and increase its rate of recovery. Greater sage-grouse is a

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candidate species for Endangered Species Act listing and it is a high priority for protection within the BLM in Oregon and across the western United States. Seeding would likewise help meet established rangeland health standards in accordance with guidelines for livestock grazing and integrated vegetation management.

Files\\BLM_2016_05_Bendire Complex ESR Invasive Plan DM - § 5 references coded [6.96% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.54% Coverage

An Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) from the Vale District BLM prepared the Bendire Complex Fire ESR Plan to submit to the BLM Washington Office (WO) for funding approval. This Plan included all of the proposed emergency stabilization and rehabilitation treatments for the Bendire Fire burned area. The ESR plan was prepared under the guidance of and is consistent with, the Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook H-1742-1 and Secretarial Order 3336. Development of treatments identified in the ESR plan focused primarily on human life and safety concerns, soil/water stabilization, habitat for Bureau Sensitive and special status plants and wildlife, critical heritage resources, and weed treatments. Greater sage-grouse was of particular concern for habitat management due the entire burn occurring within a Priority Habitat Management Area (PHMA).

Reference 2 - 2.05% Coverage

After considering the current conditions of the lands and associated habitats impacted by the Bendire Complex wildfire, comments received during the public comment periods, and input from the Bendire Complex Interdisciplinary Team, it is my decision to select the Proposed Action Alternative as analyzed in the Bendire EA. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Project Design Features for all action alternatives as well as those specific to the Proposed Action (Bendire EA, pgs. 16 – 18, 22 and Appendix C) will be adhered to as a result of this decision. These actions are found to best address the rehabilitation, restoration and protection of sagebrush landscapes including Greater Sage-Grouse habitat by increasing resistance of habitat to invasion of invasive annual grasses and improving the resilience of sagebrush ecosystems so that future wildfire disturbances have fewer undesirable effects. These actions also allow for: cooperative control of invasive plants so they do not infest or re-infest adjacent unburned or nonBLM administered landscapes, enable recovery of native vegetation within the burn area, and stabilize soils vulnerable to erosion.

Reference 3 - 1.50% Coverage

Invasive Annual Grass Aerial Herbicide (Imazapic) Application Between 2016 and 2020, up to 30,000 acres of invasive annual grasses within the project area will be aerially treated to prevent the area from becoming dominated by those species (Bendire EA, Map 4). Cheatgrass is known to be present throughout the burned area, including the proposed priority aerial treatment areas. Intermixed with the cheatgrass in these treatment areas are approximately 15,000 acres of light to moderate medusahead infestations. Small sites of ventenata are scattered within the areas also. Treatments of these targeted species will occur as a pre-emergent application using the approved herbicide, imazapic, at 6oz/acre along with

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appropriate adjuvants (Bendire EA, Table C-3 in Appendix C for adjuvants) to achieve the most effective control at the time of application.

Reference 4 - 0.49% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk; specifically, loss of priority Greater Sage-Grouse (PHMA) habitat, erosion and other damage due to invasive plant encroachment and the effects of the Bendire Complex Fire.

Reference 5 - 1.39% Coverage

The Bendire Complex wildfire caused mortality of desirable perennial plants which created new habitats which are susceptible to noxious weeds and invasion of invasive annual grasses.

Noxious weed infestations provide unstable and poor quality habitat for sagebrush steppe obligate plant and wildlife species. Invasive annual grasses and weedy annual forbs germinate with fall rain or in early spring and readily out-compete fire stressed desirable perennial species for water and nutrients. Application of treatments described in the Proposed Action Alternative of the Bendire EA will therefore decrease the risk of target species such as medusahead, ventenata and cheatgrass expanding within the Bendire Complex Fire ESR Project Area prior to recovery of native and seeded vegetation.

Files\\BLM_2016_10_Juntura Complex ESR DM - § 6 references coded [9.72% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.62% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil, and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Juntura Complex fires. I have determined that the actions detailed below were adequately analyzed in existing NEPA documents. This conclusion is documented in the accompanying DNA review. Furthermore, implementation of these actions does not constitute a major Federal action that will adversely impact the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary and will not be prepared. Based on existing NEPA analysis, comments from the public, and input from my staff, it is my final decision to implement the actions detailed below.

Reference 2 - 2.16% Coverage

Native Aerial Seeding for Weed Prevention (Native Seeding Maps): Aerial seed a native grass seed mix to assist in stabilizing soils, most importantly, prevent the increase in invasive annual grasses on the 622 acres of BLM managed lands that burned in an area that is most susceptible to erosion. The seed mix would include bluebunch wheatgrass, Sandburgs bluegrass and bottlebrush squirreltail. Emergency Stabilization aerial seeding on the Simmons Gulch fire would occur between October 2016 through December 2016 depending on seasonal precipitation and weather conditions. Seeding is proposed for these acres due to the fire burning in the upland canyon of the Squaw Creek drainage which could potentially increase erosion and sedimentation downstream. Due to the slope, rocky terrain and access routes, aerial seeding is the only

available option for these acres. The entire native aerial seeding for weed prevention is proposed in the Squaw Creek Wilderness Inventory Unit.

Reference 3 - 1.71% Coverage

On the Sheep Rock fire, Wyoming big sagebrush, antelope bitterbrush and Idaho fescue would be added to the seed mix. This seeding mix is intended to boost cover of perennial native grasses, forbs, and sagebrush, and infill gaps between recovering Sandberg's bluegrass plants and other native species. The seed mix will also provide competition with cheatgrass and medusahead rye. On the Sheep Rock Fire, an additional 70 acres would be seeded with bitterbrush. This was proposed due to the high density of bitterbrush observed in the area. Utilizing seed caches would mimic the natural rodent cache effect. Seeds would be placed in holes created by hand tools (sapling planter or rebar) and the existing burned bitterbrush skeletons would serve as protection as the seedlings grow.

Reference 4 - 1.74% Coverage

Fencing Construction and Maintenance (Temporary Fence Maps): Approximately 16 miles of temporary fence construction in the Sheep Rock and Simmons Gulch fire areas would enable recovery in sage-grouse habitat and allow grazing to continue in the unburned portions of the pastures. In the Sheep Rock Fire, the proposed fence location is at least 1.2 miles from any known sage-grouse leks. However, the proposed temporary fence on the Simmons Gulch Fire is within 0.8 miles from two known lek locations. Results from a sage grouse fence collision risk model showed the temporary fence location to be within the low to moderate risk area. To reduce the risk of collisions all temporary fences would be marked with sage-grouse deterrents. The temporary fences would close portions of six pastures.

Reference 5 - 1.03% Coverage

Implementation of the ESR treatments identified herein will protect soils in the burned area, including preventing potential loss of soil due to wind and water erosion; reduce potential invasion and establishment of noxious weeds and invasive annual grass species; prevent degradation of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat and increase the rate of recovery. Greater SageGrouse is a high priority for protection within the BLM in Oregon and across the western United States.

Reference 6 - 1.45% Coverage

Livestock grazing may not occur for a minimum of two growing seasons and until objectives are met. Although closure to livestock grazing and re-introduction objectives will be addressed separately through agreements or decisions, the temporary fences identified in this decision will be used in conjunction with existing fences to protect treatment areas from grazing. Protection from grazing through the use of temporary fences will allow for plants to recover from the effects from the fire. Vegetation establishment will help reduce the risk that invasive annual grasses pose to critical greater sage-grouse habitat and provide for soil stabilization.

Files\BLM_2016_10_Juntura Complex Invasives Plan DM - § 5 references coded [8.46% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.74% Coverage

An Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) from the Vale District BLM prepared the Juntura Complex ESR Plan to submit to the BLM Washington Office (WO) for funding approval. This Plan included all of the proposed emergency stabilization and rehabilitation treatments for the Juntura Complex burned area. The ESR plan was prepared under the guidance of and is consistent with, the Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook H-1742-1 and Secretarial Order 3336. Development of treatments identified in the ESR plan focused primarily on human life and safety

concerns, soil/water stabilization, habitat for Bureau Sensitive and special status plants and wildlife, critical heritage resources, and weed treatments. Greater Sage-grouse was of particular concern for habitat management due to 100% of the burn occurring within a General Habitat Management Area (GHMA) or a Priority Habitat Management Area (PHMA) for sage-grouse.

Reference 2 - 1.14% Coverage

Invasive annual grasses and noxious weeds and their impacts to Greater Sage-Grouse habitat are of concern within and adjacent to the Juntura Complex ESR Project Area. After reviewing comments and existing NEPA documentation, the IDT determined that certain invasive plant treatments would require further analysis before implementation could occur. On September 19th, 2016, the Vale BLM released the Juntura Complex EA for public comment from September 19th – October 4th, 2016. The EA analyzed the integrated invasive plant management treatments and actions as proposed in the ESR plan as well as a No Action alternative.

Reference 3 - 2.24% Coverage

After considering the current conditions of the lands and associated habitats impacted by the Juntura Complex wildfires, comments received during the public comment periods, and input from the Juntura Complex IDT, it is my decision to select Alternative 2 as analyzed in the Juntura Complex Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Invasive Plant Management Plan EA. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Project Design Features (PDFs) (Juntura Complex EA, Appendix C) will be adhered to as part of this decision. The IDT has determined that these actions will best address the rehabilitation, restoration and protection of sagebrush landscapes including Greater Sage-Grouse habitat by increasing the resistance of habitat to invasive annual grasses invasion and improving the resilience of sagebrush ecosystems so that future wildfire disturbances have fewer and/or lesser undesirable effects. These treatments and actions also allow for the cooperative control of invasive plants so they do not infest or re-infest adjacent unburned or non-BLM administered landscapes, enable recovery of native vegetation within the burn area, improve seeding success, and stabilize soils vulnerable to erosion.

Reference 4 - 1.85% Coverage

Monitoring and Retreatment Monitoring is necessary to determine treatment effectiveness as well as for identifying the need for re-treatment. This decision to implement these treatments is expected to increase resistance of sagebrush landscapes including Greater Sage-grouse habitat to invasion by noxious weeds and invasive annual grasses, as well as improve resilience of sagebrush ecosystems to future wildfire disturbances. Effectiveness monitoring will be conducted for at least five years to ensure treatments are meeting objectives. Objectives identified for treatment success are designed to “meet the life history requirements of sagebrush-dependent wildlife” (SEORMP Upland Vegetation Objective 2, p.40): and to “Control the introduction and proliferation of noxious weed species to reduce the extent and density of established weed species to within acceptable limits.” (SEORMP Upland Vegetation Objective 3, p.41). Specific Juntura Complex EA objectives set for weed treatments are

Reference 5 - 1.48% Coverage

The Juntura Complex wildfires caused mortality of desirable perennial plants which created new habitats that are susceptible to noxious weeds and invasion of invasive annual grasses.

Noxious weed infestations provide unstable and poor quality habitat for sagebrush steppe obligate plant and wildlife species. Invasive annual grasses and weedy annual forbs germinate with fall rain or in early spring

and readily out-compete fire stressed desirable perennial species for water and nutrients. Application of treatments described in Alternative 2 of the Juntura Complex EA will therefore decrease the risk of target species such as medusahead rye and cheatgrass expanding within the Juntura Complex ESR Project Area prior to recovery of surviving vegetation as well as newly seeded vegetation.

