

Management Direction

Introduction

This Forest Plan provides the long range management direction for the Forest. Goals, objectives, standards and guidelines, and management prescriptions are the components that make up management direction.

On the Forest, management direction will be implemented through two administrative processes: the Program Development and Budgeting process, and the Annual Work Planning process. Using the Forest Plan and Annual Regional Budget Advice, the Forest will develop multi-year program budget proposals for each Ranger District. The proposals identify activities and expenditures necessary to achieve the outputs targeted by the Forest Plan. These implementation programs form the basis for the Forest's annual Program Budget. Upon approval of the final budget, an annual program of work is prepared. The annual work plan provides the detail necessary to guide land managers in carrying out the Forest Plan. The Program Accounting and Management Attainment Reporting System monitors accomplishment of the annual programs.

The Forest Plan gives Forestwide Standards and Guidelines and Management Prescriptions for specific areas. Future Environmental Assessments and Records of Decision will be tiered to the Forest Plan Environmental Impact Statement.

Forest Goals, Policies, And Objectives

Administrative Support

Develop a position management system that will balance the organization with work to be done. Include the need to contract out work traditionally accomplished by "force account". Tie organizational changes to the Program Planning and Budgeting advanced work planning system.

Implement an aggressive employee accident prevention program to reduce the number of vehicle and personnel injury accidents to targeted levels.

Follow and pursue the intent of the Civil Rights Act to provide equal employment opportunities for all employees on the Angeles National Forest while increasing the average grade of women employees and percentage of minority group representation; and ensure that no person is denied participation of benefits of any program or activity of the Forest Service by:

- Attaining compliance with Civil Rights laws and regulations;
- Public notification of Forest Service programs and activities under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act;
- Increasing minority participation in direct Forest Service programs.
- Offer an increased amount of eight (a) contracting opportunities to Small Business Administration for awards.

Conduct an information and education program on the Forest to effectively inform the public and get the public involved in National Forest management activities, while gaining support for National Forest and Forest Service activities locally, regionally and nationally.

Improve relations, cooperative efforts, and support with all Federal, State, and local agencies, and private interests.

Provide a law enforcement program in-service and cooperatively with the Los Angeles and San Bernardino County Sheriff's Departments, which meets the needs of the visiting public and the resource manager.

Establish, conduct and monitor prudent business management practices which follow established standards and systems according to laws and regulations.

Air Quality

Continue to work toward the improvement of long-term air quality through reduced wildfire occurrence and increased prescribed burning under favorable meteorological conditions.

Facilities

Implement a facility maintenance program that reduces total annual maintenance needs to 1-3% of current appraised building values, with special emphasis on buildings and water systems that are more than 25 years old.

Implement and maintain a construction program to provide needed new fire and general-purpose facilities.

Fire Management

Carry out a fuels reduction and age-class management program which effectively reduces fuel hazards to levels which facilitate the fire management efforts, and the attainment of other resource management objectives. Increase the application of prescribed fire.

Maximize use of domestic livestock in managing chaparral vegetation to reduce maintenance costs, prevent accelerated erosion, reduce reliance on use of chemicals, and produce commodity benefits.

Develop a master plan for fire-resistant environments or other high fire hazard areas at the wildland-urban interface cooperatively, with concerned communities. Implement portions of the program as opportunities arise.

Provide facilities at Fox Field Air Tanker Base for efficient and safe air tanker support to meet regional interagency fire suppression needs.

Attain zero fatality rate in fire suppression, and presuppression operations including helicopter and other aircraft operations.

Reduce numbers of man-caused fires through an intensified fire prevention program. Reduce arson fires through increased investigative efforts and vigorous prosecution of offenders.

Increase public awareness and acceptance of the need for fire prevention and management, with emphasis on effective use of fuel treatment programs and intensified public contact.

Vegetative management activities, such as prescribed fire, may be utilized when there is a demonstrated need to ensure protection of the long term wilderness values, public enjoyment, and on- or off-site resource objectives and goals.

Prescribed fire may be utilized when there is a demonstrated need to ensure protection of the long term wilderness values, public enjoyment, and on- or off-site resource objectives and goals.

Fish and Wildlife

Supplement natural water supplies with water from developed systems, where necessary, to meet objectives in wildlife management plans.

Develop fisheries habitat management plans in cooperation with other responsible agencies and entities.

Identify ranges and habitats of threatened, endangered or sensitive plants and animals. Provide for their protection and management in accordance with current law and policy.

Take advantage of resource management activities such as chaparral management projects, timber sales, and timber stand improvement work, to improve wildlife habitat.

Manage habitats of sensitive, threatened, or endangered plants and animals to provide for recovery of the species.

Human and Community Development

Strengthen ability of the Angeles National Forest organization and facilities to meet resource management objectives through the use of all available Human Resource programs.

Integrated Pest Management

Implement the Integrated Pest Management approach in Forest management. This approach will prevent or reduce many pest related impacts to levels compatible with management goals and objectives.

Lands and Non-Recreational Special Uses

Identify and acquire key parcels of land which are needed to

- improve public access and use of National Forest lands;
- protect or enhance watershed and other resource management needs; consolidate ownership for improved management and administration.

Establish and maintain an active right-of-way program for roads and trails to improve public access to National Forest lands, including consideration of alternate access where economically feasible.

Manage special use permitted areas in compliance with the established standards and terms of special use permits.

Resolve unauthorized occupancies in the Forest.

Expand the cadastral engineering program to emphasize retracement of interior lines and re-establishment of property corners.

Minerals and Energy

Administer mining laws and regulations upon National Forest lands to permit uninterrupted production of minerals, while assuring adequate protection of other surface resources and environmental values. p

Assist the Bureau of Land Management in their required review of withdrawals within the boundaries of the National Forests in California.

Recognize the potential for research and development of alternative energy production by private enterprise.

Recreation

Develop and implement plans for existing and proposed water developments to provide for optimum recreation facilities and use, with emphasis on areas not currently available or accessible for public use.

Operate and maintain recreation developments to assure they are neat and sanitary to enhance the visitor's outdoor recreation experience.

Manage developed sites, including vegetation, to prevent site deterioration from overuse, maintain healthy vegetation, and rehabilitate sites needing improvement to satisfactory condition.

Provide the public with the opportunity to experience dispersed recreational activities.

Minimize regulations that limit public enjoyment, but provide for user enjoyment and protection of resource values.

Provide a well-maintained trail system that includes appropriately planned trailhead and trailside facilities, and provides the opportunity for the public to experience the full range of Forest areas.

Manage recreation to reduce conflict where recreation activities create problems between user groups.

Identify Forest recreation use opportunities not readily available to all segments of the user public. Develop and implement plans to maximize opportunities for use, and inform all segments of the public about new use opportunities available.

Implement the good Host Role Program in all activities, and provide the public with high-quality information about the Angeles National Forest, and recreational opportunities

Insure a systematic approach to meeting visual quality objectives established by this Plan.

Inventory and manage cultural resources to meet legal requirements and management objectives as well as for the benefit of the public.

Manage recreation special use permitted areas in compliance with established standards and terms of special use permits.

Provide the opportunity to experience the Forest in off-road vehicles, while protecting and minimizing conflicts with other recreational user groups.

Provide a broad range of recreation activities in both the high country and lower elevation areas.

Range Management

Use livestock as a vegetation management tool in response to vegetation management objectives.

Conduct range analyses to benefit all rangeland resources.

Develop range improvements that will provide multi-resource benefits.

Timber Management

Promote regeneration, where needed, to attain an aesthetically pleasing, diverse, and healthy Forest for recreation use and high-quality watersheds and wildlife.

Encourage full use of available wood fiber from harvested and treated areas to the extent that it is cost-effective, and consistent with other resource management programs.

Treat accessible natural timber stands according to sound silvicultural principles defined in silvicultural prescriptions, to achieve aesthetically pleasing, diverse, healthy, and vigorous Forests.

Water and Soil

Manage water quality to protect and improve the physical, chemical, biological and aesthetic quality of the water resources.

Continue to implement the Los Angeles River Flood Prevention Program.

Continue a water-quality monitoring program necessary to determine compliance with Federal, State and County laws and regulations.

Correct non-acceptable resource damage caused by system, permitted, and non-system roads.

Produce water of sufficient quality to meet or exceed identified use requirements, and improve water quality where needed.

Manage watersheds for increased water yield.

Manage the Angeles National Forest to maintain long-term soil productivity.

Manage domestic supply watersheds to provide water at a level of quantity and quality which, with adequate treatment by the user, will be satisfactory and meet current quality standards.

Wilderness Management

Manage wilderness use with emphasis on protection of wilderness resource values.

Desired Future Condition Of The Forest

Overview

This part of the Management Direction chapter describes how the Forest is expected to change with the implementation of the Forest Plan. A summary of the Plan's direction for each resource element is presented. The trade-of FS and interactions are also noted between other resources as well as the timing of the proposed changes.

The Forest Plan enhances environmental quality, and provides for a mix of market and non-market outputs. It increases water yield, developed and dispersed recreation, and management of chaparral vegetation. This emphasis represents more intensive management of the Forest's resources than presently occurs. Intensive management is necessary because of the large, growing Los Angeles metropolitan market area. This emphasis also capitalizes on the Forest's significant recreation potential, but does not exclude more intensive management and protection of other resources.

Wildlife habitat management is emphasized in certain areas. Riparian dependent resources are protected, and production of fuelwood is a residual output from vegetative management for other uses.

This Forest Plan emphasizes multiple use of the Angeles National Forest's resources, rather than providing one resource to the exclusion of others. It also establishes minimum standards for all resources, and then emphasizes particular resources within those constraints. The resulting mix of outputs maintains at least the minimum levels of all resources. Additionally, the Plan recognizes and addresses many of the challenges, demands, and opportunities of serving the 10-12 million residents of Los Angeles County now and in the future.

Implementation of this direction will be coordinated with the policies, programs, and objectives of other Federal agencies, and State and local governments. Such coordination will ensure mutual understanding of each other's goals. Site-specific planning will be undertaken wherever necessary. This will be coordinated with concerned agencies.

Vegetative management activities, such as prescribed fire, may be utilized when there is a demonstrated need to ensure protection of the long-term wilderness values, public enjoyment, and on- or off-site resource objectives and goals.

Social and Economic Environment

Future Forest management will enhance the social environment. More users will be using the National Forest and will find recreation facilities available and better maintained. Increased public information services, including entrance and arrival stations, will enable the user to better utilize more areas in the Forest as well as provide a more enjoyable recreation environment.

Environmental education programs will continue to be stressed. Signs and brochures will be translated into other languages, where necessary. International symbols will be used to reduce multilingual signing. Field employees with bilingual skills will continue to be a necessary component for good management.

Law enforcement programs will be keyed to cooperation with local agencies, and maintenance of qualified well-trained personnel. Residents may experience increased dissatisfaction with traffic congestion on local roads leading into the Forest due to increased use of the Forest. Users will find Forest boundaries more distinct.

The Plan will not change the future condition of the economic base of Los Angeles County. Dollar returns to the Treasury will not increase significantly over the planning period. However, the Plan will make reallocations of funds within the Forest budget. Total annual cost of implementing the Plan over the next 10 years will be 10% higher than base year 1982 expenditures for a decade. This high cost reflects, in part, the emphasis on vegetative management, and increased recreation capacity in response to public demand. The first five-year period will show a 2.2 million dollar annual need for new construction of developed recreation sites if capacity is to approach projected demand. Approximately 1.2 million dollars will be needed annually during the second five-year period. Additional funding is needed for the large backlog of facility maintenance and reconstruction needs.

Increased vegetative management should significantly decrease off-site losses due to wildfire and flooding. Vegetative management costs are predicted to increase annually from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million in the first decade. However, if vegetative management occurs as scheduled, it is predicted that emergency funding for wildfire suppression by the year 2000 should decrease approximately 50% from current levels of 5.2 million annually. In addition, it is estimated that off-forest losses due to wildfires, and the resultant flooding will decrease by \$600,000 annually.

Current costs for removal of sediment averages \$13 million annually. However, with prescribed fire and vegetative management on the Forest, this cost will be reduced significantly, saving local governments approximately \$4 million annually by 1995.

The Physical And Biological Environment

Air Quality

Air quality will be significantly improved on the Forest due to the Basin's effort to meet Federal and State air quality standards. Total suspended particulate standards will not be met, however, because of natural background levels. Implementation activities included in the Forest Plan will have no noticeable affect the air quality of the Los Angeles Basin. Prescribed burning plans will be closely coordinated with the appropriate agencies to minimize any harmful effect. Prescribed burning will cause some minor adverse effects, but will reduce intensity of wildfires which create large amounts of air pollution. Prescribed fire produces 75-90% of the particulate matter when compared to wildfire emissions.

Cultural and Historic Resources

More cultural and historical sites will be inventoried due to continued project specific needs, and the implementation of a systematic survey. As more sites are recorded, the archaeological record will reflect more closely the cultural resource potential of the Forest as documented in the Forest Cultural Resource Overview. Increased recreation use will also contribute to the completion of

the inventory. More interpretive facilities are scheduled which would provide more opportunity for the public to view prehistoric and historic artifacts. Remnants from the Great Hiking Era of the 1920s and 1930s will have greater significance over time, as will much of the CCC work done in the '30s.