Files\BLM_2016_10_Owyhee Canyon and Rim ESR DM - § 3 references coded [4.80% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.89% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil, and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Owyhee Canyon Fire. I have determined that the actions detailed below were adequately analyzed in existing NEPA documents. This conclusion is documented in the accompanying DNA review. Furthermore, implementation of these actions does not constitute a major Federal action that will adversely impact the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary and will not be prepared. Based on existing NEPA analysis, comments from the public, and input from my staff, it is my final decision to implement the actions detailed below.

Reference 2 - 1.21% Coverage

Implementation of the ESR treatments identified herein will protect soils in the burned area, including preventing potential loss of soil due to wind and water erosion; reduce potential invasion and establishment of noxious weeds and invasive annual grass species; prevent degradation of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat and increase the rate of recovery. Greater SageGrouse is a high priority for protection within the BLM in Oregon and across the western United States.

Reference 3 - 1.70% Coverage

Livestock grazing may not occur for a minimum of two growing seasons and until objectives are met. Although closure to livestock grazing and re-introduction objectives will be addressed separately through agreements or decisions, the temporary fences identified in this decision will be used in conjunction with existing fences to protect treatment areas from grazing. Protection from grazing through the use of temporary fences will allow for plants to recover from the effects from the fire. Vegetation establishment will help reduce the risk that invasive annual grasses pose to critical greater sage-grouse habitat and provide for soil stabilization.

Files\BLM_2016_10_Owyhee Canyon and Rim Invasives Plan DM - § 6 references coded [9.23% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.67% Coverage

An Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) from the Vale District BLM prepared the Owyhee Canyon Fire ESR Plan to submit to the BLM Washington Office (WO) for funding approval. This Plan included all of the proposed emergency stabilization and rehabilitation treatments for the Owyhee Canyon Fire burned area. The ESR plan was prepared under the guidance of and is consistent with, the Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook H-1742-1 and Secretarial Order 3336. Development of treatments identified in the ESR plan focused primarily on human life and safety concerns, soil/water stabilization, habitat for Bureau Sensitive and special status plants

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and wildlife, critical heritage resources, and weed treatments. Greater Sage-grouse was of particular concern for habitat management due to 97% of the burn occurring within a General Habitat Management Area (GHMA) for sage-grouse.

Reference 2 - 1.13% Coverage

Invasive annual grasses and noxious weeds and their impacts to Greater Sage-Grouse habitat are of concern within and adjacent to the Owyhee Canyon Fire ESR Project Area. After reviewing comments and existing NEPA documentation, the IDT determined that certain invasive plant treatments would require further analysis before implementation could occur. On September 1, 2016, the Vale BLM released the Owyhee Canyon EA for public comment from September 1 – September 16, 2016. The EA analyzed the integrated invasive plant management treatments and actions as proposed in the ESR plan as well as a No Action alternative.

Reference 3 - 3.59% Coverage

Invasive Annual Grass Aerial Herbicide (Imazapic or Rimsulfuron) Application Between 2016 and 2020, up to 21,747 acres of invasive annual grasses within the project area will be aerially treated to prevent the area from becoming dominated by those species (Owyhee Canyon EA, Appendix D, Treatment Map). Cheatgrass is known to be present throughout the burned area, including the proposed priority aerial treatment areas. Intermixed with the cheatgrass in these treatment areas are approximately 15,000 acres of light to moderate medusahead infestations. Treatments of these targeted species will occur as a pre-emergent application using the approved herbicide, imazapic, at 6oz/acre along with appropriate adjuvants (Owyhee Canyon EA, Table 3 in Appendix C for adjuvants) to achieve the most effective control at the time of application. Rimsulfuron (2 – 4 oz/acre with adjuvants) would be used on a smaller amount of acres of predominantly annual grasses if the BLM determines a need for a longer period of control.

Aerial imazapic or rimsulfuron treatments will be done by commercially contracted aircraft. The type of aircraft used for specific portions of the work will depend on topography and availability of landing and reloading locations. For safety reasons, where aerial application of herbicides is to be done by contract, the contractor will determine which type of aerial application is most appropriate for the site conditions. Where aerial applications are determined to be the most appropriate treatment for the control of invasive annual grasses, use by the BLM and contractors would be in conformance with label instructions and the 2010 Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in Oregon Record of Decision and the Vegetation Treatments using Aminopyralid, Fluroxypyr and Rimsulfuron on BLM Lands in 17 Western States PEIS. All design elements, mitigations, and SOPs (Owyhee Canyon EA, Appendix A) described in the ROD will be used

Reference 4 - 1.39% Coverage

Noxious Weed Herbicide Treatments - Ground Based Herbicide Application Approximately 25 acres of noxious weeds are known to exist within the Owyhee Canyon Fire ESR Project Area (Owyhee Canyon EA, Table 3.5). Treatment of these infestations will occur on small sites (ranging from single plant to generally less than 0.5 acres) either by manual (such as grubbing, pulling, etc.) methods or with the most effective herbicides. (Owyhee Canyon EA, Tables 2.2 and 2.3 for Herbicide Info and Treatments). Continued monitoring will be conducted over the five year

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project period to locate additional populations. These will be treated appropriately (manual or herbicide treatments) under the District's Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) emphasis.

Reference 5 - 0.33% Coverage

The Owyhee Canyon wildfire caused mortality of desirable perennial plants which created new habitats that are susceptible to noxious weeds and invasion of invasive annual grasses.

Reference 6 - 1.12% Coverage

Noxious weed infestations provide unstable and poor quality habitat for sagebrush steppe obligate plant and

wildlife species. Invasive annual grasses and weedy annual forbs germinate with fall rain or in early spring and readily out-compete fire stressed desirable perennial species for water and nutrients. Application of treatments described in Alternative 2 of the Owyhee Canyon EA will therefore decrease the risk of target species such as medusahead rye and cheatgrass expanding within the Owyhee Canyon Fire ESR Project Area prior to recovery of surviving vegetation as well as newly seeded vegetation

Files\\BLM_2017_03_Administrative Tumbleweed Rx CX - § 2 references coded [3.09% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.23% Coverage

Russian thistle, also known as tumbleweed, is in the goosefoot family (Chenopodiaceae). Its scientific name is *Salsola tragus*, but it also has been known as *S. iberica*, *S. kali*, and *S. australis*. Although tumbleweed is native to the arid steppes of the Ural Mountains in Russia, it is now ubiquitous through the western states, growing in disturbed soils such as fields, irrigation canals and roadside shoulders, ditches and fence lines. In the late fall and early winter, this troublesome pest becomes conspicuous as it breaks from soil and is blown across highways and fields. In many areas, plants accumulate along roadways and fence lines, posing a serious obstruction to wildlife passage. Most fences have been constructed with 4 to 5 strands of barbed wire and were built to standards that allow safe passage for wildlife. In particular, pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) crawl underneath the bottom wire of fences as opposed to jumping over them therefore tumbleweeds stuck in the fences can become barriers that do not allow pronghorn to pass. Mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) jump over fences most of the time but the accumulation of tumbleweeds may deter them from crossing and force them to find other areas to cross. In addition tumbleweed accumulation increases the risk of wildfire. It has been reported that wildfires can spread rapidly when ignited material of burning Russian thistle blow through grasslands.

Reference 2 - 0.87% Coverage

Within the Vale district, the windblown accumulation of Russian thistle along fence lines has become a hazard which can obstruct wildlife movement, make maintenance of fences difficult, and create a wildfire hazard. These locations are generally localized to relatively small (<10 acres), isolated locations many times associated with adjacent past or present surface disturbing activities i.e. wildfire, gravel pits, roadways, and cultivated fields. In places this accumulation can be 5-10 feet high, 10-20 feet wide and several miles in length.

Files\\BLM_2017_07_Malheur Sage Grouse Project DM - § 2 references coded [1.04% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.38% Coverage

Rangeland plant communities represented in the Project Area are dominated by species such as mountain big sagebrush in the upper elevations, Wyoming big sagebrush in the lower elevations, low sagebrush, stiff or scabland sagebrush, antelope bitterbrush, and curl-leaf mountain mahogany with understories composed of Thurber's needlegrass, bottlebrush squirreltail, Sandberg's bluegrass, and bluebunch wheatgrass. Invasive annual grasses, medusahead rye (a listed noxious weed species), ventenata and cheatgrass are present in some areas burned by wildfire, especially in lower elevations (below 4,700 feet above mean sea level (AMSL)).

Reference 2 - 0.66% Coverage

Implementation of the Proposed Action will best meet the identified Purpose and Need by:

- ☐ Protecting and enhancing habitat for the greater sage-grouse in what is known as the Bully Creek, Cow Valley, and Drewsey Priority Areas for Conservation.
- ☐ Protecting and enhancing the traditional cultural values of the Burns Paiute Tribe in the Castle Rock Area of Environmental Concern and other relevant and important values

NW Malheur EA Decision Record 3

present in the North Fork of the Malheur River Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

- ☐ Improving the vigor and habitat suitability present in forest and high elevation (greater than 4700 feet ASML) sagebrush-bunchgrass communities within the Project Area.
- ☐ Reducing the abundance and continuity of invasive annual grass species that are predominant in the lower elevation (less than 4700 feet AMSL) sagebrush-bunchgrass communities within the project area.
- ☐ Capturing the economic value of cut trees as sawlogs and biomass (i.e. firewood, mulch, fuel, etc.) where feasible.
- ☐ Collaborating with partners and neighbors in the area to reach habitat and vegetation objectives.

Files\BLM_2017_08_Horse Cross ESR DM - § 4 references coded [3.27% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.48% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Horse Cross Fire.

Reference 2 - 0.98% Coverage

Noxious Weed Treatments. Inventory and treat noxious weeds with ground applications best suited to each site and weed type during the first year. Monitor and re-treat sites if necessary. Identified noxious weed sites would be treated for two consecutive years. Target species would include such weeds as diffuse knapweed, Scotch thistle, and whitetop.

Reference 3 - 1.15% Coverage

abilization of Known Archaeological Sites. Approximately two known cultural resources within the boundaries of the Horse Cross fire perimeter would be assessed to determine immediate stabilization measures and record fire effects. If necessary, low impact seeding would be implemented to minimize erosion of archaeological deposits and decrease visibility as protection against illegal artifact collection.

Reference 4 - 0.66% Coverage

This decision is effective immediately due to the immediate risk of erosion and damage to wildlife, specifically:

The likelihood of the conversion of greater sage-grouse habitat to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated this fall;

Files\BLM_2017_09_Bowden ESR DM - § 5 references coded [5.03% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.47% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Bowden Hills Fire.

Reference 2 - 1.61% Coverage

Aerial Herbicide Treatment. One aerial application of imazapic herbicide to reduce the threat of invasive annual grasses pose to priority greater sage-grouse habitat. The aerial herbicide application would be applied on 12,468 acres of the burned area. Imazapic would be applied at a six ounce per acre rate and include appropriate adjuvants. All herbicide applications would be in conformance with label instructions and the 2010

Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in Oregon Record of Decision. All design elements, mitigations, and SOPs described in the ROD would be used.

Reference 3 - 0.96% Coverage

Noxious Weed Treatments. Inventory and treat noxious weeds with ground applications best suited to each site and weed type during the first year. Monitor and re-treat sites if necessary. Identified noxious weed sites would be treated for two consecutive years. Target species would include such weeds as Russian knapweed, Scotch thistle, and whitetop.

Reference 4 - 1.35% Coverage

Stabilization of Known Archaeological Sites. A cultural resource survey will be conducted within the Bowden Hills fire perimeter. At least one known cultural resource within the boundaries of the Bowden Hills fire perimeter would be assessed to determine immediate stabilization measures and record fire effects. If necessary, low impact seeding would be implemented to minimize erosion of archaeological deposits and decrease visibility as protection against illegal artifact collection.

Reference 5 - 0.65% Coverage

This decision is effective immediately due to the immediate risk of erosion and damage to wildlife, specifically:

The likelihood of the conversion of greater sage-grouse habitat to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated this fall;

Files\BLM_2017_09_Cherry Road ESR DM - § 2 references coded [1.94% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.29% Coverage

A BLM Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) has determined that the area burned by the Cherry Road fire is in need of certain treatments and actions to enable desirable vegetation to stabilize the area and facilitate prevention of undesirable vegetation and/or noxious weeds invasion. These treatments and actions were also selected to expedite recovery and rehabilitation of the area, encourage reestablishment of habitat for wildlife species and to protect soil and water resources.

Reference 2 - 0.65% Coverage

This decision is effective immediately due to the immediate risk of erosion and damage to wildlife, specifically:

The likelihood of the conversion of greater sage-grouse habitat to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated this fall;

Files\BLM_2017_09_Hawk Fire ESR DM - § 4 references coded [5.14% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.70% Coverage

The Hawk fire was ignited by lightning on July 27, 2017. The fire was wind driven to the northwest. The continuous fuel load provided sufficient conditions for the sagebrush, invasive annual grass, and other vegetation to burn. The burn was patchy and low in intensity with the exception of small areas of higher intensity due to dense Wyoming big sagebrush. The Hawk fire was contained on July 28, 2017. All 1,432 acres of the fire are designated as Priority Habitat for sage-grouse and are within the Cow Lakes Priority Area for Conversation (PAC).

Reference 2 - 0.52% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Hawk Fire.

Reference 3 - 2.17% Coverage

1) Aerial Herbicide Treatment. One aerial application of imazapic herbicide to reduce the threat of invasive

annual grasses pose to priority Greater Sage-grouse habitat. The aerial herbicide application would be applied on the entire 1,432 acres of the burned area.

This treatment would use the approved herbicide imazapic, at 6oz/acre rate along with appropriate adjuvants to achieve the most effective control at the time of application. All herbicide applications would be in conformance with label instructions and the 2010 Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in Oregon Record of Decision. All design elements, mitigations, and SOPs described in the ROD would be used.

Reference 4 - 0.75% Coverage

This decision is effective immediately due to the immediate risk of erosion and damage to wildlife, specifically:

The likelihood of the conversion of greater sage-grouse habitat to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated this fall;

Files\BLM_2017_10_Morgan Creek ESR DM - § 4 references coded [4.16% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.57% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Morgan Creek Fire.

Reference 2 - 1.16% Coverage

1) Noxious Weed Treatments. Inventory and treat noxious weeds with ground applications best suited to each site and weed type during the first year. Monitor and re-treat sites if necessary. Identified noxious weed sites will be treated for two consecutive years. Target species will include such weeds as Russian knapweed, Scotch thistle, and whitetop.

Reference 3 - 1.63% Coverage

Stabilization of Known Archaeological Sites. A cultural resource survey will be conducted within the Morgan Creek fire perimeter. At least one known cultural resource within the boundaries of the Morgan Creek fire perimeter will be assessed to determine immediate stabilization measures and record fire effects. If necessary, low impact seeding will be implemented to minimize erosion of archaeological deposits and decrease visibility as protection against illegal artifact collection.

Reference 4 - 0.79% Coverage

This decision is effective immediately due to the immediate risk of erosion and damage to wildlife, specifically:

The likelihood of the conversion of greater sage-grouse habitat to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated this fall;

Files\BLM_2018_01_Little Fire ESR DM - § 5 references coded [8.68% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.31% Coverage

The 1,613 acre Little Fire was ignited by lightning on August 28, 2017. The fire area covers 1,613 acres of the Louse Canyon Priority Area of Concern (PAC), 483 acres of the Owyhee River Canyon WSA, and 1,575 acres of the SE Oregon/NC Nevada Sagebrush Focal Area (SFA). The fire area is completely within designated Sage-grouse Priority Habitat Management Area (PHMA). There is one occupied pending sage-grouse lek within one mile of the Little Fir

Reference 2 - 2.21% Coverage

Habitats for sagebrush obligate species were adversely modified by the Little fire. Vegetation communities and Ecological Site Descriptions (ESDs) within the fire boundary vary between Loamy 10-12, Clayey 10-12, and Claypan 10-12. The Loamy and Clayey sites within the burned area originally contained a mix of Wyoming big sagebrush, basin big sagebrush, bluebunch wheatgrass, Thurber's needlegrass, bottlebrush squirreltail, Indian ricegrass and Poa species. Planting Wyoming big sagebrush seedlings throughout these sites in the burned area would speed the recovery of the plant community. The Claypan 10-12 ESD is a low sage site and is unsuitable for Wyoming seedling plantings due to the high amount of clay and shallow lithic contact.

Reference 3 - 1.61% Coverage

Careful consideration was made in the development of all treatments as to how Greater SageGrouse (GRSG) habitat would be stabilized and protected. All emergency stabilization and rehabilitation actions identified in this decision are consistent with ARMPA goals, objectives, land use allocations, management decisions (MDs), and required design features (RDFs) established for protecting and preserving GRSG and its habitat on public lands managed by BLM in Oregon. These management decisions are also included as part of the DNA review.

Reference 4 - 2.15% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil, and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Little Fire. I have determined that the actions detailed below were adequately analyzed in existing NEPA documents. This conclusion is documented in the accompanying DNA review. Furthermore, implementation of these actions does not constitute a major Federal action that will adversely impact the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary and will not be prepared. Based on existing NEPA analysis, comments from the public, and input from my staff, it is my final decision to implement the actions detailed below.

Reference 5 - 1.39% Coverage

Implementation of the ESR treatments identified herein will protect soils in the burned area, including preventing potential loss of soil due to wind and water erosion; reduce potential invasion and establishment of noxious weeds and invasive annual grass species; prevent degradation of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat and increase the rate of recovery. Greater SageGrouse is a high priority for protection within the BLM in Oregon and across the western United States.

Files\BLM_2018_10_Big Grassy DM - § 5 references coded [5.09% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.03% Coverage

The fire area covers 3,715 acres of the Louse Canyon Priority Area of Concern (PAC) and SE Oregon/NC Nevada Sagebrush Focal Area (SFA). The fire area is within designated sage-grouse Priority Habitat Management Area (3,715 acres) and General Habitat Management Area (1,598 acres). There is one unoccupied pending lek (High Ridge Reservoir) within one mile of the Big Grassy fire.

Reference 2 - 1.30% Coverage

A BLM Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) has determined that the area burned by the Big Grassy fire is in need of certain treatments and actions to enable desirable vegetation to stabilize the area and facilitate prevention of undesirable vegetation and/or noxious weeds invasion. These treatments and actions were also selected to expedite recovery and rehabilitation of the area, encourage reestablishment of habitat for wildlife species and to protect soil and water resources.

Reference 3 - 0.47% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Big Grassy Fire.

Reference 4 - 1.43% Coverage

A BLM Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) has determined that the area burned by the Big Grassy fire is in need of certain treatments and actions to enable desirable vegetation to stabilize the area and facilitate prevention of undesirable vegetation and/or noxious weeds invasion. These treatments and actions were also selected to expedite recovery and rehabilitation of the area, encourage reestablishment of habitat for wildlife species and to protect soil and water resources. These proposed actions include the following:

Reference 5 - 0.88% Coverage

Aerial Herbicide Treatment. One aerial application of imazapic herbicide to reduce the threat of invasive annual grasses pose to habitat stability. The aerial herbicide application would be applied on 5,313 acres of the burned area. Imazapic would be applied at a six ounce per acre rate and include appropriate adjuvants.

Files\BLM_2018_10_Currey Canyon ESR DM - § 3 references coded [2.88% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.46% Coverage

A BLM Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) has determined that the area burned by the Currey Canyon fire is in need of certain treatments and actions to enable desirable vegetation to stabilize the area and facilitate prevention of undesirable vegetation and/or noxious weeds invasion. These treatments and actions were also selected to expedite recovery and rehabilitation of the area, encourage reestablishment of habitat for wildlife species and to protect soil and water resources.

Reference 2 - 0.53% Coverage

I have determined that the vegetation, soil and other resources on the public lands are at immediate risk of erosion and other damage due to the effects of the Currey Canyon Fire.

Reference 3 - 0.89% Coverage

Implementation of the proposed action as described in the Currey Canyon ESR Plan will protect soils in the burned area, including preventing potential loss of soil due to wind and water erosion and reduce potential invasion and establishment of noxious weeds and invasive annual grass species.

Files\BLM_2018_10_Jackies Butte DM - § 3 references coded [3.48% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.55% Coverage

A BLM Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) has determined that the area burned by the Jackies Butte fire is in need of certain treatments and actions to enable desirable vegetation to stabilize the area and facilitate prevention of undesirable vegetation and/or noxious weeds invasion. These treatments and actions were also selected to expedite recovery and rehabilitation of the area, encourage reestablishment of habitat for wildlife species and to protect soil and water resources.

Reference 2 - 1.15% Coverage

1) Noxious Weed Treatments. Inventory and treat noxious weeds with ground applications best suited to each site and weed type during the first year. Monitor and re-treat sites if necessary. Identified noxious weed sites would be treated for two consecutive years. Target species would include such weeds as Russian knapweed, Scotch thistle, and whitetop.

Reference 3 - 0.78% Coverage

This decision is effective immediately due to the immediate risk of erosion and damage to wildlife,

specifically:

The likelihood of the conversion of greater sage-grouse habitat to invasive annual grasses if they are not treated this fall;

Files\\Berthoud Fire Protection District_2007_CWPP - § 2 references coded [0.23% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.07% Coverage

These core values include:

• Proximity to recreation and Open Space • Water and Economic sustainability • Landscape Views • Appropriate development management • The protection of private property rights • The creation and retention of economic value • Proximity to and management of Wildlife

Reference 2 - 0.17% Coverage

Residents are in agreement that the preservation of wildlife and the environment is important to the quality of life in the area. Habitat effectiveness is defined as the degree to which habitat is free of human disturbance and available for wildlife to use. Effective habitat is mostly undisturbed land area, which is buffered (at least 300 feet in essentially all situations) from regular motorized and non-motorized use of roads and trails (11 or more people or vehicle trips per week). It is felt that habitat effectiveness should not fall below 50%, and the best wildlife habitats have a much higher percentage. Wildfire, specifically severe wildfire, can have significant adverse effects on habitat effectiveness.

Files\\Cherokee Meadows_2007_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [1.89% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.89% Coverage

Trees

Agricultural Heritage Peacefulness/Tranquility Recreational Opportunities

Access/Roads

Water Resources Availability Investments/Homes/Property

Aesthetics Life/Safety

Wildlife/Wildlife Habitat Pets/Livestock

People With Special Needs Power Lines/Telephone Boxes Home Heating Fuel/Propane Tanks Sense of Community

High High High High High High High High High

Medium Medium Medium Medium Medium Medium

Files\\Crystal Lakes_2008_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.61% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.61% Coverage

Risk to Other Community Values – An evaluation of risk to other community values such as wildlife habitat, recreation and scenic areas, water supplies, and landscapes of historical, economic or cultural value.