Dark Sky Observation

Although there have not been any recent requests for new sites on the Forest, the four existing observatories are expected to be used extensively in the future. Light pollution and electronic interference are expected to increase, requiring more planned protection measures from the Forest and the surrounding communities.

Energy

The demand for energy resources is expected to increase. Two small generator plants are planned, but energy production on the Forest will continue to be minimal.

National Forest lands will be considered for wind energy development on a case by case basis.

Facilities

Increased emphasis will be placed on upgrading, maintaining, and replacing those facilities that provide for resource needs.

Fire Management

The fire management program will increase 22% over the 1982 funding level. The majority of this increase will be in vegetative management. This increased program includes 14% fire prevention and detection, 59% suppression and aviation, and 27% vegetation management.

Fire management personnel will be heavily involved in the application of prescribed fire. This will be a shift from a suppression emphasis to a vegetative management emphasis organization.

Prescribed fire will be applied on 18,000 acres annually. This will create an age-class mosaic enhancing all resources. It should also reduce size and intensity of wildfires. Eventually (20-30 years), the fuelbreak system would be absorbed into the age-class mosaic.

Fire prevention activity will increase during the fire season. The Forest will continue to emphasize fire prevention programs directed toward children, buffer and greenbelt zones, and fire resistant construction and maintenance techniques in the urban/wildland interface. Closure of the Forest to public use, and restrictions on use of open fires and stoves during severe fire weather conditions, may be implemented.

Wildfires will continue to occur on the Forest because of the dry Mediterranean climate, steep topography, and frequent severe weather conditions. Increased public use of the Forest will also increase fire starts; however, fire intensity should decrease as the vegetative management program is implemented. Fire detection, suppression, and aviation will continue to be an integral part of the fire management program.

Fish and Wildlife

Habitat capability for Management Indicator Species that prefer early to middle successional stages within chaparral community types will be improved, since there will be a shift in this direction as a result of prescribed fire. Near optimum age class mixes within chaparral types will be approached by the fifth decade.

Habitat capability for Management Indicator Species that prefer conifer, oak woodland, riparian and pinyon/ juniper vegetation types will be maintained. This will be accomplished through the treatment of adjacent chaparral vegetation using prescribed fire as the primary management tool. Timber management activities (pruning, planting, etc.), as well as some underburning, will occur. Those activities will aid in maintaining and improving these vegetation types

Habitat capability for riparian-dependent species will be maintained, at a minimum, and possibly enhanced over the long term. Management emphasis will be placed on the protection, maintenance and enhancement of riparian areas. Prescribed burning will greatly reduce sediment loading in streams and rivers, and improve habitat capability for aquatic insects and fish.

Viable populations of all native vertebrate fish and wildlife species will be maintained.

Protection of endangered, threatened, and rare plant and animal species (Federal and State listed), will continue to be coordinated with the California Department of Fish and Game, USD1 Fish and Wildlife Service, and the respective recovery teams. Management practices (protection, enhancement, and maintenance) for Forest Service designated sensitive plant and animal species will be implemented.

Integrated Pest Management

Through the implementation of Integrated Pest Management, and with the cooperation of the CDF on private land, pest-related damage should generally be kept at acceptable levels. Surveillance and detection programs will help deal with outbreaks in a timely manner based on consideration of a full range of control methods. Prevention will be emphasized using silvicultural procedures such as thinning and control of species composition to reduce stressed tree situations. Efforts will be made to systematically detect and remove hazardous trees in developed recreation areas to the extent possible. Evaluations will be conducted as needed to provide alternative solutions to pest-related problems.

Lands and Non—Recreational Special Uses

Landownership Adjustment

Landownership within the Forest will be more practical to administer as some desired land will be acquired and some isolated, detached, or otherwise unsuitable lands will be exchanged. Land acquisition priorities will be based on willing seller and actual dollars available at the time.

Landline Location/Occupancy Trespass

The unknown and suspected trespass cases will be identified with the completion of the landline location program by the year 2020. Management will notify trespassers and correct the problems. There will be less chance of trespass in the future because boundary lines will be surveyed and posted.

Withdrawals

Lands will be utilized more effectively with the completion of a study of the withdrawn lands and also those needing to be withdrawn.

Non-Recreational Special Uses

It is anticipated that requests for non-recreation special use permits will increase, especially for communication facilities and utilities.

Corridors

The Forest will continue authorization of rights-of-ways for oil and natural gas pipelines, electric transmission lines and aqueducts. These rights-of-way will be located within existing corridors.

Electronic Sites

The continued growth of the electronics industry is evident in the increased amount of uses and requests for use of sites on the Forest. Demand will continue to expand throughout the planning period and other sites (not necessarily on mountain tops) may be located with increased technology.

Sanitary Landfills

Although Forest Service management direction does not encourage solid waste disposal sites, the Los Angeles population growth will force close examination of any possible Forest sites. However, no sanitary landfills are expected to be located on the Forest until other reasonable sites and practical resource recovery alternatives on non-National Forest lands have been exhausted.

Rights-of-Way

Increased land development will continue to make right-of-way acquisitions a serious problem. This will necessitate an active road rights-of-way program.

Law Enforcement

The use and demand upon the Forest resources will continue to increase in the future, and will be proportionate with population trends. Law enforcement problems will dramatically accelerate with expected increases in frequency and complexity of violations. The Forest will, therefore, have to evaluate and implement improved methods of law enforcement to meet its responsibilities and needs.

Minerals

Demand for mineral exploration and development of gold, tungsten and energy minerals is expected to increase. Exploration for locatable minerals will be constrained by the Watershed Withdrawal Act of 1928 and wilderness lands, with 73% of the Forest withdrawn. The withdrawn lands will be reviewed during the planning period for existing need and possible restoration to mineral entry. The tungsten operation in the Cattle Canyon area is expected to continue to operate.

The leasable minerals (oil and gas) applications will continue to increase at a slow rate. Saleable Mineral materials permits (sand and gravel) will remain at about the same number, fluctuating according to the construction industry demand.

All mining activities will be conducted in accordance with the General Mining Laws, NEPA, Forestwide Standards and Guidelines, and the Forest Service Mining Regulations of 1974.

Conflicts with other resources will be resolved through an analysis of the value and need for each resource, including minerals. This will be used or considered for the final decision on operation approval.

Range

The major fuelbreak systems of the Saugus, Tujunga, and Valyermo Ranger Districts will be grazed according to vegetation management objectives.

Succession on selected wildfire and/or prescribed burn areas will be delayed by livestock treatment.

Range analysis will help provide detailed resource inventory data.

Recreation

Developed and dispersed recreation opportunities will be approximately equal to the estimated demand increase of 2% per year. Two group campgrounds in the higher elevations will be completed. Family campgrounds and day-use facilities will be provided in connection with the State Water Project. Day-use facilities will be provided near the popular lower elevation water-oriented locations.

Overnight facilities provided at lower elevations will not displace day-use activities. Sanitation, access, and other facilities will be provided near water-oriented areas to meet the heavy use. Unacceptable conflicts along riparian areas will be mitigated in favor of the riparian dependent resources.

Information sites, including entrance stations, will be constructed at the beginning of major transportation corridors into the Forest. These stations will manage numbers and dispense visitor information.

There will be a broad range of dispersed activities. The trail system will be expanded to provide more diversity with increased emphasis on loop trails and access to wilderness areas. Recreational shooting opportunities will be restricted to designated shooting areas. There will be an increase in off-road vehicle trails through a variety of terrain and ecosystems. Three areas totaling 265 acres will be managed for open ORV use. Winter sports capacity will be increased somewhat through expansion of existing sites.

More emphasis will be placed on maintaining existing sites at a high level. The Plan provides the direction and means to meet projected demand, while providing a good quality recreation experience.

Research Natural Areas

The existing Research Natural Area, Fern Canyon, will be retained as a research natural area, and managed to perpetuate its natural integrity for scientific and educational purposes.

A Research Natural Area candidate, Falls Canyon, will be submitted to the Chief of the Forest Service for establishment during this planning period.

Soils

Vegetation management activities will contribute to a decrease in sediment ~ production from the current level of approximately 2.28 million cubic yards annually. This will reduce downstream loss due to flooding and, over time, reduce local government expenditures for removal of sediment.

Special Interest Areas

The three proposed Special Interest Areas, Mt. Baden-Powell, Mt. San Antonio, (both botanical areas), and Devil's Punchbowl (a geologic area), will be managed to maintain their unique qualities. Evaluation and designation of these areas will be completed during this planning period.

Transportation System

Increased emphasis will be placed on upgrading and maintaining roads for recreation, fire suppression, and vegetative management needs. More roads will be surfaced, and some campground road mileage may be added to the transportation system.

Approximately 263 miles of low standard dirt road will be redesignated for off-road vehicle users.

Vegetation (including Riparian)

Vegetative diversity will be enhanced within chaparral community types. Manipulation of chaparral with prescribed fire, or other treatments, will create a mosaic of age-class mixes and distributions, and could reduce the potential for large-scale wildfire. Near optimum age-class mixes will be approached during the fifth decade.

Vegetative diversity within conifer, oak woodland and pinyon/juniper vegetation types will be maintained through silvicultural practices such as underburning, pruning and thinning. Prescribed burning of adjacent chaparral vegetation will provide protection of these vegetative types.

Riparian woodland, oak woodland, and conifer forest vegetation types will be protected and managed for their value to wildlife and other dependent resources. An inventory of riparian acres and conditions will be completed during the first planning period.

Visual

Vegetation management techniques, such as prescribed burning, should continue to improve the visual resource. An increased interest in this resource will also be evident. An emphasis on sensitivity of the visual resource needs to be maintained because of the growing influx of people. There will be no tradedowns in visual quality. Visual quality will remain the same or slightly improved.

Water

The water yield may increase by 0.5 % annually over the current 226,000 acre feet during the first 10 year period through the proposed vegetative management program.

Water quality will remain near or slightly higher than current levels over the next 20 years. Water quality will increase as vegetative management practices reduce the wildfire risk and accelerated loss of sediment resulting from these fires. However, more people on the Forest could increase water pollution in lakes, reservoirs and streams. Increased management will keep this to a minimum.

Wilderness

The California Wilderness Bill designated two wilderness areas on the Angeles, Sheep Mountain, and Cucamonga Addition. The San Gabriel Wildernesses was created in 1964. These wilderness areas encompass 81,718 acres, 15% of the total Forest acreage.

Management of wilderness will be intensified to meet increasing use. A spectrum of wilderness experiences will be provided ranging from areas with high use levels and limited opportunities for solitude, to those with very low use levels and excellent opportunities for solitude. Use will be better distributed throughout the San Gabriel Wilderness as the trail system is improved. Opportunities for equestrian wilderness trails will be investigated.

Vegetative management activities, such as prescribed fire, may be utilized when there is a demonstrated need to ensure protection of the long-term wilderness values, public enjoyment, and on- or off-site resource objectives and goals.

Wood Products

Wood production is not expected to increase in the future because of the steep slopes and relatively small amount of available timber. The average annual output of 2,300 cords (1.2 MMBF) of wood per year is expected to remain stable although the demand for this wood, as fuelwood, will increase.

ACREAGE ALLOCATION BY MANAGEMENT AREA

The following table displays the acres of land that have been allocated for emphasis of the resources indicated. These management areas are not contiguous. Each area has been assigned a prescription, as indicated below. These areas will be managed according to individual prescription direction and appropriate Forestwide Standards and Guidelines.

Table 4-1

Forestwide Summary of Acreage Allocation by Management Area

Prescription Number	Emphasis	Vegetative Type	Acres Allocated
1.	Wildlife	Chaparral	86,015
2.	Age-class diversity	Chaparral	254,796
3.	Recreation	Chaparral	21,340
4.	Wildlife	Oak/Conifer	19,494
5.	Recreation	Oak/Conifer	42,104
6.	All activities	Pinyon/Juniper	7,187
7.	Rural & Limited Roaded Natural ROS Classes	All vegetative types in corridors identified.	102,825
8.	Utility Corridors	All	16,440
9.	Wilderness	All	81,718
10.	Special Interest Areas	All	1,880
11.	Research Natural areas	All	2,490
	San Dimas Experimental Forest		15,585

San Dimas total acres are 17,045. The 1,460-acre Fern Canyon RNA is displayed as part of the RNA acres.

Outputs, Costs, and Timing

The following pages display the projected outputs that will result from implementing the Forest Plan. These outputs have been distributed over time so they can be used for setting annual work plans and objectives.

These scheduled outputs are only estimates. The success in attaining the outputs on the schedules shown is dependent upon the annual budgeting process, numbers of people in the Forest workforce, and other variables such as weather conditions and factors beyond the control of the management team.

In accordance with 36 CFR 219.12(k), the monitoring process will be the basis for identification of the need to change the Forest Plan. Amendments and revisions will be in accordance with 36 CFR 219.10(f) and (g), respectively.