Files\\Denver Post_2010_09_Foothills fire danger extreme - § 1 reference coded [3.01% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 3.01% Coverage

"Those soils are so damaged, they are going to repel water," resulting in increased erosion of sediment downhill into streams, said Greg Heule, a Boulder fire command center spokesman.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_05_Blazes environmental damage being assessed - § 4 references coded [15.94% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 3.32% Coverage

The cost of fighting the Hewlett fire northwest of Fort Collins is estimated to exceed \$2.9 million, but the true cost of the fire's environmental damage is still being assessed by experts in the field.

Reference 2 - 3.89% Coverage

They are made up of specialists, soil scientists and environmentalists, and come in when there are fires and look for runoff and erosion," he said. "They will be reseeding slopes and putting down hydromulch to help stabilize the soil."

Reference 3 - 1.86% Coverage

The fire created an impenetrable barrier in the burn area, causing erosion that makes water run off, Segin said.

Reference 4 - 6.86% Coverage

Right now, officials are monitoring any rainfall to make sure the Cache la Poudre River -- which supplies drinking water to Greeley and Fort Collins -- doesn't get contaminated with ash and debris.

"If we get a lot of rain over a short period of time where the ground cannot absorb the water and water would run off, it might be difficult to treat," said Lisa Voytko, water production manager for the city of Fort Collins.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_06_Blazes temps stoke fears - § 1 reference coded [3.07% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 3.07% Coverage

As a huge column of smoke rose over western Colorado Springs, The Gazette reported deer and other animals running through neighborhoods to flee the fire. As many as 2,300 residents have been evacuated.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_06_Evacuees watch wait - § 2 references coded [6.29% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 5.02% Coverage

Ron and his wife, Denise, rushed to bring their herd of 143 alpacas from their ranch outside Poudre Canyon to a makeshift animal shelter as soon as they received an evacuation notice early Saturday morning, while they were attending a convention in Estes Park.

Reference 2 - 1.27% Coverage

heriff's officials said the center already has seen 250 animals.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_06_Fire blasts over hills Fort Collins-area fire rages out of control expanding in size as mountain residents flee - § 1 reference coded [2.51% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.51% Coverage

Meanwhile, about 20 nervous dogs and cats peered from small cages inside a mobile MaxFund shelter near the gym. Lizz Grenard, who is running the animal shelter, said the animals were confused and antsy. "A lot are used to being on big acreages and running around. It's tough on them," she said.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_06_High Park Fire 55 percent containment - § 1 reference coded [1.05% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.05% Coverage

One of the things this neighborhood is going to have to deal with," Haberstick said, "is erosion."

Files\\Denver Post_2012_06_Highpark Fire Homesick about Homes - § 1 reference coded [4.69% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 4.69% Coverage

Hunter rode his beloved 20-year-old white mare, Princess, who was evacuated in a predawn rush as the blaze raced across the Brewster Farm next door at 4 a.m. Sunday.

"She ran into the trailer, and she hasn't been trailered in two years," Long said as they rode through the charred pasture.

Hunter was out of town when the fire began. He had recently euthanized Princess' pasture mate because of cancer.

"To lose her too ...," he said, not finishing the sentence.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_06_Red slurrys toxic dark side - § 5 references coded [14.50% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.41% Coverage

The hundreds of thousands of gallons of red slurry that air tankers are dropping on Colorado forests to shield mountain houses from wildfires has a downside: It is toxic. Laced with ammonia and nitrates, it has the potential to kill fish and taint water supplies.

Reference 2 - 3.68% Coverage

"There are other chemicals associated with it, but ammonia and the nitrates are the ones we're currently aware of that are the largest concern," said Doug Laye, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regional coordinator for endangered species, who is overseeing the new policy for fire retardants. "These can change the water chemistry drastically. That can have a very quick and often lethal effect."

Reference 3 - 5.02% Coverage

As it burns along the Cache la Poudre River -- designated a Wild and Scenic River by the Forest Service -- the High Park fire could overlap habitat for several species of sensitive fish.

Massive fish kills have been documented after fires were put out in northwestern states. A legal challenge by Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics compelled an environmental impact study. Federal biologists concluded that fire retardants alone will not cause extinctions. But the lawsuit led to issuance of the rules this year to minimize harm.

Reference 4 - 1.18% Coverage

Forest Service fire managers this week acknowledged concerns about toxic fire retardants degrading habitat and watersheds.

Reference 5 - 2.22% Coverage

The maps designating sensitive terrain around Colorado apparently prioritize habitat for greenback cutthroats and the butterflies that live in riparian corridors -- two species deemed most vulnerable to the fire-retardant chemicals.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_07_Flood Danger High - § 3 references coded [11.15% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.62% Coverage

Heavy rain sparked flash-flood warnings and mudslides into the night Friday -- and meteorologists predict the precipitation won't let up this weekend.

Reference 2 - 3.42% Coverage

Heavy rainfall poses particular problems in fire-scarred landscapes where a lack of vegetation and wildfire-baked soil provide the perfect conditions for rapid runoff and water contamination.

"It's almost like falling on cement or concrete," said Paul Wolyn, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Pueblo.

Reference 3 - 6.11% Coverage

"There's a tremendous amount of debris coming from the Hewlett side," said Larimer County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Jennifer Hillmann.

She described the water as black and Falls Creek Drive as "completely impassable." At its deepest, debris measured about 1 foot on the highway.

The Poudre River also was discolored as runoff from burnt-out drainages in Poudre Canyon brought ash, charcoal and branches downstream.

"The standard trash that comes down from after a fire," said Erik Nilsson, Larimer County emergency-management manager. "It's aesthetically pretty ugly."

Files\\Denver Post_2012_07_High Park mitigation delayed - § 1 reference coded [6.05% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.05% Coverage

Mitigation to help slow the flow of debris and ash into the Cache la Poudre River and nearby Milton Seaman Reservoir -- one of four drinking water sources for Greeley -- started Wednesday.

But the plan is addressing problems caused by May's Hewlett Gulch fire, not the massive High Park fire that has also sent a thick stream of ash and debris into the Poudre River.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_07_Muddy waters river walls shores left reeling in wake of massive blaze - § 7 references coded [18.06% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.39% Coverage

The fire took 259 homes and one life. The fishery took a big blow.

Reference 2 - 3.94% Coverage

Poudre River Canyon Fire Chief Carl Solley is now fighting the High Park fire Part 2, the aftermath's flash floods. In the hardest-hit spur canyons -- Hill, Falls and Boyd gulches -- the runoff from heavy rains Friday and Saturday threatened several homes but ultimately only swirled through one garage.

Solley, crews and neighbors laid down 2,000 sandbags. They have bought 60 tons of sand and are aiming for a total of 4,000 sandbags down before the next heavy rain.

"We worked hard to save the homes we could from the fire," he said, noting 17 of 100 homes in the fire protection district burned, "and we're not going to let a flood knock them down now."

Reference 3 - 1.53% Coverage

The first few big rainstorms after the fire -- those dropping one-third to one-half inch or more rain in an hour -- will move a tremendous amount of ash and debris down the Poudre, Colorado State University senior research scientist Lee MacDonald said.

Reference 4 - 1.20% Coverage

"The ash will be disappearing soon, but erosion along the river will continue -- through summer 2013. We'll see lower erosion rates by 2014," said MacDonald, who specializes in watershed science.

Reference 5 - 5.37% Coverage

While the ash in the river is not harmful to rafters or even swimmers, except for its power to obscure potentially dangerous debris, the fish have much more serious problems.

The 2002 Hayman fire caused the loss of 70 percent of adult fish in the the South Platte River, said Colorado Parks and Wildlife senior aquatic biologist Ken Kehmeier. The South Platte still hasn't responded well to efforts to repopulate the fish, he said.

"We still hear complaints from anglers on the South Platte," Kehmeier said. "The Poudre fire will be that bad

or worse," partly because there are no large reservoirs filtering out heavy sediments to the benefit of the river downstream.

"We know we're losing fish now, but the impacts could last more than 10 years," he said. "It's a devastating thing. It's a lengthy recovery process, and we will be continually working for years to bring the fishery back."

Reference 6 - 2.93% Coverage

Now, as storm runoff from burned areas hits the river, some sediment and ash are carried along -some settling, dropping into the small spaces between river rocks and gravel, smothering insects and other invertebrates that are food for fish.

The river's pH will change, Kehmeier said. Ash makes it more basic. Yet in some parts of the river researchers are seeing the water become more acidic, possibly because of decomposing pine needles. The shifts in pH are one more stress on fish.

Reference 7 - 2.70% Coverage

In severely burned areas, where less than 10 percent of natural ground cover remains, the baked soil has a crusty seal over it that makes it repel water, MacDonald said. When heavy rains come, there is nothing to slow this surface water that isn't absorbed. And the destruction of roots and other organic matter that had served to bind soil particles means that when heavy, high-velocity flows start cutting and moving earth, erosion is extreme.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_10_Federal grants fund work to stabilize burn zones - § 2 references coded [14.84% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.45% Coverage

The sum is less than requested, said NRCS state conservation engineer John Andrews but will help to complete projects to stabilize soil, slow runoff and protect the watershed in areas that are considered moderately to highly burned.

Reference 2 - 8.39% Coverage

The projects are focused on reducing sediment entering tributaries of Monument and Fountain creeks, flood protection and debris removal.

Land treatments will include channel debris removal upstream from crossings, trash racks, sediment basins and check structures to capture sediment and debris.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_12_Size blowing up 583 homes evacuated - § 1 reference coded [0.79% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.79% Coverage

Large animals were being taken to the Stanley Park Fairgrounds, 1209 Manford Ave.

Files\\Denver Post_2012_12_Wind fuels worry Strong gusts could create explosive mix in Marys Lake area - § 1 reference coded [1.54% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.54% Coverage

He speculated that wildlife in the fire zone would be OK unless the fire covered a great distance in a short time overnight.

Files\\Denver Post_2013_08_High Park burn area getting new mulch - § 1 reference coded [15.68% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 15.68% Coverage

Trucks and helicopters began hauling wood mulch this week to badly burned hillsides to keep soot and ash from running into the Poudre River, which is costly to clean. About 1,700 acres will be treated this year, the Greeley Tribune reported.

Files\\Denver Post_2013_10_Theres much good left behind on slopes - § 1 reference coded [6.54% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.54% Coverage

A two-year effort to treat 5,600 acres of critical watershed continues this month, with helicopters dropping 1-ton heaps of mulch across steep slopes.

"I wouldn't say mulch is a silver bullet, but to reduce sedimentation and erosion on burned slopes, it works really well," Todd Boldt, district conservationist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, said Wednesday.

Files\\Denver Post_2016_09_Larimer fire grows to 350 acres - § 1 reference coded [8.35% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 8.35% Coverage

Deputies asked that homes in the immediate area and in the Mill Creek subdivision be evacuated. The Starwood fire was threatening 30 structures, in addition to watersheds north of Red Feather Lakes and the town of Livermore. But Larimer County authorities said there were no reports of damage or injuries.

Files\\Estes Park Uplands_n.d._CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.61% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.61% Coverage

There is tremendous biological diversity within the Uplands. The Uplands provides several types of cover and food sources for wildlife. Trees, shrubs, plants, geomorphic structures, and topographical features provide cover on the property. Were the Uplands to experience a wildfire of great magnitude all of this would disappear and take away one of the primary factors for the desirability of living there lowering the property values by probably 80-90%.

Files\\Estes Park_2009_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.56% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.56% Coverage

5.1.3 Community Values to be Protected Of course, the first priority must be the protection of human lives. Other categories of values to be protected, in no specific order, are pets, wildlife, safety infrastructure, residential, commercial and government property improvements, and our local trees and forests. A more specific list identifying all community values to be protected would be too extensive to be included here.

Files\\Glen Haven Retreat Communities_2007_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.69% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.69% Coverage

Natural Resources 12)

Rivers and streams/Riparian areas - H Scenic beauty - H

14) Wildlife - H 15) 16) 17) 18)

Seasonal Camps 19) 20) 21)

Intrinsic Values 22)

23) 24) 25) 26) 27)

Forested areas - H

Recreation/access to backcountry - H USFS picnic area - L

Community-owned open space – H

Files\HCRC_2008_05_Meeting Notes - § 2 references coded [2.73% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.79% Coverage

businesses and ecosystems in Harney are about to collapse. We must take a bigger step if we want to respond to the magnitude of the problem. This must be a bigger scale. Push beyond comfort /safety zone. Don't aim low!

Reference 2 - 1.95% Coverage

Threats – insects and disturbance should include a scientific list of T&E , recovery list of species of interest

- If we set a goal of dynamic recovery then species will recover and return too
- Can't just log small trees forever • Utilize the trees that will die anyway • We should have as a goal the expansion of forest product businesses and opportunity to grow them or bring in new ones – let industry determine the types of jobs they create and technologies they employ • Shouldn't goals include climate change/carbon sequestration?

Files\HCRC_2008_06_Project Executive Summary - § 2 references coded [4.72% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.03% Coverage

HARNEY COUNTY IS FACING AN ECOLOGICAL HEALTH CRISIS IN ITS FORESTS AND WOODLANDS. THIS CRISIS THREATENS FOREST HEALTH, WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND HUMAN COMMUNITIES. AT THIS POINT, THERE IS NO CONSENSUS, OR “SHARED PLAN,” ON THE MEANS TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES.

Reference 2 - 2.69% Coverage

Return of natural ecosystem processes, thereby:

- o Reducing threats TO FOREST HEALTH, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES AND RECOVERY LIST SPECIES OF INTEREST, AND HUMAN COMMUNITIES from uncharacteristically severe fire;
- o Recovering watershed health; o Reducing future costs of fire suppression; O ENHANCING CARBON SEQUESTRATION

Files\HCRC_2009_03_Consensus Document DRAFT - § 8 references coded [1.74% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.34% Coverage

Restoration of forest health and return of natural ecosystem processes, thereby:

- o Reducing threats to forests from high stand densities and uncharacteristically severe fire;
- o Recovering watershed health; o Restoring native plant, wildlife, and aquatic species biodiversity o Restoring and protecting ecological integrity including hydrologic function and soil fertility and stability
- o Reducing future costs of fire suppression;

Reference 2 - 0.49% Coverage

Healthy, functioning ecosystems provide the best opportunity for a resilient forest • Healthy, functioning ecosystems provide the best opportunity for healthy local economies

- Healthy, functioning economies provide the best opportunity for healthy local ecosystems
- Ecosystem management and local collaboration requires adaptive management grounded in o ecosystem science, o diverse local, regional, and national values, practice, o political and economic realities, and o local ground-truthing of local, site-specific ecological conditions
- Industry should be scaled appropriately to match sustainable supply over a 20year period.

Reference 3 - 0.22% Coverage

a resilient forest that is diverse in age, species, and density; that exhibits appropriate species composition and structure for the ecosystem; and that enables: o normal or acceptable levels of fire, insect, and disease outbreaks o resumption of natural fire and disturbance cycles

Reference 4 - 0.01% Coverage

good water quality

Reference 5 - 0.17% Coverage

riparian areas that o have appropriate vegetation and wildlife for the site o produce high water quality that meets or exceeds standards o achieve full biological potential o meet optimal “properly functioning conditions”

Reference 6 - 0.18% Coverage

Regarding Old-Growth Our goal is: • resilient old-growth stands • an extent of old-growth stands that achieves historic distribution over time • an extent of replacement old-growth stands that achieves historic distribution over time.

Reference 7 - 0.24% Coverage

Regarding Wildlife Habitat Our goal is: • vegetative species consistent with target wildlife species habitat • habitat conditions that support viability and biodiversity of native wildlife species • appropriate physical aquatic habitat and native aquatic and riparian-associated species’ access to that habitat

Reference 8 - 0.09% Coverage

Regarding Vegetative Invasive Species Our goal is: • containment and eradication of non-native invasive species.

Files\\HCRC_2015_02_Meeting Notes - § 2 references coded [4.49% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.66% Coverage

Overview of Wolf Vegetation Management Project Environmental Analysis: Melissa will have some printed copies to hand out. Everyone received a copy of the “project brief”. I Purposes of the Project □ Improve native vegetation resilience and resistance to insects, disease and wildfire. □ Restore meadow habitat, aspen stands and riparian hardwoods □ Enhance sagebrush steppe habitats □ Reintroduce fire on the landscape as a natural process □ Reduce road related impacts □ Capture economic value of harvested timber

Reference 2 - 2.83% Coverage

Discussion on the Prescribed Burning treatments: For prescribed burn treatments - Estimating burning about 55% of the sites – only dry pine areas, not touching lodgepole pines. We have wildlife treatment areas and the goshawk - look at Nickel ridge in the plan, this spring is 6000 acres burn over 3-5 days will get a variety of effects. I don’t ever do anything in sagebrush – not a fuels concern. It is not clear that you won’t burn in sagebrush – this is a 40K planning area with one person doing the burning? The focus is on SW aspects with trees large enough that we don’t do a stand replacing burn. The way this is written is a blank check, we don’t want

2

you to burn in winter range. Would like a few more boxes. What is the expectation that you will be able to burn 20,000 acres in the next 10 years? We have a lot of areas to burn, I talk to all the specialists before I burn – and bring wildlife concerns to me.

Files\\HCRC_2015_05_Meeting Notes - § 1 reference coded [1.05% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.05% Coverage

Notes: Overview of the Wolf Project Proposed Action – Lori Bailey Handed out brief of the project The purposes of the Wolf Project are to: ☐ Improve native vegetation resilience and resistance to insects, disease and wildfire ☐ Restore meadow habitat, aspen stands, and riparian hardwoods ☐ Enhance sagebrush steppe habitats ☐ Reintroduce fire on the landscape as a natural process ☐ Reduced road related impacts to the watershed (terrestrial and aquatic habitat and water quality) ☐ Capture the economic value of harvested timber

Files\\HCRC_2015_09_Field Trip Notes - § 3 references coded [4.23% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.39% Coverage

Everyone involved did the best they could do under the circumstances. ☐ There seems to be evidence that when the fires hit areas that had been managed it calmed down.
☐ Doesn't appear to have any large herds of wildlife loss.

Reference 2 - 1.84% Coverage

An extreme fire would cause more sedimentation than a commercial harvest project. It's not all about the economic viability. Compare cost of firefighting to cost of treatment. Is it necessarily bad to subsidize the cost of logging and thinning if it is less than the cost of putting out a fire?

Reference 3 - 1.00% Coverage

The downstream landowners concerns are wildfire and water. This treatment would decrease the chance or severity of wildfire and increase downstream flows.

Files\\HCRC_2016_02_Meeting Notes - § 1 reference coded [0.84% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.84% Coverage

The rings from 1266 tree that is dead at the top of Crane creek. Oldest living tree is 1299 knowing we are going to warmer and drier.
☐ There is enormous amount of uncertainty of how the climate will change in this area precipitation is unknown; temp might be 2-3 degrees higher. Think like an insurance adjuster – best insurance risk on the forest is old growth ponderosa pine the more resilient the forest will be.

Files\\HCRC_2016_05_Meeting Notes - § 2 references coded [4.54% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 3.75% Coverage

Review Old Growth Consensus Statement (Draft 3 written by Josh Giles and Jim Campbell) Regarding OldGrowth – The revised statement after the discussion is as follows: Our goal is: Resilient old-growth stands ☐ An extent of old-growth stands and structure that move towards achieving historic conditions and distribution over time

☐ An extent of replacement old-growth stands that achieves historic distribution over time.
To achieve this goal, we will recommend: The harvest of some large trees if: ☐ Removal will decrease shading of aspen and other riparian hardwoods by encroaching conifers.
☐ Removal will improve the retention and survivability of older trees (i.e. old growth ponderosa pine) and to transition toward a more fire resilient landscape. ☐ Improves the health and vigor of the surrounding stand.

Reference 2 - 0.79% Coverage

I hate to see the whole forest burn up because we are not caring for it and could be because I can't really

work on the words. Promote logging to keep everything from burning up.

Files\HCRC_2016_06_Meeting Notes - § 1 reference coded [8.13% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 8.13% Coverage

pre-commercial thinned. Fuels piled and burned with a prescribed fire in spring 2016. This is an area that did not have any commercial logging/ timber in this last treatment. There have been commercial harvests since 1980s. It is a long haul for the timber to come out of here and get to the mill in John Day. Currently, it is not economical to log in this part of the forest. Some of the bitterbrush was burned but it is fire tolerant and should resprout but it can't be burned too often (less than 10 years). The prescription achieved the goals of maintaining the big trees, removing needle/ duff buildup. The wildlife cover clumps were burned but they will be the future wildlife openings in this area. The prescription stayed within NEPA guidelines. This forest work was paid for through the Hazardous Fuels Reduction program – and the goal of the program is to maintain large, old trees.

Files\HCRC_2017_04_Common Ground - § 2 references coded [7.34% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.15% Coverage

Our goals are: • A resilient forest that is diverse in age, species, and density; that exhibits appropriate species composition and structure for the ecosystem; and that enables: - Normal or acceptable levels of fire, insect, and disease outbreaks - Resumption of natural fire and disturbance cycles - Good air quality - Good water quality - Where historically present, stands have a patchy, mosaic, clumpy appearance.

Reference 2 - 5.19% Coverage

Regarding Late and Old Structure (LOS) LOS stands in our two most predominant Plant Association Groups (PAGs) are defined as: • 5 trees per acre ≥ 21 " diameter at breast height (dbh) in the Hot-Dry PAG • 10 trees per acre ≥ 21 " dbh in the Warm-Dry PAG

Our goal is: • Resilient and persistent LOS stands within the Historic Range of Variability

To achieve this goal, we suggest: • Enhancing LOS by: - Treating excess Old Forest Multi-Strata (OFMS) stands to remove competition to historically dominant over-story trees,

- Increase fire resilience by favoring fire tolerant species, and - Moving stands towards deficit Old Forest Single-Stratum (OFSS) stands

Regarding Large Trees (≥ 21 inches dbh) Our goal is: • To maintain large trees necessary to sustain ecological function, structure, and habitat for important wildlife species that depend on them

To achieve this goal, we suggest: • Maintain all remnant late and old structural live trees ≥ 21 " db that currently exist within stands proposed for harvest activities.