Table 4—2
Average Annual Outputs by Decade

PNV = 1426.4

(M=1,000)

RESOURCE ELEMENTS	BASE YEAR 1982	1980 RPA GOALS		DECADE 1	DECADE 2
		1990	2030		
FACILITIES¹					
Dams & Reservoirs					
Forest Service (#)	180			180	180
Other Federal (#)	0			0	0
State/Local (#)	229			229	229
Private (#)	0			0	0
FS Administrative Sites					
Owned (#)	40			44	45
Leased (#)	6			2	1
FIRE					
Fuel Treatment (M Ac.)	2.0	0.3	0.3	19.5	15.6
Expected Acres (M) Burned by Wildfire					
Intensity Class 1	0.1			Less than	100 acres
Intensity Class 2	0.1			0.7	0.7
Intensity Class 3	1.2			0.8	0.7
Intensity Class 4	2.2			1.4	1.2
Intensity Class 5	4.1			2.8	2.5
Intensity Class 6	10.8			7.1	6.1
TOTAL (M Acres)	18.5			12.8	11.2
FFF Expenditures (MM\$)	7.1			4.9	4.3
Off-Forest Losses (MM\$) ²	1.4			0.9	0.8

¹ Total Forest facilities, not average annual outputs.

² Soil and watershed losses on the National Forest are not included in these losses.

Table 4—2 cont.

RESOURCE ELEMENTS	BASE YEAR 1982	1980 RPA GOALS		DECADE 1	DECADE 2
		1990	2030		
FISH AND WILDLIFE					
Wildlife (Other than T&E)					
Deer (M Deer)	3.2	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.5
Per. Falcon (#Prs)	0			1	1
Resident Fish (M Lbs.)	7.0	8.4	8.4	7.6	7.5
Wildlife & Fish User Days (Total MWFUDS)					
Direct, Induced & Background	131.0			157.9	176.8
Direct Habitat Imp					
Deer (MWFUDS) All Other				0.10	0.18
Wildlife except T&E (MWFUDS)				0.16	0.30
Resident Fish (MWFUDS)				0.02	0.04
Induced Habitat Imp					
Deer (MWFUDS) All Other				0.84	1.5
Wildlife except T&E (MWFUDS)				1.5	2.7
Resident Fish (WFUDS)				0.11	0.20
Acres of Direct Habitat Imp					
Deer (M Acres) All Other	0.2			1.98	1.57
Wildlife Species (M Acres)					
Resident Fish (M Ac.)	0.2			1.95	1.56
	0			0.001	0.001
HUMAN RESOURCES					
Programs (Enrollees)	240	19	19	19	19

Table 4—2 cont.

Resource Elements	Base Year 1982	1980 RPA Goals		Decade 1	Decade 2
		1990	2030		
Lands					
• Acquisition (acres)	200			200	200
• Corridors (acres)	16440			16440	16440
Minerals					
• Operating Plans	66	48	48	66	70
Range					
• Grazing (M AUMs)	5.0	4.1	4.3	14.8	14.5
Recreation¹					
• Developed Public (M RVD) (³ incl. Private)	088	2 610 ³	1242.9	1242.9	1415.7
• Developed Private (M RVD) (⁴ incl. Wildlife)	1481		1692.2	1692.2	1927.1
• Dispersed (M RVD)	2950	2570 ⁴	3064.0	3064.0	3486.6
• Wilderness (M RVD)	53.5		106.1	106.1	120.8
• Acres Open to ORV	215000			265	265
• Acres Closed to ORV	436874			276771	276771
• Acres Open to Trial Use Only (Restricted)	0	0		374838	374838
• Roads & Trails in Above Acreage (Miles)	40	0	0	32.4	32.4
• Acres Open to Rec. Shooting	58216			5128	5128
• Acres of Ski Areas	1005	1005	1005	2465	2465
• Visual Quality Index	44.13			42.68	41.88
Timber					
• Reforestation (Acres)	310	352	409	350	350
• Timber Stand Improvement (Acres)	734	621	735	700	750
Transportation					
• Trail Construction/ Reconstruction (Mi)	511	28	27	11.2	0
• Road Construction/ Reconstruction (Mi)	0	0	0	4.0	2.5
• Road Maintenance ¹ (Mi.)	987			987	989
Water					
• Yield (Meeting Quality Objectives) (M Ac/Ft) ²	214.7	781	790	225.8	222.1
• Increased Yield (Meeting Quality Objectives) (M Ac/Ft)		556.3	575.3	11.1	7.4
• Sediment (M Cu. Yd)	2685			2733.7	2653.3
• Watershed Improvement (Acres)	125	130	150	211.3	211.3
Wood Products					
• Fuelwood (M Cords)	2.4	5.6	9.0	2.3	2.3
• Fuelwood (MMBF)	1.2	2.8	4.5	1.1	1.1
TOTAL BUDGET (MM\$)	21.5	25.7	28.2	23.7	22.2

¹ Total mileage maintained annually.

² Total runoff produced; some water does not meet water quality objectives due to high sediment load.

Forestwide Standards and Guidelines

PHYSICAL

Air Resources

Follow the State of California Agricultural Burning Guidelines and requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended.

Coordinate with the South Coast Air Quality Management District to develop guidelines which will facilitate implementation of management programs on the Angeles National Forest.

Geology, Mineral, and Energy Resources

Give full recognition to the tendency for mass land movement, and severe watershed damage potential when implementing land management activities. All projects must assess potential impacts on geologic stability.

No facility development will be allowed in extremely unstable geologic areas. Development activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes activation of landslides.

See Riparian Standards and Guidelines for additional direction.

Determine the location and type of access for mineral exploration and development, subject to mitigation of impacts to surface resources:

- Exceptions are wilderness, special area allocation, and other appropriated lands. Restrict access to the extent that the integrity of the area involved must be maintained. Access and occupancy in wilderness, special interest areas, and other appropriated lands, are subject to valid existing rights.

Access road approval on the claim areas will be covered in the operation plan. All other road access to the claims may require a permit.

Process and approve operating plans according to requirements of 36 CFR 228, giving priority to energy and strategic minerals, while maintaining protection of surface resources.

Make sources of rock, sand and gravel available to meet local construction needs to the extent possible and consistent with other land values.

The Forest will annually examine and report on all mineral claims being occupied or developed in any manner. Claims being used for purposes other than mineral development should be examined and contested, as appropriate.

Protect surface resources in operations in wilderness to maintain wilderness character for future use and enjoyment.

Analyze non-competitive oil and gas applications within 90 days, using the Land Management Plan and EIS for guidance. These documents, along with the stipulations for oil and gas leasing, will be the basis for, but not limited to, the criteria for recommending leasing or nonleasing of land for noncompetitive oil and gas applications. The Forest Plan EIS will serve as the source

document to satisfy pre-lease NEPA requirements. Site-specific environmental analyses will be made on all applications for drill (SPDs), or Plan of Operations to determine impacts. Additional stipulations may be required to protect resources.

Grant authorization for mining on lands covered by other mining leases or mineral permits only when removal of the minerals will not unduly interfere with the other leases.

Energy

The Forest will emphasize efficient use of energy-generating and energy-consuming equipment. Energy conservation procedures will be considered when energy consumption is an aspect of project development. This includes, but is not limited to, wind power generation devices, solar energy equipment, and car pooling.

All existing and future special use permittees will be encouraged to implement all forms of energy conservation measures appropriate to the location of their permit.

In heavily used public recreation areas, encourage the use of mass transportation to relieve congestion, parking limitations, and to reduce gasoline consumption.

Wind Energy sites will be managed as follows:

Potential wind farm sites must be evaluated for feasibility by the proponent prior to application for site development. This data will be made available to the Forest Service.

Commercial wind farm sites will be permitted by competitive bid in accord with the sequence established by the Forest Service. Successful bidders will be required to submit a development plan for Forest Service approval. A schedule for completion will be required in the development plan. Minimum bids will be set.

- An environmental analysis will be completed on any proposed wind energy development plan prior to final approval.

Wind farms will not be allowed in:

- Designated and recommended wilderness areas.
- SIAs and RNA's.
- Class I and II Cultural Resource Areas.
- San Dimas Experimental Forest.
- Critical or Essential Condor Habitat as shown in the Condor Recovery Plan.
- Sites of existing Forest Service facilities, such as, but not limited to, campgrounds, Ranger Stations, and shooting areas.

Paleontological Resources

Soils

When implementing ground disturbing activities that may cause surface erosion, compaction, mass wasting, or reduce the productivity of the land, the Best Management Practices given in Water Quality Management for National Forest System Lands in California will be implemented.

All areas of degraded watershed condition identified in the Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory will be treated in a cost-effective manner.

The highest priority improvement treatments will be designed for compatibility with management objectives of other resources and targeted for completion in two decades.

Field verification of the third order Soil Resource Inventory will be done for project level planning purposes, as a see by see basis.

Water and Aquatic Resources

Water Quality and Quantity

Water yielded from National Forest lands must meet the Federal and State standards, and local water quality objectives under normal conditions. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented to meet water quality objectives and maintain and improve the quality of surface water on the Forest. (See pages 4-23 through 4-27.)

The Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, as updated, will be used to guide reporting and action requirements for accidental spills of toxic hazardous materials on the Forest.

Watersheds providing a source of water to municipalities and communities will be identified and considered as domestic supply watersheds. Limit increases in sediment to no greater than 10% above current conditions in domestic supply watersheds and to no greater than 20% above current conditions in other watersheds.

No water diversion, withdrawals, or other unnatural routing or dispersing of surface waters shall remove quantities of water beyond that needed for maintaining beneficial instream uses by aquatic organisms. Water quality will not be reduced below that required by such aquatic organisms.

Cumulative Watershed Effects

The term 'watershed' is defined in "Probable Peak Discharge and Erosion Rates from So. California Watershed", Rowe, et. al., 1949, or any sub-watershed considered important on a case-by-case basis. Reasons for subdividing a watershed might be occurrence of:

- A significant riparian area/zone
- A debris basin or reservoir
- A domestic watershed (public water supply)
- Significant downstream values (housing, agriculture, etc.)
- A logical management area.

Management activities will not reduce water quality below the legal water quality standards and objectives. Prescribed burning will not cause more than 40% of the chaparral in a watershed to be less than 5 years old at any one time. No additional land disturbance or vegetation manipulation can take place until the next 5 year period. No more than 20% of the chaparral in a watershed will be manipulated during any one year. Watershed determination will include only that area above the Forest boundary. Inclusions of private land within the Forest boundary enter into the total watershed area. Prescribed burning of these lands by others would also enter into the rule and may preempt out-burning in the same year/period. Wildfire occurrence would affect the schedule in the same way. The best available technology will be implemented to restore damaged watersheds. Project environmental assessments will evaluate the cumulative effects on the associated watersheds.

Water Rights

The Forest will provide water to users in the name of the United States of America. Management of the water resource will consider prior appropriations and downstream water needs. Water will be developed and used in accordance with Federal and State laws.

The Forest may reserve water rights for specific uses in accordance with existing law. All Forest use of water not identified in the Reservation Doctrine, shall be made available in accordance with appropriate State law. When Forest control of water cannot be obtained by the application of law, consider purchase of water rights. The Forest will maintain an updated inventory record and maps of all water uses on the Forest.

Careful attention will be given to determining present and future water requirements for management of Forest land when making environmental assessments and preparing reports on water resource development projects. Notification will be made to the State as to the water uses on the Forest.

A statement of protest will be made to the State agency responsible for recording water rights where the granting of a water right to private parties may now, or in the future, conflict with Forest water uses or needs. The Forest will secure water rights for existing and future Forest Service consumptive and nonconsumptive needs and quantify nonconsumptive uses and needs during evaluation of projects that may reduce quantities of water.

Riparian Areas (See page 3-24 for definition and discussion)

General Direction for all Activities

The Riparian Standards and Guidelines apply to the Aquatic, Wetland, and Upland riparian zones whether mapped or not.

Special attention shall be given to land and vegetation for approximately 100 feet from the edges of all perennial streams, lakes, and other bodies of water. This area shall correspond to at least the recognizable area dominated by the riparian vegetation.

A secondary zone of potential riparian vegetation has been identified in association with intermittent streams. This secondary zone will be considered “riparian” until such time as field investigation has shown that on-site conditions do not warrant management under these Riparian Standards and Guidelines.

Riparian Standards and Guidelines apply only to areas above the high water mark of lakes and reservoirs.

Management activities can occur in riparian areas. However, these activities will be compatible with the needs of the riparian dependent resources. Resource conflicts must be mitigated in favor of the dependent resources.

Avoid new construction in riparian zones unless there is no practical alternative, and there is a demonstrated need to implement the action. Construction and reconstruction of existing facilities can occur in a riparian zone only when any unacceptable conflicts or impacts will be mitigated, and riparian-dependent resources can be protected.

Practices and all necessary management activities will be applied to these areas that will prevent detrimental changes to water quality, aquatic flora and fauna, and/or hydrophytic vegetation

within these areas, and adverse riparian area changes in water temperature, chemistry, sedimentation, and channel blockages, and riparian-dependent resources.

Any activities shall not result in more than 30% reduction in the potential ground cover vegetation at any given time. The 30% reduction may be adjusted downward if significant decline occurs in indicator wildlife populations.

Mitigating measures may include one or more of the following with the objective of no net loss of acreage:

1. Restricted entry
2. Revegetation
3. Replacement of lost habitat
4. Maintenance of wildlife corridors
5. Public information and contact
6. Visitor Capacity Management
7. Relocation of incompatible facilities

Coordination with Federal, State, and local agencies will be done on a continuing basis to ensure that all activities are carried out in an environmental, social, and economically acceptable manner.