Files\HCRC_2017_04_Meeting Notes - § 1 reference coded [0.61% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.61% Coverage

We don't have to spend a bunch of money thinning mechanically. There is a chance we could kill big trees with fire only (worst fear).

Files\HCRC_2017_09_Meeting Notes - § 1 reference coded [4.89% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 4.89% Coverage

Brenda updated the group on the community based water planning effort that has been ongoing for about one year. This is a Harney County Watershed Council / OR Water Resource Department pilot project to develop an integrated water plan for the county. The group has identified upland vegetation management and understanding the water cycle in the upper reaches of the watershed as a need for more information. We think

the HCRC has valuable information to add to the water planning group. Jordan Van Sickle would address the question “Does management of the Emigrant Creek Ranger District affect the amount of water that flows into the Harney Basin?” Trent Seager could help with this. OSU extension – watershed folks could be helpful. Sustainable Northwest – western juniper utilization working group. Zach is on that committee. Not seeing a joint meeting need at this time.

Files\\HCRC_2017_12_Meeting Notes - § 2 references coded [5.01% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.46% Coverage

We rely too much on natural ignitions to get burning done. - No social license to have more fire on southern Malheur. - We will resort to establishing fuel breaks that are too small to be effective. - Give up on prescribed fire. - Are not able to use all the tools in our tool box such as strategic thinning, wide fuel breaks and managed natural ignitions.

- Have too much fire resulting in a landscape with a few large trees and no bitterbrush or mountain mahogany for wildlife.
- Unable to keep fire off BLM and private ground. - We think of fire as an enemy rather than a tool. - As a result of fire, the forest is invaded by annual grasses. - Get 40,000 acres burned without mechanical treatment.
- What happens when a ‘managed’ fire gets out of control? - We think we’ve failed if we don’t burn 40,000 acres every year. - We’ll have catastrophic fires if we don’t have fuel reductions. - We burn too hot in riparian areas. - No funding fix for FS budget – end up doing nothing but fighting fire.

Reference 2 - 2.55% Coverage

Tim Boyce: We have a set amount of resources down here. We have to consider the 4.5 million acres south of the highway. Desert fires take a lot of resources - 20-person hand crews. We are really limited on resources on any given day and have to work with BLM and USFWS on any given day. We have Frenchglen and Allison as active guard stations. Also Crow Flat and 19 trucks total on the zone – 15 BLM and 4 FS. Last footprint was Egley in 2007. Underburning has been about 10,000 acres. Back log on prescribed fire is over 150,000 acres due to timing including nesting and wildlife, resources, funding, a few internal constraints. Fuel level and weather are another constraint – parameters have expanded for fire behavior and have done this to open up more fire. We have a spring and fall prescribed fire. In the fall, it goes from too dry to too wet and snowy very fast. Spring is a little more open and bigger window. I think we could take a little more risk. Not everyone is on board with more risk but some leadership is willing.

Files\\HCRC_2018_03_Meeting Notes - § 1 reference coded [3.08% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 3.08% Coverage

When there are more big trees • When we are not afraid of stand replacing fires • When we hear from the public that they can recreate and economy is more stable • When we are confident about managing a lightning strike • Restoration is never ending • When we have sustainable timber harvests • When we don’t get too excited about insect outbreak • When there is aspen all along the riparian areas • When the streams are proper functioning • When there are no invasive species • When we reach historic range of variability for tree species (2) • When we have a stable, sustainable local economy that includes people that live here (3) • When there are more log trucks on the road

Files\\HCRC_2018_06_Field Trip Meeting Notes - § 2 references coded [14.71% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 7.22% Coverage

Stop #1 – May 7 burn of 3000 acres. Most of the burn was moderate to severe. The acres burned included no previous treatment, commercial and pre-commercial thinning treatment. Area last burned in 2001, some trees

were insect kills. We couldn't get the fire to burn in a 6 acre area that burned 3 years ago. This is a mosaic burn pattern. We try to keep the pine needles from building up around the base of the big trees so when the needles burn, the tree cambium layer is not burned. The big trees are not harvested because of 20" rule. Most of the trees are in the 80-100 yr. range with a few big remnants.

Reference 2 - 7.49% Coverage

Looks good • Looks perfect • Don't like seeing the pocket of mountain mahogany that got burned (2) • These trees will fall down, creating a jack-strawed mess • In our current projects, can we capture commercial values? Designing our treatments with more clumps of trees.

- If we have more of this fire on the landscape it will allow us to do more of this burning.

Jack asked Tim for the final takeaway at this stop: We take all the concerns that I have heard this morning into consideration when prescribing fire. There is an in-exactness to it but it is also the beauty of it in creating a diverse forest in a mosaic pattern.

Files\HCRC_2018_08_Meeting Notes - § 3 references coded [6.95% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 3.40% Coverage

Pollinator abundance and diversity (as an indicator of environmental health)

Use netting & pan traps to capture then taking specimens home to identify and quantify

Research objectives:

Develop an index of invertebrate life in Marshall divine

Determine the effects of thinning & burning on pollinator populations (Theory is that opening up canopy will increase plant diversity & subsequently pollinators)

Reference 2 - 1.39% Coverage

Canyon Creek Fire area

Grass Diversity pie chart – notable takeaway from this slide was that there was 3% cheatgrass cover and predominately desirable native species.

Reference 3 - 2.17% Coverage

A: Yes, we are also trying to document more mahogany.

Annual grasses much more dominant on the Canyon Creek fire than Marshall Divine. Could be due to the severity/intensity of the fire. More likely to have undesirable species dominate degraded/scorched sites.

Files\HCRC_2018_09_Rx ZOA - § 1 reference coded [8.96% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 8.96% Coverage

Our goals are:

A resilient forest that is diverse in age, species, and density; that exhibits appropriate species composition and structure for the ecosystem; and that enables:

Normal or acceptable levels of fire, insect, and disease outbreaks

Resumption of natural fire and disturbance cycles

Best air quality possible commensurate with the proposed fire program

Good water quality

Where historically present, stands have a patchy, mosaic, clumpy appearance.

Files\Hermit Park Open Space_2008_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.32% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.32% Coverage

Risk to Other Values – An evaluation of risk to other values such as wildlife habitat, recreation and scenic

areas, water supplies, and landscapes of historical, economic or cultural value.

Files\Larimer County_2009_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.60% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.60% Coverage

In 2002, the Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership (FRFTP) was developed jointly by the Pike and San Isabel National Forests (PSINF), the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests (ARNF), the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS), Rocky Mountain National Park and the Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS). The goal of the partnership strategy was to identify, prioritize and rapidly implement hazardous fuels treatment projects in the Front Range of Colorado. The strategy is long-term and allows agencies to move forward successfully over a ten-year period. The FRFTP implements the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy and Implementation Plan for Goal 2 (reduce hazardous fuels) and Goal 4 (community assistance) thereby is increasing agencies' ability to reduce risks to:

- o Public and firefighter safety,
 - o Housing in the wildland urban interface,
 - o Ecosystem function
- County Fire Plan 2009 7
- o Threatened and endangered species.

Files\Manhattan Creek_2007_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.84% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.84% Coverage

Some thinning should occur on a number of properties, especially those properties that abut National Forest land and those that could cause access fire risk to others homes and structures. When properties are thinned, it is recommended that property owners retain the larger trees as well as, aspen, mountain maple and other deciduous varieties. This will allow the property to retain its forest-like quality even as wildfire protection levels are increased.

Files\Oregonian_2008_05_Wyden pushes for quick OK on logging - § 1 reference coded [5.59% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 5.59% Coverage

Environmentalists traditionally oppose salvage logging, citing harm to soils and habitat. Tim Lillebo, east Oregon field representative for the group Oregon Wild, said his organization is making an exception in this case because it wants to ensure that local mills survive the present economic downturn so the timber industry can perform future thinning and conservation projects on public lands.

Files\Oregonian_2012_07_Kitzhaber declares wildfires a disaster - § 3 references coded [10.50% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.62% Coverage

The wildfires caused forage losses that have become a major issue for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, ranchers concerned about cattle and environmentalists worried about sage grouse and other high desert wildlife.

Reference 2 - 5.25% Coverage

Another dilemma for BLM is the fate of about 95 wild mustangs displaced by the Miller Homestead fire. Workers cut fences and opened gates to let them escape the flames, but most of their forage was burned. The mustangs probably will be gathered and kept at BLM's Wild Horse Corrals near Burns, said Jeff Clark, a BLM spokesman in Portland. Still, it may be two years before they can return to the wild horse management area where they roamed, he said.

Reference 3 - 2.63% Coverage

Cows that survived the flames and smoke might have suffered burns on their hooves and legs as well as lung damage from smoke, BLM officials said. In that case, ranchers must make the difficult call of whether to put them down.

Files\\Oregonian_2012_07_Massive Oregon wildfires under control - § 1 reference coded [3.24% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 3.24% Coverage

Recent aerial surveillance of the Long Draw fire found no flames or smoke. But the scene on the ground was grim. Miles and miles of rangeland were charred and the landscape was littered with carcasses of cows. Now the long rehabilitation begins.

Files\\Oregonian_2012_08_Grasses withstand range fires but sagebrush devastated - § 5 references coded [16.75% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.97% Coverage

BURNS --The mammoth range fires that swept across the high desert of southeastern Oregon and northern Nevada in summer burned so fast that scientists now say the roots of many plants es

Reference 2 - 2.48% Coverage

The July 8-15 Long Draw fire was Oregon's biggest wildfire in 150 years. It swept across 871 square miles, or 557,600 acres, south of Jordan Valley in Malheur County. An estimated 85 percent was sagebrush habitat used by sage grouse.

Reference 3 - 5.91% Coverage

Despite the good recovery prospects for bunch grass and similar grasses, the outlook isn't as promising for sagebrush and the region's sage grouse.

The flames wiped out thousands of acres of sagebrush where the birds nest and have leks, which are traditional gathering places for courtship rituals and male strutting displays.

"Those fires have cut off major sage grouse corridors that allow them to interact," said Craig Miller, a spokesman for the Oregon Natural Desert Association, an environmental group in Bend. "The impact is going to be huge."

Reference 4 - 4.80% Coverage

Most of the birds were able to escape the fire, but mortality tends to happen in the aftermath, said Autumn Larkins, an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife assistant district biologist in Vale. The surviving birds almost certainly will return to the leks next spring, but will find them denuded, she said. Restoring the sagebrush will take an estimated 20 years at higher elevations and up to a century at mid-elevations if left to natural recovery

Reference 5 - 1.58% Coverage

A significant amount of this fire will naturally regenerate," Fetic said. Much of the blackened area of the Holloway fire was sage grouse habitat.

Files\\Oregonian_2014_07_Rancher salvages fire-scattered herd - § 3 references coded [6.66% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 4.23% Coverage

The complex, which is 85 percent contained, has blackened nearly 400,000 acres of sagebrush and bunchgrass on steep, rocky hillsides, hop-scotching across the high desert in a mosaic. It's the largest range fire since the Long Draw fire — considered the most extensive in Oregon's modern history — burned

557,648 acres in 2012.

Reference 2 - 0.58% Coverage

The cattle took off, many trapped by the fire.