Fire Suppression

Minimize use of fire retardants in live stream courses.

Minimize use of earth-moving equipment in riparian wetlands and aquatic zones. Resource advisors will be used on fire suppression teams when riparian values are at risk.

Fish and Wildlife

Manage riparian areas to meet habitat requirements of dependent wildlife and fish species according to Habitat Capability Models for management indicator species.

Retain a minimum of five snags per acre unless determined to be excess or a safety hazard.

Retain naturally occurring debris in stream channels, unless it is a threat to life and property, because certain amounts of stream debris are beneficial to help provide needed pool/riffle ratios. (Guidelines to determine the need for stream channel clearance and minimize impacts on the stream environment are found in the Habitat Capability Models.)

Protect and manage fishery resources in cooperation with California Department of Fish and Game. Habitat maintenance should be the primary objective wherever possible.

Mitigate conflicts when monitoring indicates unacceptable site deterioration or a downward trend in management indicator species populations.

Floodplain Management

A floodplain analysis will be completed by 1990, to identify the 100-year floodplains.

Avoid, to the extent possible, the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy, and modification of floodplains. Avoid development on floodplains wherever there is a practical alternative.

Avoid or mitigate adverse environmental impacts of any development in a floodplain.

Avoid or reduce the risk to property and human life from flooding.

Mining

A plan of operation will be required for all mining activities in riparian zones that could result in significant resource disturbance.

For mining operations within riparian zones, the plan of operation will specifically require minimizing damage to the riparian zone and mitigating damage that does occur by requiring all reasonable actions and timing with the objective of no net loss of riparian acreage.

Range Management

Range analyses will identify and map riparian areas as part of the allotment mapping process.

Forage produced in riparian areas by incidental and occasional use will not be included in grazing capacity calculations when determining forage availability for livestock use.

Utilization cages will be employed in riparian zones within grazing allotments in order to monitor incidental use by livestock. If livestock use in any one year exceeds 30% of that year's herbaceous production, the annual management plan or the Allotment Management Plan itself will be re-evaluated.

Water developments for livestock will be fenced to protect the water source and provide wildlife habitat. Water for livestock will be piped away from the fenced source and out of riparian zones.

Recreation

Management plans will be developed for heavily used riparian areas. These plans will establish human capacity and development capability based upon critical environmental factors specific to the area.

Current high use areas are:

1. San Gabriel Canyon
2. Big Tujunga Canyon
3. Littlerock Drainage
4. Bouquet Canyon
5. Piru Creek
6. San Francisquito Canyon
7. Big Rock Canyon
8. Big Santa Anita Canyon

When no alternative exists for locating outside the 100-year floodplain, appropriate mitigation and flood protection measures will be followed.

ORV staging areas and new ORV trails will be located outside riparian areas. Trail crossings will be kept to a minimum. Existing ORV trails within riparian areas will be relocated outside these sensitive areas, where practical.

Seasonal closures may be required to minimize "sensitive" wildlife disturbance/loss during critical breeding seasons where relocation is not possible. Resource damages will be mitigated and restoration implemented as needed.

Encourage appropriate agencies to make existing reservoirs available for public recreation including Morris, San Gabriel, Cogswell, Bouquet, Big Tujunga, and Pacoima to help

redistribute visitors now impacting sensitive riparian areas and meet public needs for water based recreation.

Road Construction

Culverts or other in-channel structures in existing viable fishery streams will be designed and installed according to specifications developed by resources and engineering staffs using guidelines in “Fish Migration and Fish Passage, A Practical Guide to Solving Fish Passage Problems”, USDA, R-5, Forest Service, 1980, as revised. The standards relating to water velocities, depths, and barriers shall be incorporated into such designs.

Streamside Protection

Maintain a permanent vegetative cover to protect streambanks and aquatic resources, where practical.

In areas where streambanks or channels exhibit excessive erosion, or are otherwise damaged by overuse or other unnatural factors, actions will be taken to reinforce or otherwise stabilize such areas to return the bank to a near natural and stable state.

Emphasize retention of dead and down woody material for instream stabilization and fish and wildlife habitat maintenance and enhancement.

Design road and motorized trail crossings and alignments within riparian zones so that the minimum possible area is affected.

BIOLOGICAL

Biodiversity

See prescriptions for site-specific standards, guidelines and management direction by vegetative type.

Diversity of plant and animal communities will be achieved by providing a threshold level of vegetation types and seral stages found within the Forest.

At a minimum, 10% of each timber, hardwood, and chaparral vegetation type in early, middle and late successional stages will be maintained.

If a given vegetation type/seral stage combination is below the long-term minimum level (as defined above), manage to achieve the required amount as soon as possible, but within the planning horizon.

Diversity will be measured Forestwide. Vegetation types and seral stages (total acres) will be distributed in proportion to their current acres on the Forest.

To address species viability criteria as specified in Wildlife Habitat Relationship models, the size and distribution of vegetation associations and seral stages will be determined by specialists in wildlife, fire, range, and silviculture.

Research Natural Areas and Special Interest Areas

Defer establishment of geologic, aquatic, and chaparral research natural areas on the Forest, pending identification of National needs. Inventory and evaluate areas that may meet RNA criteria.

Proposed, Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species

Threatened and Endangered Animal Species

The Forest Wildlife Biologist and appropriate District Rangers will coordinate with Recovery Teams to maintain current information in recovery plans for the California Condor, Peregrine Falcon, and the Unarmored Threespine Stickleback. Recovery plans will serve as the basis for management of these species.

The Forest will develop and implement interim habitat management plans in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California

Department of Fish and Game where approved recovery plans do not exist for

Federally listed threatened and endangered species inhabiting the Forest.

Least Bell's vireo is the only Federally listed endangered species appearing on the Forest that does not have a recovery plan at this time.

Unarmored Threespine Stickleback habitat in Soledad and San Francisquito Creeks will be managed as essential habitat.

Habitat management for the California Condor will be applied to roosting, feeding and nesting areas identified in the Recovery Plan, and not just to the land delineated as critical or essential habitat.

The Forest will establish one breeding pair of Peregrine Falcons in coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Fish and Game.

All active Peregrine Falcon nest sites will have a minimum buffer zone of a 1/2 mile radius pending completion of an interim management plan.

Sensitive Animal Species

The Forest will determine the number of existing Spotted Owl pairs, and manage their habitat to maintain at least that population. Projects will be planned for minimum impact on Spotted Owl habitat.

Sensitive animal species, although not subject to the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, will receive special management to maintain viability and to prevent their placement on Federal or State lists.

Sensitive Plant Species

Sensitive plant species, although not subject to the provisions of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (1978), will receive special management to prevent their placement on Federal lists, as discussed in FSM 2670.3.

The Forest will develop species management guides for sensitive plants. These guides will function as "recovery plans", defining activity constraints in essential habitat and the need for monitoring, land allocation, and habitat manipulation.

The Forest will actively pursue status determination and long-term protection of sensitive plants.

Range

The permitting of grazing by domestic livestock will be primarily in response to needs for fuel reduction and vegetation management.

Sheep will be the preferred kind of livestock for fuel reduction and vegetation management purposes since they can be herded over a given route and do not require fencing, which could interfere with recreation use.

Livestock contribution to the fuel reduction and vegetation management program will be concentrated on the major fuelbreaks of the Tujunga, Saugus, and Valyermo Ranger Districts.

Applications for domestic livestock grazing, outside the need for fuel reduction and/or vegetation management, will be considered if such use is compatible with other management objectives.

All potential grazing areas will have range analysis completed. This analysis will include interdisciplinary input and will determine which land is suitable and available for livestock use and which is not.

The suitable and available land identified through the range analysis process will be divided into range allotments. Allotment boundaries will be established based on the potential for logical operation.

Range allotments will have individual, site-specific Allotment Management Plans.

Prior to the development of Allotment Management Plans, livestock use permits will be issued where the primary purpose for grazing is for other than livestock production (i.e. vegetation management, fuels reduction).

Allotment Management Plans will be formulated with input from State and Federal wildlife population and habitat managers, and specialists in soils, watershed, recreation, and fire. Specific attention will be paid to the needs of threatened and/or endangered plants and animals.

Forage produced in riparian areas will not be included in grazing capacity calculations when determining forage availability for livestock use.

The primary grazing season will be approximately January through June, annually. Variations in starting and ending dates will frequently occur due to variations in growing season conditions.

Livestock will not be grazed in the immediate vicinity of wildlife water developments.

Water developments for livestock will be fenced to protect the water source and provide wildlife habitat. Water for livestock will be piped away from the fenced source and out of riparian zones.

No domestic sheep will be permitted within five air miles of bighorn sheep habitat.

Dead livestock may be left in the open for raptor and carrion feeders, but not easily visible from vehicle access roads, target shooting areas, or powerlines.

Silviculture

Timber management on the Angeles National Forest will strive to maintain a healthy, vigorous forest which will support the following goals:

- Prevent and provide protection from unacceptable pest-caused damage.
- Provide favorable conditions for maintenance of water yield and water quality.

- Reduce the potential for loss of forested areas to uncontrolled fire.
- Maintain or enhance wildlife and fisheries habitat, and provide necessary protection for areas designated as critical habitat for threatened and endangered species.
- Use the residue from Forest stand treatments for fuelwood, posts, poles, sawlogs, or other useful forest products.

Overall, timber stands will be managed to provide a recreation forest. The elements of forest structure which are important in meeting this Forest's goals are:

- an all aged or irregular sized structure
- old growth trees retained as long as possible
- controlled stocking levels
- mixed species composition
- healthy, vigorous trees
- near natural appearance

Stand-specific prescriptions will be prepared and/or approved by a certified Silviculturist.

Tree planting projects will be undertaken only when long-term multiple resource benefits are identified.

Control of competing vegetation will be accomplished prior to establishment of plantations.

Plantations, once established, will be protected and maintained in a vigorous, healthy condition. Competition from brush, grass, and other trees will be controlled as needed.

Regeneration should be provided in recreation areas for aesthetics, screening, and to supply replacement trees. The need for additional regeneration should be evaluated at least every five years by District personnel.

Consider practices that increase the fire resistance of the stand when applying silvicultural treatments.

Maintain hardwoods as a component of conifer stands wherever they naturally occur.

Management practices in existing or historical bigcone Douglas-fir stands will include protection and regeneration of the species.

Wood should be sold for both individual and commercial use as it becomes available, giving high priority to individual use.

Include timber and vegetation management displays and treatment demonstration areas, at information stations and along interpretive trails, where appropriate.

Wildlife and Fish

Data Acquisition

Project level data acquisition for fish and wildlife will be obtained either through field observations and/or habitat capability as estimated from maps, aerial photographs, etc., prior to project implementation. Generally, this inventory will be done in conjunction with the Environmental Analysis process.

Forestwide data acquisition for Management Indicator Species (MIS) will occur per Monitoring Plan requirements.

Evaluation

Each fiscal year, 10% of all ground disturbing activities will be selected at random to evaluate the effectiveness of standards and guidelines, prescriptions and mitigation measures on fish and wildlife habitat and/or populations.

Population trends of MIS and relationships to habitat changes will be evaluated annually and on a Forestwide basis per Monitoring Plan requirements.

Protection and Enhancement

Management plans will be developed for MIS in cooperation with the Department of Fish and Game. These plans will provide the necessary guidance to ensure the continued viability of MIS.

Fish and Wildlife Management will coordinate with Fire, Recreation and Range Management to minimize resource conflicts and maximize enhancement opportunities for fish and wildlife resources.

The Forest will identify research needs and opportunities for MIS in cooperation with the Department of Fish and Game.

Where the potential exists, maintain standing dead snags at an average of 1.5 snags per acre within oak woodland and conifer vegetation types with the following specifications:

- 1.2 snags per acre between 15-24 inches dbh and greater than 20 feet high;
- 0.3 snags per acre greater than 24 inches dbh and greater than 20 feet high.

Where the potential exists, maintain standing dead snags at an average of 5 per acre within the riparian vegetation type with the following specifications:

- 3 snags per acre between 15-24 inches dbh and greater than 20 feet high;
- 2 snags per acre greater than 24 inches dbh and greater than 20 feet high.

Emphasize retention of dead and down woody material for wildlife in forested areas. Coordinate with Integrated Pest Management needs when creating slash piles and down logs for wildlife habitat.

All newly developed or reconstructed fire cistern or range water developments on the Forest will be designed to provide 10-20% of storage capacity for wildlife utilization.

Wildlife management practices, such as transplanting, reintroduction and/or introduction of selected species will be accomplished by the California Department of Fish and Game with Forest Service cooperation.

When proposed by the Department of Fish and Game, transplants of native wildlife species into, and removal from, wilderness areas will require Forest Service approval, when the transplant is consistent with maintaining wilderness characteristics.

Wildlife Emphasis

Small stands of oak or conifer, less than 40 acres in size, are very valuable as wildlife habitat. When these small patches occur in chaparral management areas, they will be managed using the appropriate oak or conifer wildlife emphasis prescription.