Reference 3 - 1.85% Coverage

“It’s not a pretty sight,” Bill Wilber says. “The calves and cows with smoke inhalation have drool and snot running from their mouths and nose.”

Files\\Oregonian_2014_07_Weather prompts higher wildfire alert - § 3 references coded [7.22% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.37% Coverage

Cooler weather over the weekend allowed crews to make progress against the Buzzard complex northeast of Burns. It has spread across 396,000 acres, leaving dead cattle on the blackened rangeland.

Reference 2 - 2.93% Coverage

Wilber said wildfires scar the animals emotionally as well. One bull found safety next to a tree that didn’t burn as the flames swept past. The animal has stayed there, circling the tree like a lifeline. “That’s his safety blanket,” Wilber said.

Reference 3 - 1.92% Coverage

On horseback, Wilber will try to herd any stragglers home while dealing with the injured on a case-by-case basis. The cattle are 20 miles from the nearest corral.

Files\\Pinewood Reservoir_2008_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [1.13% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.13% Coverage

Risk to Other Community Values – An evaluation of risk to other community values such as wildlife habitat, recreation and scenic areas, water supplies, and landscapes of historical, economic or cultural value.

Files\\Pole Hill_2009_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.43% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.43% Coverage

Values Identified by those who are developing a plan: 1. Homes and home sites 2. Forests 3. Clean air 4. Quiet/solitude 5. Environment—Open Space/Watersheds 6. Neighbors 7. Wildlife 8. Livestock and pets 9. Privacy

Files\\Poudre Fire Authority_2011_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.14% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.14% Coverage

State and local agencies manage approximately 25,000 acres of natural areas within PFA’s jurisdiction that have value in terms of watershed, wildlife habitat, recreation, and view sheds. While fire is an integral process to all natural areas within the jurisdiction, uncontrolled wildland fires can cause undesirable effects that are inconsistent with land management objectives.

Files\\Poudre Park_2008_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [1.20% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.20% Coverage

Homes • Poudre River/watershed; the Poudre River is the only Wild and Scenic river in Colorado • Forests • Residents/visitors/people with special needs • Community infrastructure (i.e. bridges, power lines) • Gateway Park/reservoir • Clean air • Community center/historic school house • Hiking areas, especially Greyrock, Young’s Gulch, and Hewlett Gulch. • Businesses • Fire station • Pets, livestock • Wildlife • Campgrounds •

River-based recreation • Access – roads, bridges; Highway 14 in particular as the major access route • Communication systems (although it was noted that the current communication system for residents – mainly telephone – is inconsistent and unreliable, and an improved communication system would be beneficial)

Files\\Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department_2010_CWPP - § 2 references coded [2.84% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.35% Coverage

W.O.L.F. WOLF is a wolf/hybrid rescue facility housing something over 30 animals. WOLF is located 2 miles down RCVFD Fire Route 11 on a single access, single lane, privately maintained road. The WOLF facility was evaluated in 2008 as non-defensible in a aggressive wildland fire situation due to terrain, location, access. RCVFD recommends:

- o Early evacuation of the animals by trained personnel if time allows.

Evacuation will require several hours.

- o Mandatory evacuation of personnel in the event of fast approaching wildland fire. It is anticipated that the animals living within enclosures will enter dens they have created and survive a fire as established dens have little ground vegetation.

- o Post burn-over, trained WOLF personnel (accompanied by fire fighters) should, if possible and safe, evaluate fencing integrity and make emergency repairs to prevent animal escape.
- o WOLF maintains a safe zone in the case of an entrapment.

Reference 2 - 1.49% Coverage

Appropriate forest management to reduce fuel load in absence of natural fire and help limit spread of intense fires

- o Some thinning should occur on a number of properties, especially those properties that abut National Forest land and those that could cause access fire risk to others homes and structures. When properties are thinned, it is recommended that property owners retain the larger trees as well as, aspen, mountain maple and other deciduous varieties. This will allow the property to retain its forest-like quality even as wildfire protection levels are increased.

- o Pruning and clipping slash are occasionally disposed of into a remote area of a homeowner's property. Slash should be removed from the area, as it creates a substantial fuel bed. If removing the slash is not practical, it should be mulched or piled in an area that is safe to burn and burned during the winter or spring when snow level allows for safe burning. Remember a burn permit is required for slash burns.
- o National Forest treatments adjacent to private land

Files\\Rustic Community_2007_CWPP - § 3 references coded [1.57% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.53% Coverage

High Priority • Human life/safety • Community members with special needs • Homes/Structures, including the community building, church, and the Eggers school • Emergency equipment and the fire truck • Water supply • Cache La Poudre River watershed • Aesthetics • Power lines and telephone lines • Roads and bridges • Forests

Reference 2 - 0.27% Coverage

Economic infrastructure/businesses and resorts • Wildlife and fish • Sense of community • Livestock and pets • Recreation (this was ranked medium to low in value)

Reference 3 - 0.76% Coverage

Some thinning should occur on a number of properties, especially those properties that abut National Forest land and those that could cause access fire risk to others homes and structures. When properties are thinned, it is recommended that property owners retain the larger trees as well as, aspen, mountain maple and other

deciduous varieties. This will allow the property to retain its forest-like quality even as wildfire protection levels are increased.

Files\\Spencer Heights_2008_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [0.81% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.81% Coverage

Priority Values-at-Risk • Homes, life safety • All structures, businesses, and historic sites, including: Arrowhead Lodge, the Trading Post, CDOT facilities, Home Moraine RV park, the fish hatchery, Sportsman's Lodge, the Kinikini Store

• Recreation resources: camping, picnic sites, water quality, forests and view-sheds • Water quality • Wildlife habitat • Infrastructure: utilities, bridges, roads • Secondary impacts, including: transportation, tourism, services, emergency services, water quality, property values

Files\\USFS_2004_03_Arapaho NRA ROD - § 1 reference coded [0.36% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.36% Coverage

Forest Health: Approximately 1160 acres (included in the 2,183 acres above) will be treated to reduce the extent of the current MPB infestation and to reduce the impact of a future infestation. Treatments will vary depending on the timing and MPB spread. Efforts will be made to increase the amount of aspen in the project area and to improve the quality of aspen stands by clearcutting some existing aspen stands, cutting conifer stands to stimulate aspen growth, or by removing conifer trees from existing aspen stands. Treatment units will not include areas of high soil erosion hazards to mitigate threats to the area's watershed values

Files\\USFS_2008_09_Egley Fire Restoration DN - § 1 reference coded [0.26% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.26% Coverage

Provide for access and travel management. Provide motorized access to National Forest Lands within the Egley Fire Complex perimeter while improving watershed conditions by reducing road related-impacts, specifically negative impacts to water quality, fish and wildlife habitat.

Files\\USFS_2008_09_Red Feather FONSI - § 1 reference coded [1.75% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.75% Coverage

The Red Feather Project Area contains several communities, municipal watersheds and infrastructure such as public utility corridors that are considered to be 'at risk' from potential wildfires. In addition, many of the conifer stands within the project area are in Condition Class 2 or 3 meaning the stands have missed one or more fire return intervals. Without low intensity fires, surface fuels and ladder fuels increase. These hazardous fuel conditions, when added to the intermix of private lands, creates potential for extreme wildfire behavior and unsafe conditions for firefighters that would be sent to suppress fires next to private property.

Files\\USFS_2009_04_Pingree Hills DM - § 1 reference coded [1.91% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.91% Coverage

To improve overall forest health, reduce potential for destructive wildfires, and improve bighorn sheep habitat, I have decided to implement the Pingree Hill Fuels Reduction Project. This project will include treating an estimated 864 acres of National Forest land by mechanical means and using broadcast prescribed fire to improve wildlife habitat within a 1391 acre unit (see attached map). Proposed treatments would include thinning and the use of prescribed fire to reduce the number of trees per acre. The emphasis would be on cutting smaller diameter trees growing underneath larger more mature trees; however, in some cases the healthier tree may have a smaller diameter. Trees larger than 12 inches in diameter would not be cut.

Files\\USFS_2010_04_Glen Haven Fuel Reduction FONSI - § 1 reference coded [1.45% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.45% Coverage

There is a need to apply appropriate vegetative treatments to maintain or improve watershed and forest health, reduce hazardous fuels and modify wildfire behavior in the forested areas of the project area. Treatments need to be applied in a manner and location that complement defensible space efforts on private land and/or protect other values at risk. In addition, these treatments are needed to maintain or restore ecosystem composition and structure that would reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire that would be expected to occur within the current climatic period.

Files\\USFS_2010_06_Elkhorn Project FONSI - § 1 reference coded [0.67% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.67% Coverage

Enhance bighorn sheep habitat. The absence of naturally-occurring wildfire in recent decades has compromised bighorn sheep habitat quality by allowing vegetation to become denser than is optimal for this species. Bighorn sheep prefer open habitat in order to detect predators (e.g. mountain lion, coyote), and the presence of dense shrubs and trees reduce sight distances. Additionally, encroaching shrub and tree growth can concentrate sheep into smaller areas, which is thought to increase disease problems.

Files\\USFS_2010_08_Jane Hazardous Fuel Reduction DM - § 2 references coded [1.46% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.53% Coverage

I have decided to select the Proposed Action Alternative with modifications (herein called the Selected Alternative) from the Jane Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project Environmental Assessment (EA) because it meets the stated project purposes, while addressing public comments and concerns. I am modifying the agency proposed action to address goshawk nest information. Recently 4 new goshawk nest territories were discovered. Changes to the Proposed Action will ensure that standards in the Forest Plan as amended by Regional Forester's Eastside Forest Plans Amendment #2 are met.

Reference 2 - 0.93% Coverage

In making this decision, I considered important ecological contributions. Fuel treatments in the selected alternative are designed to protect lives and property, reduce canopy fuels, ladder fuels, and surface fuels, decrease the Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) from a future condition class of III to a condition class I, reduce the insect and disease risk, and restore structural and compositional forest conditions considering the variability in landscape vegetation types. Treatments will reduce fuel levels and allow a more natural fire regime to occur in the future, while also restoring deficient old forest structures across the landscape in areas where they are ecologically sustainable. Dense stand conditions have created conditions where large diameter trees are susceptible to loss from fire, insects and disease. By implementing biomass removal and underburning to reduce fuel levels the potential loss of large diameter trees to wildfire, insects and disease are reduced (EA page 3-24 and 3-41).

Files\\USFS_2011_01_Magic Sky FONSI - § 2 references coded [4.16% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.96% Coverage

here is a need to apply appropriate vegetative treatments to reduce hazardous fuels and modify wildfire behavior in the forested areas of the project area. Treatments need to be applied in a manner and location that complement defensible space efforts on private land and/or protect other values at risk. In addition, these treatments are needed to reduce the potential for a large crown fire that would be expected to occur within the planning area.

- There is a need to apply appropriate vegetative treatments to maintain or improve watershed and forest health. These treatments are needed to maintain or restore

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ecosystem composition and structure that would increase resiliency in the wake of insect infestations and reduce the risk of watershed damage from uncharacteristic wildfire.