DISTURBANCE PROCESSES

Fire

Wildfire Prevention

Conduct a yearlong wildfire prevention effort aimed at specific wildfire causes, as follows:

May 1 - November 30: Conduct prevention activities to reduce wildfires caused by Forest visitors. This includes hazard reduction inspections of Forest-owned and special-use facilities on the Forest, including private land within the protection area, plus contacts with recreationists, equipment inspectors, contractors, and maintenance crews. These activities would also include prevention for arsonist and smoker-caused fires.

December 1 - April 30: Conduct prevention activities designed to reduce specific human-caused fires; for example, work with grades K-3 in local schools to reduce those fires caused by children with matches.

Hazard reduction will be concentrated in high risk areas with a historically high incidence of wildfires.

Minimize the number of person caused wildfires by implementing the following actions based on changing fire danger during the year:

Campfire permits will continue to be required.

Stage I fire restrictions will be used to limit campfires and barbecues to developed recreation sites. Only portable stoves with gas, jelly petroleum, or pressurized liquid can be used outside of a developed recreation site when authorized by a permit.

Stage II fire restrictions will be used to limit all fires - campfires, stove fires and barbecues to within developed recreation sites. It will limit all use of vehicles having internal combustion engines to roads, ORV routes, and/or identified exempted areas.

Emergency closure restrictions will be used to limit visitor entry into the Forest when extreme hazardous conditions exist. Fire prevention task forces may be used to control Forest entry.

There will be no automatic annual closures. Any fire closure will be determined by the existing fire hazard conditions.

Continue to emphasize efforts to educate and inform the public about the sensitivity and hazards of living in the wildland/urban interface environment.

All new structures on National Forest land will be built with fire-resistant building materials and fire-safe construction practices.

Encourage adoption of the Fire-Resistant Environment concept on private lands adjacent to the Forest. This includes use of fire-resistant building materials, fire-safe construction practices, fire-resistant buffer zones ~~at least 300 feet wide~~ around residential areas in high hazard areas, and fire-resistant landscaping within residential areas. Forest management activities to enhance fire-resistant zones will be coordinated with private efforts. Special use permits may be considered for uses which would establish fire-resistant buffer zones on the Forest.

Detection

Maintain a means by which the public can easily report wildfires to the Forest, Los Angeles County, and municipal Fire Dispatchers.

Continue a detection system for rapid discovery of wildfires including patrols, observation points, and infrared flights. Wildfires should be reported within a timeframe that permits initial attack units to control the fire at a size to meet suppression objectives.

Fuel Management

Reduce fuel hazards by means of fuelbreaks ~~and age-class management of chaparral~~. Activities will be scheduled through analysis of values, risks, and incidence of wildfire.

Modify fuel conditions to reduce fire behavior to a level commensurate with resource management objectives, and to protect values on and adjacent to the Forest. Fire Management Zone burned area objectives will be met during burning conditions that occur 95% of the fire season.

Develop prescribed fire guidelines for each project to meet soil, watershed and wildlife objectives. Soil moisture, slope, age of vegetation, fuel loading, aspect, fire intensity and duration, and other site-specific factors will be considered.

Sign prescribed fires conspicuously in the vicinity of the burns. The media will be informed of the timing of these burns. Objectives and results of prescribed fire will also be given to the media as opportunities arise.

Coordinate fuel management activities on the Forest with those on adjacent private land and other agencies responsible for land management or protection.

Incorporate fuel management considerations and needs into other resource program projects.

Presuppression and Suppression

Provide necessary suppression capabilities to control all wildfires at a reasonable cost to meet management objectives and to protect on-and off-Forest values. The protection policy of taking action on all wildfires and of meeting acre control objectives will be possible under most conditions after vegetative management is accomplished.

Maintain necessary initial attack, secondary reinforcements, and key yearlong fire management work force to accomplish fuel management, prevention, and suppression activities.

Use a combination of methods, including prescribed fire, to treat fuel hazards along roadsides with a history of wildfires. Treat roadsides in highly flammable areas before July each year.

Plan and conduct specialized training necessary to permit Forest Service personnel to implement the Regional direction for structural fire protection.

Insects and Disease

An integrated pest management approach will be used that considers a full range of alternatives, including cultural, biological and chemical methods, to be analyzed on a site-specific, project level basis. The treatment method(s) will be selected through the environmental analysis process which will consider the environmental effects, treatment effectiveness, and costs of each alternative. Monitoring and enforcement plans to implement specific measures will be determined during this site and project-specific process.

Follow currently accepted methods to reduce the potential for Fomes annosus root rot infections in conifer stands.

Do not plant conifers in known or suspected Fomes annosus infection centers. Black Oak, as well as most hardwoods, can be successfully grown in openings created by the disease.

Examine potential planting sites for the presence of pocket gophers. Take necessary control measures prior to planting, if they are present in significant numbers.

Conduct biological evaluations as needed to diagnose pest-related problems and provide management alternatives.

Undesirable Species

Non-native plant and animal species will only be introduced when they are adaptable to the area and provide a desirable quality not available with indigenous species.

Compatibility or conflicts between non-native plants, animals, and resource values will be identified in project level analysis.

SOCIAL

Developed Recreation

Developed Recreation Sites and Dispersed Areas on the Forest will be managed at Standard or Low Standard Management Levels.

Developed Sites - Campgrounds and Picnic Grounds

Inspection - Standard and Low Standard: Pre-opening and hazard inspection completed. Will work to eliminate hazards prior to opening or after identification. All sites must be inspected.

Grounds - Standard: Grounds maintained to provide attractive setting for enjoyment. Area clear of trash, bottles, cans, glass, and other litter.

Grounds - Low Standard: Grounds maintained for user enjoyment.

Litter - Standard: Containers (cans or bins) in sufficient number to handle average weekend volumes, emptied at least every seven days. Containers clean on outside and leak-proof.

Litter - Low Standard: Pack-in/Pack-out Program primarily used for trash removal. Containers may be used, and will be emptied when full, or every 14 days.

Water Systems - Standard: Hand pumps, hydrants and fountains free of residue, secure, and drip free. All fixtures meet applicable standards. Systems comply with all health and water quality standards. Catch basins free of debris. Water quality monitoring meets frequency standards.

Water Systems - Low Standard: If provided, systems comply with health and water quality standard. Monitoring frequency met.

Tables - Standard: Tops and seats free of dirt, grease, and large carvings. Under table cleaned to remove spider webs and dirt accumulation. Free of splintered areas.

Tables - Low Standard: Tops and seats cleaned at least once a month, as needed.

Fireplaces Standard: Fireplaces included all facilities installed for cooking or warming purposes. All components in satisfactory condition and functional. Fireside area cleaned as needed. Ashes removed periodically.

Fireplaces - Low Standard: Fireplaces cleaned as time allows. Generally free of large food particles and fire-safe.

Toilets - Standard: Toilet bowls, risers, seat cover, urinals and lavatories free of surface deposits. Building interiors free of dirt, graffiti, insects (dead or alive) and spider webs, etc., for a pleasing appearance.

Toilets - Low Standard: Toilet generally clean inside and out. May become dirty between cleanings. Vaults pumped when full.

Public Contact - Standard: Provide a level of presence commensurate with assuring public enjoyment and resource protection. Provide coverage during anticipated high crime and violation periods. Provide on site attendants or hosts at sites occupying a signed unit at the site.

Public Contact - Low Standard: Key on basic public enjoyment and resource protection. Attendant hosts where possible.

Bulletin Boards - Standard: Balanced, attractive layout. Contains up-to-date information on opportunities and services available. Required signing mandatory. Paper signs and posters are fresh and up-to-date.

Visitor Centers and Unstaffed Information Sites - Standard: Staffed sites are operated during use season. Evening and special programs may be offered. Unmanned sites have displays and exhibits, interiors and exteriors kept in clean and neat condition.

Visitor Centers and Unstaffed Information Sites - Low Standard: Staffed sites are operated for less than full day or week-long tours. Unsupervised volunteers may be used. Evening and special programs are by volunteers only. Unstaffed sites provide limited information only.

Signs: Directional, Warning and Regulatory - Standard: All signs straight, bright, and secure. Free of holes, blemishes, random nails, etc. Posts straight, clean in appearance. Replace if damaged.

Signs: Directional, Warning and Regulatory - Low Standard: Minimum signing to Forest Service standards. Replaced when missing.

Recreation Residences

No new recreation residence tracts or lots will be approved.

Improvements associated with recreation residences (i.e., gates, fences, out buildings) will be removed, if they obstruct public access to developed or dispersed recreation areas.

Recreation residents within a 100-year floodplain will be notified that their residence is in a dangerous area, and that no additions will be permitted to existing structures that encroach on the floodplain. (Permits will contain a 50% damage clause.)

Non-compliance deficiencies will be resolved in accordance with Forest Service policies prior to issuing a permit to a new owner. County building inspections will be the responsibility of the permittee, and county codes will be met.

Permittees within each tract or combination of tracts will be encouraged to form associations for the purpose of resolving problems, and to provide and operate common improvements serving all permittees. These associations may assume responsibility for tract inspections and other agreed upon items when operating under by-laws approved by the Forest Service.

A recreation residence will not be used as a domicile or legal residence. Therefore, it may not be used as a place where the permittee's domestic activities are centered.

Prior to issuance of term permits (expire 1990), the Forest shall review tracts, or portions thereof, in accordance with Forest Service policy to determine if they are serving the highest public use of the area, or if hazards exist to the user or public. If the review indicates there is potential for higher public use, or hazards exist, an annual permit will be issued until a suitable study is completed. If the review shows tracts are serving the highest public use and there are no unacceptable hazards, a term permit may be issued without conducting a future use assessment or other study.

When studies are to be done, the following priority sequence shall be used:

Mt. Baldy District

- San Dimas
- Ice House
- North Fork San Gabriel (Lower Portion)
- Bear Canyon

Arroyo Seco District

- Millard
- Idlehour - Deer Park Branch
- Santa Anita
- West Fork

Tujunga District

- Big Tujunga Canyon

Saugus District

- Bouquet Canyon
- Lake Hughes
- San Francisquito

Valyermo District

- Big Rock
- McClellan Flat

These studies will determine whether the entire tract or individual lots within the tract are for serving the highest public need, and are consistent with maintaining the health, enjoyment, or well being of the permittee or the public.

Organizational Camps

The Forest will require existing permittees to prepare a master development plan for their organizational camps when new facilities or major expansion is planned. The Forest will give preference to new permit applicants who plan optimum use of the camp throughout the year.

The appropriate County agencies and the Forest Service will jointly inspect camp facilities at least once every five years. This will not preclude the annual inspections normally required by other agencies. Existing permits will be amended when possible to include this requirement.

Resorts

The Forest will conduct a Future Use Determination study of resorts prior to issuing new permits when existing facilities are sold; a new termination date is determined; or three years prior to the expiration of existing term permits. Permittees will be notified in writing of these requirements.

Appropriate County agencies and the Forest Service should jointly inspect facilities at least once every five years. New permits will require the permittee to have County agencies inspect the facilities at least once every five years. Existing permits will be amended, when possible, to include this requirement.

Dispersed Recreation

Trail Systems

The Forest will provide opportunities for hiking, equestrian, bicycle, and off-road vehicle use.

Trails for motorized and non-motorized use will be separated.

Where feasible, use portions of the hiking and equestrian trail system and developed sites for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing during the winter season.

Coordinate with Federal, State and local agencies, adjacent private landowners, and user groups in planning regional trail systems. Support joint facility planning, funding, and maintenance.

All proposed trail systems will be built to specific engineering standards based on user type. This includes proper design and trail layout, utilizing trail hardening techniques, full benching of trails where necessary, adequate drainage structures, and energy dissipaters at needed discharge points for the protection of the soils.

Period of use may be restricted in some areas. Closing certain trail segments during times when soil conditions are saturated will prevent severe rutting, puddling and degradation of the trail surface.

Emphasis will be placed on reconstruction and proper maintenance of existing trail systems, prior to constructing new trails.

Provide adequate monitoring of new and existing trail systems as well as having personnel patrolling trails related to law enforcement activities and resource protection.

Trailheads for equestrian and hiking trails will be provided on a case-by-case basis related to the needs of the users.

Provide for hiking and equestrian use on the same trail, where possible.

Trails will be posted to provide users with information about routes. Clearly post sections that are unsuitable for equestrian use.

Eliminate sections of the trail system that are underused, have high maintenance costs, and/or have conflicts with higher priority uses. Provide trails through a variety of vegetative types and at various user skill levels. Provide loop trails for short day hikes, and connecting trails for longer hikes, where feasible.

Provide trails to meet the needs of special user groups, where appropriate.

Mountain Bikes

Mountain bikes are recognized as a legitimate use of riding and hiking trails with the exception of the PCT and wilderness area trails. Trails may be closed to mountain bikes on a case-by-case basis to prevent user conflicts and resource problems.

Bicycle Routes

Provide opportunities for bicycle riding on the Forest including bicycle lanes adjacent to roads or separate trails developed exclusively for the activity.

Coordinate with Federal, State and local agencies and user groups to provide and maintain bicycle routes.

Off-Road Vehicles

All areas in-the Forest will be designated open, restricted to designated routes only, or closed to vehicle use off-road.