Reference 2 - 2.21% Coverage

his alternative fully meets the purpose and need for action for the project as described above and detailed in the EA. Through thinning and prescribed fire, this alternative treats an estimated total of 2,849 acres of NFS land (see map in EA pg. 25). Thinning treatments on an estimated 1,998 acres will emphasize thinning primarily smaller diameter conifer trees growing underneath larger, more mature trees. However, in some areas where the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) epidemic is evident, larger diameter trees infested with MPB could be removed. Treatments in inventoried old growth stands and areas classified in the Forest Plan as old growth development and recruitment would be designed to maintain or develop old growth characteristics. In such occurrences, it may be necessary to leave smaller diameter non-infested trees to allow development of future old growth characteristics.

Files\USFS_2012_01_Dairy Project DN - § 2 references coded [1.01% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.35% Coverage

Improve the health, vigor, and resiliency of vegetation to insects, disease, wildfire, and other disturbances, to more closely resemble historical conditions in order to promote long-term forest sustainability and wildlife species diversity; and meet requirements of the Ochoco National Forest Plan (Recommendation from Silver Creek WA, pp.62),

Reference 2 - 0.66% Coverage

I selected the Proposed Action Alternative because it best improves the health, vigor, and resiliency of vegetation to insects, disease, wildfire, and other disturbances. The Proposed Action alternative would reduce densities of trees less than 21" DBH in units scattered throughout the project area. This would reduce inter-tree competition, dwarf mistletoe, fuel laddering, and fuel loading. This alternative would favor the growth of large trees; reduce crown closure towards historical and sustainable levels, increase survival and growth of aspen and mountain mahogany, and increase ability to recover from insect episodes (EA page 3-17).

Files\USFS_2012_06_Cedar Park FONSI - § 3 references coded [5.88% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.76% Coverage

There is a need to apply appropriate vegetative treatments to maintain or improve watershed and forest health. These treatments are needed to maintain or restore ecosystem composition and structure that will increase ecosystem resiliency in the wake of insect infestations and reduce the risk of watershed damage from uncharacteristic wildfire.

Reference 2 - 1.97% Coverage

This alternative fully meets the purpose and need for action for the project as described above and detailed in the EA. Through thinning, clearcutting and prescribed fire, this alternative treats an estimated total of 4,400 acres of NFS land (see map in EA pg. 19). Thinning treatments on an estimated 3,660 acres will emphasize thinning primarily smaller diameter conifer trees growing underneath larger, more mature trees. However, in some areas where the mountain pine beetle (MPB) epidemic is evident, larger diameter trees could be removed. Treatments in inventoried old growth stands and areas classified in the Forest Plan as old growth development and recruitment would be designed to maintain or develop old growth characteristics. In

instances where MPB is evident, it may be necessary to leave smaller diameter non-MPB infested trees to allow development of future old growth characteristics.

Reference 3 - 3.15% Coverage

Implementation of Alternative 2 will also include the use of broadcast prescribed fire an estimated 419 acres south of Palisade Mountain. The objective for this treatment is to enhance bighorn sheep habitat in an area identified as important habitat by the Colorado Division of Wildlife. The broadcast prescribed burn will also reduce fuel hazards in this area. Low to moderate intensity surface fires would thin some of the younger trees, prune lower branches, and consume flashy fine fuels such as ground juniper and small diameter dead and down material. Removal of this material would decrease hiding cover for sheep predators and increase available wildlife forage while at the same time reducing hazardous fuels that could contribute to fire spread in the event of a wildfire. Where necessary to reduce the potential for fire spread outside of the designated prescribed burn boundary, additional treatments such as thinning trees, pruning branches and constructing hand line may occur around the perimeter of the primary prescribed fire unit. Secondary burn areas will also be designated. Active ignition during broadcast burning operations will not take place in these areas; however, prescribed fire would be allowed to burn as long as weather, fuel moisture, and smoke dispersal conditions are within prescription as designated in an approved Burn Plan. All prescribed fire operations will be implemented by Forest Service personnel.

Files\\USFS_2012_06_Marshall Devine Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project DN - § 2 references coded [1.08% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.49% Coverage

Fuel treatments in the selected alternative will reduce fuel levels and allow a more natural fire regime to occur in the future, while also restoring deficient old forest structures across the landscape in areas where they are ecologically sustainable. Dense stand conditions have created conditions where large diameter trees are susceptible to loss from fire, insects and disease. By implementing biomass removal and underburning to reduce fuel levels the potential loss of large diameter trees to wildfire, insects and disease are reduced (EA page 3-26).

Reference 2 - 0.58% Coverage

The selected alternative retains existing satisfactory cover, providing hiding places for elk and deer during hunting seasons. It provides more edge habitat, compared to the Proposed Action, since more stands are left un-treated. Satisfactory cover, which is important due to hiding cover qualities, is limited in all subwatersheds except North Fork and upper Trout Creek subwatersheds. Satisfactory cover was mostly omitted from treatments in Alternative One (EA, Chapter 3, page 3-97). Additionally, the Selected Alternative is not expected to contribute to a negative trend in elk viability on the Malheur National Forest (EA, Chapter 3, page 3-122).

Files\\USFS_2013_09_Upper Pine Hazardous Fuel Reduction DN - § 2 references coded [0.41% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.08% Coverage

Snags: 0 Limit the salvage prescription to trees less than 21 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) in order to protect large snags;

Reference 2 - 0.33% Coverage

Elk Cover, Potential Wilderness Areas, and Unroaded Areas:

3L33EliminateapproximatelyJ,0003acresfromtreatment areasthataredifficultto , implement, and to mitigate

concerns about elk cover and impacts to unroaded areas;

o Examine the location of temporary roads and disclose if any occur in wildlife connectivity corridors; and
o Remap the revised potential wilderness area and for implementation reasons, eliminate approximately 50 acres from treatment in the potential wilderness area in sections 35 and 1.

Files\\USFS_2015_05_Cherokee Park FONSI - § 1 reference coded [2.00% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.00% Coverage

Many of the ponderosa pine and mixed conifer stands in the project area do not exhibit characteristics typical of the fire regimes and condition classes expected at this elevation and location, and are considered outside the historic range of variation due to fire suppression activities. The combination of current fuels conditions and trees killed by mountain pine beetle (MPB) could produce uncharacteristically severe wildfire behavior that would threaten improvements on private property and affect natural resources on National Forest system lands. Action is needed within the Cherokee Park project area to minimize the probability of crown fires that threaten values-at-risk, including homes, structures, wildlife habitat, watersheds and to restore the ecosystems to a more natural fire regime.

Files\\USFS_2015_07_Wolf Vegetation Management Project DN - § 2 references coded [0.25% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.17% Coverage

Improve native vegetation resilience and resistance to insects, disease and wildfire (Forest Plan IV-37, 38, 45, 51, and 61) (Watershed Assessment-71 and 72)

- Restore meadow habitat, aspen stands, and riparian hardwoods (Forest Plan IV-2, 19, 31, 55, 56, and 59) (Watershed Assessment-70 and 72)
- Enhance sagebrush steppe habitats (Forest Plan IV-28 and 31) (Watershed Assessment-71)

Reference 2 - 0.08% Coverage

Reduce road related impacts to the watershed (terrestrial and aquatic habitat and water quality) (Forest Plan IV-2, 22, 29, 39, 42, 43, 60, and 72) (Watershed Assessment-74)

Files\\USFS_2015_08_Izee Allotment Management Plan DN - § 1 reference coded [0.31% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.31% Coverage

Annual adjustment to authorized livestock numbers, season of use, and pasture rotation strategies may occur based on monitoring (implementation and effectiveness), resource concerns, and environmental factors such as drought, fire, insects, etc.

Files\\USFS_2017_03_Poudre Canyon Rx DM - § 2 references coded [2.25% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.91% Coverage

The proposed project would implement prescribed broadcast burning to improve and maintain bighorn sheep habitat within the Upper Poudre Canyon approximately 8 miles west of Rustic, Colorado. The two proposed burn units encompass approximately 636 acres on the north side of Highway 14 (Appendix A). Approximately 85% of the units are NFS land, and 15% is Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW) land on the Poudre River State Fish Hatchery and Bliss State Wildlife Area.

Reference 2 - 1.34% Coverage

Wildfire suppression has contributed to increased densities of conifer trees, Rocky Mountain juniper, and shrubs within the burn units, resulting in reduced habitat quality and sight distances for bighorn sheep. Sheep prefer open habitats dominated by herbaceous vegetation and lower shrub cover.

Increased juniper, conifer, and shrub densities provide increased ambush cover for sheep predators. Located within the 51 Game Management Unit for the Poudre River Sheep herd, the project area provides important winter and summer range and is also within a bighorn production area identified by CPW. For these reasons, there is a need for management action that would improve bighorn sheep habitat.

Files\\USFS_2017_05_Dove Vegetation Management Project DN - § 1 reference coded [0.17% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.17% Coverage

The purposes of the Dove Project are to improve native vegetation resilience and resistance to insects, disease and wildfire; reduce road related impacts to the watershed, and to capture the economic value of harvested timber. The Dove project area refers to the 43,892 acre area within the Lonesome Creek, Venator Creek, Headwaters South Fork John Day River, and Corral Creek subwatersheds within the Upper South Fork John Day River Watershed. The major drainages in the project area are the Bear Creek, Corral Creek, Cougar Creek, Delles Creek, Donovan Creek, Grasshopper Creek, Lonesome Creek, Rail Creek, Rail Creek, SF John Day River, and Venator Creek.

Files\\USFS_2018_02_Flat Vegetation Management Project DN - § 1 reference coded [0.05% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.05% Coverage

Improve meadow, aspen, and riparian habitats; and overall watershed condition (Forest Plan IV-2, 19, 31, 39, 55, 56, and 59)

Files\\USFS_2019_02_Magic Feather DM - § 2 references coded [1.65% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 0.79% Coverage

The High Park and Hewlett Gulch fires in 2012 provided clarity for how vulnerable the Cache la Poudre Watershed is to catastrophic wildfire effects. The effects from these fires included flooding and ash and debris flows into the Cache la Poudre River which provides drinking water to northern Colorado communities. These effects prompted discussions among private property owners, local governments, and non-profits on landscape scale restoration, regardless of ownership. This recognition helped to form The Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed to promote coordination between governments and non—government entities to restore the Cache la Poudre Watershed.

Reference 2 - 0.86% Coverage

The purpose of this project is to restore the ponderosa pine and mixed conifer stands to a more natural state. Restoration of these stands will include reducing surface and crown fuel loading across the landscape and across jurisdictional boundaries, retaining and encouraging old growth qualities, and improving wildlife habitat. The ponderosa and mixed conifer stands in the Red Feather Lakes area will benefit from reintroducing fire back into these fire dependent ecosystems. Decreasing the fuel loading will increase resiliency to future natural disturbances in these stands. Reintroducing fire across the landscape will also reduce the effects and risk of uncharacteristic wildfire by re—establishing natural fire regimes.

Files\\Upper Cherokee Park_2011_CWPP - § 1 reference coded [1.12% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 1.12% Coverage

Table 1. Community values at risk of wildfire, prioritized on a scale of Low-Medium-High. VALUE
PRIORITY Life / Safety Forest Health / Trees
Peacefulness / Tranquility Access / Roads
Investments / Homes / Property

Home Heating Fuel / Propane Tanks Aesthetics / Views

Recreational Opportunities e.g. ATVs, hiking Water Resources e.g. wells, creeks, pond Hunting Opportunities

Wildlife / Wildlife Habitat

High High High High High High

Med Med Med Med Med