ORV use will be permitted only on designated roads, trails, and designated open areas, as shown on the Forest ORV Map, or authorized by special use permit.

Where appropriate, provide a wide variety of ORV opportunities for specialized vehicle types, differing skill levels, and differing user groups. Skill levels will be posted for trails and areas.

Provide a comprehensive network of trails through a variety of vegetative types and terrain which connect various open areas and parking facilities.

Design trails with minimum widths and avoid location on broad ridgetops and where access is uncontrolled. This may result in locating trail segments off to the side of ridge tops (upper third of the sideslope position).

Seasonal and other off-road vehicle closures may be enforced to protect resources.

Designated trails and open areas shall be located to minimize conflicts with existing or potential recreation sites, private property, wildlife habitat, special uses, or administrative areas. Trail location and design should conform to Regional ORV trail guidelines.

Coordinate Forest off-road vehicle planning and funding with Federal, State and local recreation agencies.

Temporary permits for competitive events may be issued in open and restricted areas.

Off-road vehicle areas may be operated as commercial ventures under special use permits.

Ranger District ORV management plans will be reviewed and updated annually. The public will be kept informed of the status of areas and routes for availability for use on a seasonal or year-round basis. All changes would be consistent with the plan.

Off-Road Vehicles operating on National Forest land will comply with the State of California noise standards, and have a Forest Service approved muffler or spark arrester.

Selected sections of powerline utility roads may be open, designated and managed as ORV travel routes. The road maintenance standards are set by the utility companies. If conflicts occur between the ORV users and powerline reliability, the utility company may request closure to routes by the public and/or request offsetting funds from users. (See Utility Corridors S & O.)

Trailheads for ORV trails will be constructed on a case-by-case basis related to the need of the users.

Cooperate with the State and other agencies and user groups to identify, and where compatible with forest plan management objectives, develop segments of trail that supports the concept of a statewide trail system connecting use areas, and providing the opportunity for long distance trail touring.

Recreational Target Shooting (not including hunting)

Recreational target shooting will be allowed only within designated target shooting areas. These areas will be managed by Forest Service personnel, or administered under special use permits as commercial ventures.

All target shooting areas will have designated boundaries. Target shooting will be the only use, except for grazing and prescribed fire to reduce fire hazard. Target shooting area management will include:

- controlled vehicular access for law enforcement and trash removal purposes;
- provision for parking, fire hazard reduction, fire prevention, sanitation, trash facilities, and signs;
- posted boundaries of target shooting areas.

Signs shall be provided along major Forest access routes identifying nearest designated target shooting areas.

Materials of the targets will be established by Forest Supervisor Order. No glass targets will be allowed in any area.

Cross-Country Skiing

Cross-country ski facilities may be operated as a commercial venture under special use permit.

The Forest Service may sign, but is not required to maintain, cross-country ski trails in campgrounds and along trails and roads that are closed in the winter.

Moto-cross Area

Currently, Forest Service policy does not allow moto-cross sites within the National Forest. If a private concessionaire applies for a special use permit, an exception to this policy would have to be obtained from the Chief of the Forest Service. There also must be full consideration of placement on private lands, and completion of an environmental analysis with full public involvement.

The Bedsprings Flat area in Section 1, T. 4N, R. 12W, S.B.M. is designated as a potential moto-cross site. It would only be developed and operated as a commercial venture under special use permit.

General Undeveloped Areas - Standard: In concentrated use areas, provide litter facilities, empty when full or at least every seven days. Grounds clear of trash, bottles, glass and other litter.

General Undeveloped Areas - Low Standard: Area provides for user enjoyment. Occasional litter pickup, as needed.

ORV Areas - Standard: All boundaries are signed according to manual direction. Trail networks are well marked. Trail tread is maintained for drainage and travel. Impassible ruts, rock or debris are cleared from trail tread. Information and regulations are up-to-date and readily available at District Offices, entry stations and ORV areas. Sanitation and parking areas have litter pickup and sanitary. ORV Patrolmen are present on heavy use days during use season for public contact. Noise and spark arrester requirements are enforced.

ORV Areas - Low Standard: All boundaries are signed to meet legal requirements. Only maintenance measures to prevent unacceptable resource damage or for public enjoyment are done. Sanitation and parking areas are maintained to provide for user enjoyment.

Shooting Areas - Standard: Boundaries of all shooting areas are signed and signs are adequately maintained. Regulations are enforced in regards to proper targets and public enjoyment. Any accumulation of trash is removed monthly or as needed. USFS personnel are present on heavy use days. Sanitation is provided, if needed. Public information is provided on site and at public contact points which identifies the shooting areas; gives rules and regulations regarding shooting and litter; gives safety tips and guidelines; and maintain public contact to achieve compliance with rules and regulations, to provide for public enjoyment, including capacity limits.

Shooting Areas - Low Standard: Shooting area locations are identified on the ground. Litter is removed periodically using volunteers. Shooting rules and regulations enforced.

Shooting Areas - Closure: Shooting areas will be closed when unacceptable public hazards cannot be corrected.

Signs: Directional, Warning and Regulatory - Standard: All signs straight, bright, and secure. Free of holes, blemishes, random nails, etc. Posts straight, clean in appearance. Replaced if damaged.

Signs: Directional, Warning and Regulatory - Low Standard: Minimum signing for public enjoyment. Replace when missing.

General Recreation

Information Services

Make public contact and public information at District Offices, entrance stations and the Forest Supervisor's Office a high priority.

Use multilingual signs, brochures, and personnel in areas heavily used by non-English speaking populations, when appropriate.

Make "visitor ethic", and peace and quiet opportunities priority information objectives.

Maximize use of information facilities which do not require staffing.

All elements of the Interpretive Services program (signs, interpretive trails, brochures, information stations, etc.) should be in character with the Forest environment where they are found.

All interpretive programs, displays and publications should provide environmental interpretation as well as support for Forest Service resource management programs.

Heritage Resources

Inventory

The Forest Cultural Resources Inventory will be completed according to the deadline specified by legislative or management directives and updated on an annual basis. Generally, this inventory will be done in conjunction with project work or with post-wildfire rehabilitation.

A documented Archaeological Reconnaissance Report (ARR) is required where analyses of management activities anticipate impacts to cultural resources.

A reconnaissance and/or evaluation will be conducted by qualified personnel (FSM 2361.4). This will occur concurrently with initial studies for land disposal action, or any development or land use which may alter, damage, destroy, or remove from management any cultural resource (FSM 2361.1(1) R-5 Sup.).

Evaluation

Each fiscal year, a specific number of cultural resource properties will be targeted for initial assessment by the Forest Cultural Resource Specialist as either Class I or Class III properties.

Initially, assessed Class I properties will be formally evaluated, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, for determination of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Protection and Enhancement

The Forest Cultural Resource Specialist will evaluate Class I properties in terms of present land allocation for possible conflicts, and develop management plans to alleviate any possible conflict. Site-specific management plans for all cultural resources will be developed in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer. These site-specific management plans will define appropriate treatment for every cultural resource site. This site-specific treatment will be based on the site's significance, its projected use, and any anticipated conflicts with other land-use allocations. These plans will serve to protect the resource from human and natural degradation as well as to provide enhancement, interpretive and scientific opportunities.

Cultural Resources and Interpretive Services will cooperate to identify, and utilize cultural resources in interpretive programs.

The Forest will identify opportunities for research programs for qualified persons or groups through the issuance of cultural resource permits and the development of cooperative agreements.

- Administrative closures
- Physical protection measures
- Monitoring/Patrolling
- Impact mitigation

- Adaptive reuse
- Research
- Interpretive programs
- Special cultural resource areas or zones

Until proper evaluation occurs, all known cultural resource properties shall be classified as Class II properties and shall be afforded the same consideration as the Class I resource properties.

The Forest will maintain confidentiality of cultural resource site locations, through restricted access to files and maps, to aid in their preservation and protection.

Cultural Resources and Fire Management will coordinate during fire suppression and treatment to avoid damage to cultural resources. A program of field supervision during fire suppression and rehabilitation will be used to supplement the inventory program.

Cultural Resources and Law Enforcement will coordinate to help protect the cultural resource database by including sensitive Class I properties and vandalized cultural resource properties within patrol routes.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

All management activities will be managed to meet the ROS setting standards as defined in the "ROS User's Guide".

Administrative access for motorized vehicles of special use permittees for semi-primitive non-motorized areas may be authorized in writing. Semi-primitive non-motorized areas within wilderness boundaries are closed to all motorized vehicles.

Vegetation management objectives and prescriptions will be written for developed recreation sites. They shall consider short- and long-term visual quality, vegetation health and vigor, protection from pests, vegetation replacement, hazardous tree control, and appropriate monitoring.

Scenery Management

Management activities will comply with adopted Visual Quality Objectives (VQO).

Management activities should result in a final visual condition that reflects the intent of the Visual Quality Objectives and is in conformance with planned landscape character.

Insure visual variety through random mosaic patterns by varying:

- a. vegetation densities
- b. age-classes
- c. distribution of treatments

Visual impacts will be mitigated, if possible, in accord with the following standards:

- R Immediate action for impact reduction
- PR Action within 1 year for impact reduction
- M Action within 1 year or meet regional guidelines
- MM Action within 5 years for impact reduction

Forest Supervisor's approval will be required for management activities that exceed the duration of impact standards for any particular VQO category.

Vegetative treatments should provide natural appearing mosaics, patterns and shapes that repeat natural occurrences.

Emphasize dominant ridge tops, canyon bottoms and the foreground areas of Retention and Partial Retention zones when shaping vegetative mosaics.

Simulate natural edge and provide openings with random spacing:

<u>Visual Quality Objective</u>	<u>Edge Treatment</u>
Retention and Partial Retention	Feather and vary edge density
Modification	Feather only
Maximum Modification	Edge treatment not necessary

Consider varying edge density and feathering on a case-by-case basis at the project level.

Maintain a variety of island sizes.

When practical, retain existing isolated stands of oaks, conifers, and hardwoods that are scattered throughout the chaparral vegetation.

Prescribed fire treatments should correspond to the adopted VQO.

Project level management activities will provide rehabilitation and enhancement of the visual resource, when appropriate.

Areas should be rehabilitated where the existing visual condition does not meet the adopted VQO.

Enhancement should occur where the existing visual condition may appear monotonous when there is a cost-effective opportunity to create visual variety in the landscape through planting or vegetation manipulation.

Consult the National Forest Landscape Management handbooks for specific direction regarding mitigation concepts for any management activity that will require manipulation of:

- a) land and water form
- b) vegetation
- c) facilities and structures

Scenic corridor foregrounds and middlegrounds will be managed for the visual quality objectives of retention and/or partial retention for the following travel routes:

- a) Officially Designated State Highways, which include Highway 2.
- b) Eligible State Highways not officially designated, which include Highway 39 and 1-210 (Pasadena to 1-5)
- c) First priority County proposals which include Big Pines Highway, Elizabeth Lake Road, Pine Canyon Road, and the Old Ridge Route.

Maintain Visual Quality Objective (VQO) levels compatible with Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) classes.

The fuelbreak system should strive to achieve a VQO of partial retention, unless in an area assigned modification.

Wilderness Resources

ADMINISTRATIVE

Infrastructure

Provide and maintain a transportation system that ensures cost-effective support to resource protection management and makes travel enjoyable to users of the system.

Encourage Los Angeles County to designate Forest roads as part of the County road system.

Operation and maintenance responsibilities will be contained in a memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement between the Forest Service and other agencies for roads that are on both systems.

New roads should be located away from sensitive wildlife areas.

Forest Service roads will generally remain open. Roads will only be closed to prevent resource damage, or control problems that threaten the public or Forest Service employees.

Administrative access may be maintained on closed roads.

Manage roads open to public use consistent with established ROS classes.

Maintenance levels are maximum target levels for that ROS class. Lower levels of maintenance may occur on a case-by-case basis.

Maintenance levels 4 and 5 are generally paved roads which provides access for all types of vehicles. Level 2 and below are generally accessible by four-wheel drive and high clearance vehicles.

ROS Classification

Road Management Objectives

Primitive

Closed to public motorized use.

Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized

Open only for administrative and permitted traffic.

Semi-Primitive

Generally open intermittently or seasonally to public for high clearance vehicles.

Roaded Natural

Generally open seasonally to public for general traffic.

Rural

Generally unrestricted and maintained for all vehicle classes.

Road system design should take advantage of natural barriers to facilitate possible closure needs.

Roads should be signed and maintained to accommodate traffic.

Cost/benefit ratio (economic efficiency) must be considered as part of road closure criteria.

Coordinate with California State Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) and Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to snowplow existing turnouts and access roads for snowplay and cross-country skiing trailheads.

Encourage CALTRANS, and Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, and other agencies to develop mass transit opportunities for access to the Forest.

Encourage cooperative efforts with State, County, other governments, organizations, groups, and individuals to reduce litter accumulation along all roads within the Forest by implementing preventative programs, litter pickup campaigns, and roadside hazard reduction.

Minimize land allocation to roads (Forest development roads or others). Any road proposals on National Forest land should be located to best accommodate all anticipated uses. New roads or trails will not be constructed in areas where the number of miles of roads exceeds three miles/square mile without site-specific environmental analysis.

Maintain an up-to-date Memorandum of Understanding with Air Force to provide opportunities for training and testing needs as appropriate with Forest management and National interests.

Facilities

Trailer pads will be constructed to support employee housing at appropriate locations as well as to provide for barracks and offices as replacements for deteriorating facilities.

For employee and public enjoyment, new and existing administrative facilities will have radio and/or telephone communications.

Fire and vandal-resistant materials will be used in all new construction or reconstruction of existing Forest facilities.

Construction should utilize a variety of designs and materials to simulate natural colors and textures of soil, rock and vegetation, when appropriate.

Debris basins and channel stabilization structures on National Forest land will be inspected at least every five years or after major flood events. Maintenance will be performed on structures that continue to provide significant benefits to the drainage area.

Real Estate

Landownership Adjustment

Consolidate Forest lands within the Forest boundary through purchase, exchange and donation to ensure full protection and use of National Forest resources. Land acquisition priorities will be based on lands with willing sellers and willing buyers.

Identify National Forest System land administered by the Angeles National Forest that will be disposed of through exchange, transfer to other governmental agencies, or disposed of under appropriate Congressional Acts.

Exchange land in order to dispose of parcels not suitable as National Forest. ~~Such land usually includes isolated parcels, detached parcels, or projecting narrow strips of Forest land.~~

Encourage donations of land which will aid in National Forest land consolidation and resource conservation, or are needed for administration or research. The Forest will not accept land donations inside or outside the Forest which do not enhance the use, management, or protection of it.

An inventory will be kept and updated every three to five years of all landowners of desirable parcels. They will be contacted to determine whether they would consider selling or exchanging land with the Forest Service.

Landline Location

Property lines and corners will be surveyed prior to constructing permanent facilities adjacent to the property lines.

All property lines surveyed will be marked, and posted to current Forest Service standards.

Occupancy Trespass

Take prompt and continued action on trespass.

Dark Sky Observation

Coordinate with the observatories to establish the zone of influence around any ground installations that are sensitive to additional light pollution and the times of year that lighting has the most impact.

Mitigate pollution from new lighting sources within the zone of influence of existing observatories.

Any planned activity which generates smoke or dust within the zone of influence of an observatory will be coordinated with that facility in advance.

Districts will coordinate with electronic permittees to eliminate unnecessary lighting at electronic sites and mitigate electronic interferences, whenever practical.

Prior to additional night skiing activities, within the zone of influence, an environmental assessment will be completed to develop appropriate mitigating measures.

Special Uses

Permits or easements may only be issued for the non-recreational use of National Forest land when such use cannot be reasonably placed on private land, and such use does not conflict with management objectives for the area.

Electronic Sites

Existing electronic sites will have an approved site plan completed by 1995 which will govern future development and management of facilities. Site users will be encouraged to develop portions of the environmental assessment and site plans as part of their expansion or construction applications.

Exclusive use of electronic installations and sites will be allowed only when required for national security, national defense, and public enjoyment. Building facilities may be designed to provide internal security for each of the multiple users.

Construct new facilities on existing sites only when there is no reasonable space within existing buildings or towers.

Future sites will be identified by 1995. Activities on new sites will be permitted only when site plans for existing sites have been completed, and the available space has been fully utilized.

Electronic site permittees will be encouraged to form permittee associations, with approved by-laws, to assume agreed-upon responsibilities for permit compliance, road maintenance, site security, site planning, and reduction of interference problems.

The Forest will urge installation of passive reflectors and satellite receivers outside of Forest lands.

Sanitary Landfills/Sediment Placement Sites

Class I sites will not be permitted on the Angeles National Forest.

Class II and III sites will not be permitted in:

- Designated wilderness areas
- San Dimas Experimental Forest
- Critical threatened and endangered species habitat
- Class I and II cultural resource areas
- Riparian areas and floodplains
- RNA's and SIA's

Forest land for Class II and III solid waste disposal sites will be permitted only if the following conditions are met:

- Other reasonable sites and practical resource recovery alternatives on nonNational Forest land have been exhausted.
- Lands considered for sanitary landfills will be exchanged to an appropriate agency or organization only if the land is suitable and capable for this purpose. The land must meet land exchange and solid waste disposal conditions set forth in the Plan.
- The existing Land Adjustment Plan (LAP) is being incorporated into the Forest Plan. The LAP will be reviewed when a site is proposed and ~ be changed to include land exchange of Forest Service parcels if the current LAP does not show the parcel as already identified for this consideration. This means the Forest Plan must be amended if a landfill site is to be created in an area not already identified in the LAP.
- The site is part of the regional (County-wide) solid waste disposal plan, and has been through a public involvement process approved by the Forest Service.
- The site is large enough to be used for 10 years or more.

Sediment Placement Sites (SPSs) will be designed for wildlife habitat, public access and recreation use. Agencies creating and managing SPSs will install and assist in maintaining the developments necessary for the SPS, (e.g. vents, drains, roads) and assist in the operation and maintenance of recreation and/or wildlife improvements.

SPSs will be open to the public.

Environmental analysis and documentation with associated mitigative measures will determine the management of SPSs.

The following sites are available for consideration as SPSs:

- Twomile Point SE - (Cogswell Reservoir)
- Burro Canyon - (San Gabriel Reservoir)
- Lower Pacoima Canyon - (Pacoima Reservoir)
- Maple Canyon - (Pacoima Reservoir)
- Limekiln Canyon - (Pacoima Reservoir)
- Maple Canyon - (Sawpit Reservoir)
- Sycamore Canyon - (Sawpit Reservoir)

- Spanish Canyon - (Sawpit Reservoir)
- Mystic Canyon - (Big Dalton Reservoir)
- Lewis Paul Canyon - (Big Dalton Reservoir)
- Keril Canyon - (Big Dalton Reservoir)

Prior to construction and use of any of the 11 identified potential SPSs, an environmental analysis and documentation with complete public involvement must be approved by the Forest Service.

Areas potentially impacting perennial streams will not be considered for sediment placement without completion of a Forest Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement.

SPSs may be permitted in intermittent stream areas, in the 11 potential sites, with appropriate mitigative measures. Mitigative measures must address an objective of no net loss of riparian acreage.

Withdrawals

The Angeles National Forest will assist the BLM in the analysis of the Forest Service initiated withdrawals (4708 acres of Administrative type). Section 204 of PL 94-579 (FLPMA) requires the Secretary of the Interior to review all withdrawals by October 1, 1991, and make a determination as to whether they should be modified, extended or revoked. Although not required to review congressional withdrawals, the Angeles National Forest will review the 1928 Watershed Act withdrawal and make recommendations to BLM for change. The Forest Service will also provide comment to other Federal agencies as they review their withdrawals (primarily water and/or power related withdrawals). This review can be by category or area.

Transportation and Utility Corridors

Require future utility lines to be located in existing right-of-way corridors; except that when corridors are fully utilized, future lines may be considered for location adjacent to and as near as possible to existing corridors, considering topography, reliability, environmental impacts, and technical feasibility.

Require utility companies to justify why upgrading the size of existing transmission facilities to maximum capacity within existing corridors is not feasible before new utility corridors are considered.

All new or replacement electric powerlines of 33 Kilovolts or less, and all new or replacement telephone lines and television cables, will be placed underground where environmentally feasible, unless modified by a site specific environmental analysis. Any exceptions will be analyzed on a case by case basis.

Maintain productivity of lands within corridors for other resource benefits.

Require utility companies to enter into cost-share agreements for fuel management treatment costs within and adjacent to expansion of existing utility corridors and to new utility corridors. Livestock grazing will be considered as a vegetative management technique.

Utility corridor access roads designated for ORV trail use will be monitored for impacts. When impacts or vandalism is noted, representatives from the utility company, Forest Service and ORV user groups will jointly determine the nature and extent of the potential problem and develop a joint solution, including temporary or permanent closure of the road to public use. Funding from

the user groups will be considered, as appropriate, to mitigate the kinds and extent of the damage identified.

Utility companies will be responsible for maintenance of corridor access roads that serve no other purpose than to service the utility facilities.

Require utility companies to upgrade size of transmission facilities to maximum capacity within existing corridors before new utility corridors are considered.

Utility companies will adhere to the practices recommended in the document "Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines: The State of the Art in 1981," Raptor Research Report No. 4, or the most current version.

Rights-of-Way Program

Acquire road and trail rights-of-way across non-National Forest land needed to support management activities.

Permits and easements shall conform with the appropriate local, State, and Federal laws, policies, and regulations.

Existing permits and easements will be modified to conform with the management direction for the area.

Cooperate with intermingled and adjacent landowners, and local governments in developing roads or road systems that serve the needs of all parties.

Acquire road rights-of-ways needed to widen roads and trails.

Apply the following criteria to any proposed right-of-way to determine its priority:

The right-of-way is needed immediately to resolve a management problem or for resource protection needs.

The land use is changing so that management options would be closed or acquisition costs increased, if the right-of-way is not obtained in the near future.

The right-of-way is important for coordinated efforts with adjacent jurisdictions in the development of equestrian trails, open spaces, or other related transportation planning.

There is no alternate access.

Propose condemnation as a method of acquiring a right-of-way when all other methods have failed, and right-of-way is deemed necessary for management of the National Forest.

Coordination

Law Enforcement, Search and Rescue

Implement the Forest Law Enforcement Plan to meet Forest law enforcement responsibilities and maintain an effective law enforcement program.

Use qualified, trained, and properly equipped employees to ensure an effective law enforcement program.

Ensure that the law enforcement program is an integral part of all Forest management programs.

All wildfires within the Forest will be investigated to determine cause and to recover costs. The Forest will cooperate with other agencies on cause determination of wildfires within the mutual aid areas.

The Forest will continue to support the Counties in fulfilling their responsibility for search and rescue activities.

Public Affairs Program

Inform the public of the Forest Service and its role in the Federal structure and economy of the Angeles National Forest and its programs and projects, and of the services rendered to the public by the Forest and its personnel. Emphasize resource management, recreation, peace and quiet opportunities, visitor ethics, and public enjoyment. This will include the Resource Management Education Program (formerly called Environmental Education), and public involvement in Forest planning and decision making.

ANF Management Area Direction

Management Area #1

Theme

This prescription emphasizes management of wildlife habitat enhancement in all chaparral vegetation.

Management Area Description

This prescription will apply to landforms with chaparral cover types that are designated wildlife emphasis, outside of designated wilderness, RNAs, SIAs and San Dimas Experimental Forest.

Acres by slope class are:

< 40% slope	=	6,881	acres
40-60% slope	=	23,224	acres
> 60% slope	=	<u>55,910</u>	acres
TOTAL			86,015 acres

Desired Condition

~~The objectives for vegetation management are to maintain age class mosaics of less than 12 years in the coastal sage scrub, less than 25 years in chamise chaparral, and less than 45 years in the mixed and semi-desert chaparral.~~

Management indicator species are mule deer, bighorn sheep, Chaparral Bird Assemblage, and the Riparian Bird Assemblage (where appropriate). Important habitat components of management indicator species, threatened and endangered, or sensitive plants and animals, will be maintained and enhanced. Vertical and horizontal diversity are enhanced.

Prescribed fire is the principle vegetation management tool.

The following vegetation management practices, by slope class, are available:

< 40%:	Prescribed fire, limited mechanical and hand treatment.
40-60%:	Prescribed fire, hand treatment.
> 60%:	Prescribed fire.

Herbicides may be used, as available, with any of the management practices.

Recreation opportunity spectrum classes include semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded-natural, and rural. ORV use will be trail riding on designated routes only.

Increased water yields can be expected, relative to the vegetation changes.

Water quality, soil characteristics, and visual quality objectives may limit application of management activities.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription, and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #1

Water Resources

Watershed Protection

1. Maintain water quality and soil productivity to comply with applicable laws and regulations. No more than 40% of the vegetation in any watershed, as described by project level delineation, should be less than 5 years old at any one time. In any given year, no more than 20% of vegetation will be manipulated in the watershed.
2. Except on fuelbreaks, do not burn or otherwise bare the soil more than once in 10 years.
3. Reduce watershed and ecosystem damages that are caused from detrimental cumulative impacts. Limit mechanical treatments to less than 60% slope.

Water Resource Improvements

Evaluate existing watershed conditions for improvement of water yield, and consider:

- a. Fuelbreak construction which would allow for maximum protection and benefit water yield;
- b. Water and sediment impoundments, and flow timing measures which increase useable water quantities, and reduce sediment damage; and
- c. Age-class management for as many early successional stages of vegetation as possible without causing conflicts with wildlife management objectives or irreparable damage to the watershed or ecosystem.

Range

Livestock will not be grazed in wildlife emphasis areas unless it is required for habitat maintenance purposes.

Silviculture

1. Maintain existing isolated stands of native conifers, and oaks scattered within the chaparral vegetation types.
2. Perpetuate all native chaparral plant and wildlife habitat.
3. Minimize mechanical disturbance of soil to reduce the impact of habitat manipulation on small mammal communities.
4. Utilize prescribed burning as the primary tool to accomplish age-class diversity. ~~Treat at least 80% of the coastal sage scrub to establish a 0-12 year age class mosaic and the chamise chaparral in a 0-25 year age class mosaic so the resultant condition is a randomly distributed mosaic pattern of age classes throughout this vegetative type, with an age class mix of the following:~~

Coastal Sage

~~35% early seral stage 0-3 years age class~~

~~25% intermediate seral stage 4-9 years age class~~

~~20% late seral stage 10-12 years age class~~

Chamise Chaparral

~~25% early seral stage 0-5 years age class~~

~~35% intermediate seral stage 6-15 years age class~~

~~20% late seral stage 16-25 years age class~~

Mixed & Semi-Desert Chaparral

~~Treat at least 75% of this cover type to establish a 0-45 year age class mosaic so the resultant condition is a randomly distributed mosaic pattern of age classes throughout this vegetative type with at least:~~

~~20% early seral stage 0-10 year age class~~

~~45% intermediate seral stage 11-34 year age class~~

~~10% late seral stage 35-45 year age class~~

5. A maximum of 20% of any chaparral vegetation can be managed for random age-classes.

Planting Vegetation

Plant native trees and shrubs to maintain wildlife species diversity and emphasize vertical structure. Consider planting shaded fuelbreaks to enhance wildlife and esthetics. Reestablish oaks or conifers on suitable sites that may have once supported tree cover. Provide at least 10% crown cover at maturity.

Protect Valuable Plant Species

1. Manage viable stands of existing hardwoods and conifers.
2. When possible, avoid burning or otherwise damaging intermingled hardwood or conifer stands, and reseed or reforest as necessary.

Openings and Edges

1. Create edges and openings, when possible, in mosaic patterns. Where practical, design openings so no point is greater than 600 feet from cover. Islands of cover for large mammals should average 40 acres in size with minimum widths of approximately 600 feet.
2. Favor forb and legume seed mixes which would be beneficial to wildlife when reseeding after wildfire.

Wood Products

Utilize material removed from the forest products that become available as a result of stand treatments. Dead material in excess of wildlife needs may be utilized.

Wildlife

A minimum of 80% of the chaparral in wildlife habitat emphasis areas will be managed to targeted age-classes by the end of the 50-year planning period.

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

1. Provide desirable habitat conditions to maintain populations of all native vertebrates and enhance those of Management Indicator Species (MIS). Management Indicator Species for this vegetative type are the following: mule deer, bighorn sheep, Chaparral Bird Assemblage, and Riparian Bird Assemblage (where appropriate).

2. Minimize mechanical disturbances of soils to reduce the impact of habitat manipulation on small mammal communities.
3. Care will be used in selection and application of pesticides, with special consideration given to the impacts on wildlife, especially birds of prey (raptors).

Water Development

Design man-made water developments, and maintain sources for ecological requirements of wildlife species. Provide, where needed and practical, ponds, potholes, fresh water marshes, horizontal wells, or other methods in suitable areas.

Fire

Fuel Management

Construct and maintain the primary fuelbreak system through prescribed fire, mechanical means, limited herbicides, or a combination thereof, and maintain the fuelbreak support systems of helibases, cisterns, and access roads. Maintain fuelbreaks at a minimum 300' width with no more than two tons of flammable fuel per acre.

Fire Suppression

Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on- and off-site values, and documented in the Appendix.

Developed Recreation

Rehabilitation of Existing Developed Sites

Return designated sites to design standards and provide site protection and resource treatments. Rehabilitate all existing sites, condition Class 2 or 3 to condition Class 1 in the next 10 years.

Management of Developed Sites and Dispersed Areas

1. Manage developed sites and dispersed areas at standard service level. If funding is inadequate, sites may be managed to low standard. See the S&Gs for a description of service levels. Sites not operated to low standard will be closed. Sites not operated for more than one year, or which cannot be operated cost effectively, may be closed or removed.
2. Reduce vandalism and provide public enjoyment through use of entrance stations, gates, and law enforcement.
3. Manage existing campgrounds and picnic areas to recommended ROS design capacity. Recommended ROS capacity guidelines for campgrounds and picnic areas:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY DEVELOPED PORTION</u>
S-P Non-Motorized	4-12 PAOT/Acre
S-P Motorized	4-12 PAOT/Acre
Roaded Natural	13-25 PAOT/Acre
Rural	25-75 PAOT/Acre

Administration of Special Uses - Resorts and Org. Camps

Maintain and administer special use permits to meet requirements.

Dispersed Recreation

Equestrian and Hiking Trails

Maintain existing trails system. Allow for improvement of existing system by new construction and/or elimination of existing segments.

- a. Maintain the Pacific Crest Trail and National Recreation Trails at a minimum of Level 3, and all others at a minimum of Level 2.
- b. Recommended ROS capacity for existing trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY PER MILE</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	5-10 PAOT/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	5-10 PAOT/Mi
Roaded Natural	10-15 PAOT/Mi
Rural	15-20 PAOT/Mi

ORV Roads and Trails

- 1. Maintain designated ORV trail systems. Existing 4-WD and motorcycle trails that are in conflict with wildlife needs such as deer fawning and bird of prey nest sites, will be relocated to minimize conflicts.
- 2. Trail tread maintained for ORV travel.
- 3. Provide for resource protection along designated routes. Suggested ROS Capacity Guidelines ORV Trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
S-P Motorized	0-10
Roaded Natural	10-20
Rural	20+

- 4. Provide patrol along routes as needed. Enforce spark arrester and noise requirements.

Target Shooting

- 1. Target shooting will not be allowed within wildlife habitat emphasis areas.
- 2. Rock Shooting Area is included by exception, with the following conditions:
 - a. Access will remain walk-in.
 - b. Use will be maintained at current levels.
 - c. If use increases to where it is in conflict with wildlife management objectives, due to noise, litter, or general presence of the activity, serious consideration will be given to limiting capacity, periods of use, or closing the area.

Driving for Pleasure

Recognize and enhance opportunities for increased public enjoyment and benefits derived from driving for pleasure on State, County and Forest system roads. Coordinate maintenance and litter pickup with State and County road departments.

General Undeveloped Recreation (including Rivers and Streams)

Provide litter cleanup, sanitation, public enjoyment and law enforcement contact (as directed in annual work program.) ROS Class Guidelines for Rivers and Streams:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY PER MILE</u>
Primitive	0-1.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	1.5-4.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	4.5-15/Mi
Roaded Natural	15-100/Mi
Rural	100-200/Mi

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

Provide public information where required for environmental interpretation and management needs, including consideration of unmanned information stations.

Scenery Management

Design and implement management activities to provide a visually appealing landscape. Provide or enhance more viewing opportunities and increase vegetation diversity in selected areas.

- a. Do not exceed the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) as shown on the adopted VQO map.
- b. Arterial and collector roads and trails are Sensitivity Level 1.

2. Exceptions will be considered, but will require Forest Supervisor’s approval. Exceptions should require a trade of like acres to be upgraded through rehabilitation or enhancement. As feasible, minimize the visual effects of management activity. See adopted VQO map.

Management Area #2

Theme

This Prescription emphasizes management of vegetation for age-class diversity in all chaparral vegetation.

Management Area Description

This Prescription will apply to landforms with chaparral cover types that are designated vegetation management emphasis, outside of designated wilderness, RNAs, SIAs and San Dimas Experimental Forest. Acres by slope class are:

< 40% slopes	=	23,714 acres
40-60% slopes	=	81,682 acres
> 60% slopes	=	<u>149,400 acres</u>
TOTAL		254,796 acres

Desired Condition

~~The objectives of vegetation treatment are to maintain age class mosaics of less than 12 years in the coastal sage scrub, less than 25 years in chamise chaparral, and less than 45 years in the mixed and semi-desert chaparral.~~

Mule deer, bighorn sheep, Chaparral Bird Assemblage, and the Riparian Bird Assemblage (where appropriate), will be used as management indicator species to monitor habitat conditions. Important habitat components of these management indicator species; threatened and endangered; or sensitive plants and animals, will be maintained.

Prescribed fire is the principle management tool.

Grazing is primarily for vegetation maintenance.

The following vegetation management practices, by slope class, are available:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| < 40% slopes: | Prescribed fire; livestock grazing; mechanical & hand treatment. |
| 40-60% slopes: | Prescribed fire; livestock grazing; hand treatment |
| > 60% slopes: | Prescribed fire. |

Herbicides may be used, as available, with any of the management practices.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classes include semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural and rural. ORV trail riding is permitted on designated routes only.

Increased water yield can be expected, relative to vegetation changes.

Water quality, soil characteristics and visual quality objectives may limit application of management activities.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription, and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #2

Water Resources

Watershed Protection

1. Maintain water quality and soil productivity to comply with applicable laws and regulations. No more than 40% of the vegetation in any watershed, as described by project level delineation, should be less than 5 years old at any one time. In any given year, no more than 20% of the chaparral cover will be manipulated.
2. Except on fuelbreaks, do not burn or otherwise bare the soil more than once in 10 years.
3. Reduce watershed and ecosystem damages that are caused from detrimental cumulative impacts. Limit mechanical treatments to less than 60% slope.

Water Resource Improvements

Evaluate existing watershed conditions for improvement of water yield, and consider:

- a. Fuelbreak construction which would allow for maximum protection and benefit water yield;

- b. Water and sediment impoundments such as check dams, reservoirs, debris basins, and retaining walls, to increase useable water quantities and reduce sediment damage;
- c. Age-class management which would allow for early successional stages of vegetation, without causing irreparable damage to the watershed or ecosystem;
- d. Fuelbreak construction which would allow for maximum protection and benefit water yield;
- e. Cooperation with other agencies on water impoundments, and flow timing measures to increase useable water quantities.

Range

Range Management

1. Base allotments on existing fuelbreaks and grasslands.
2. Incorporate prescribed burns and wildfire areas adjacent to fuelbreaks into the AMP.
3. Issue Livestock Use Permits until range analysis and an AMP are completed for a given allotment, then consider Term Permits.
4. Permit livestock grazing generally on slopes less than 60%. Annual range livestock utilization should leave approximately 900 lbs. per acre of residual dry matter in all chaparral types, and approximately 500 lbs. per acre on fuelbreaks.

Range Improvement

1. Prescribed burning and grazing will be used on selected areas to rejuvenate decadent chaparral and slow shrub regrowth. Except for fuelbreaks, a given area should not be burned more than once every 10 years.
2. New areas will be provided only where livestock access is available. Construction of roads solely for the purpose of livestock access will not be permitted.
3. Develop new water sources where needed, and maintain all existing water developments. Provide at least 10% of all developed water for wildlife.

Silviculture

1. A minimum of 40% of the chaparral in age-class emphasis areas will be managed to targeted age-classes by the end of the 50-year planning period.
2. Utilize prescribed burning as the primary tool to accomplish age-class diversity. Treat at least 40% of the coastal sage scrub to establish a 0-12 year age-class mosaic and chamise chaparral in a 0-25 year age-class mosaic. The resultant pattern is a randomly distributed mosaic of age-classes throughout this vegetative type, with an age-class mix as follows:

Coastal Sage

- 10% early seral stage 0-3 years age-class
- 20% intermediate seral stage 4-9 years age-class
- 10% late seral stage 10-12 years age-class

Chamise Chaparral

- 10% early seral stage 0-5 years age-class
- 20% intermediate seral stage 6-15 years age-class
- 10% late seral stage 16-25 years age-class

Mixed & Semi-Desert Chaparral

~~Treat at least 40% of this cover type to establish a 0-45 year age class mosaic. The resultant condition is a randomly distributed mosaic pattern of age classes throughout this vegetative type with at least:~~

- ~~10% early seral stage 0-10 year age class~~
- ~~20% intermediate seral stage 11-34 year age class~~
- ~~10% late seral stage 35-45 year age class~~

5. A maximum of 60% of any chaparral vegetation can be managed for random age-classes.

Planting Vegetation

Plant native trees and shrubs to maintain wildlife species diversity and emphasize vertical structure. Consider planting shaded fuelbreaks to enhance wildlife and aesthetics. Reestablish oaks or conifers on sites that may have once supported tree cover.

Protect Valuable Plant Species

1. Avoid burning or otherwise damaging intermingled hardwood or conifer stands, and reseed or reforest as necessary.
2. To the extent feasible, retain existing isolated stands of native conifers, oaks, and other hardwoods scattered within the chaparral vegetation types.

Openings and Edges

Create edges and openings in a mosaic pattern. Retain islands of cover at least 1 acre in size on slopes less than 60%.

2. Favor forb and legume seed mixes which would be beneficial to wildlife when reseeding after wildfire.

Wood Products

Utilize forest products that become available as a result of stand treatments. Dead material in excess of wildlife needs may be utilized.

Wildlife

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

1. Provide desirable habitat conditions to maintain populations of Management Indicator Species (MIS) and species diversity. Management Indicator Species for this vegetative type are the following: mule deer, bighorn sheep, Chaparral Bird Assemblage, and Riparian Bird Assemblage (where appropriate).
2. Minimize mechanical disturbances of soils to reduce the impact of habitat manipulation on small mammal communities.

3. Care will be used in selection and application of pesticides, with special consideration given to the impacts on wildlife, especially birds of prey (raptors).

Water Development

Design man-made water developments, and maintain existing sources for ecological requirements of wildlife species. Provide, where needed and practical, man-made water sources in the form of impoundments, ponds, potholes, freshwater marshes, horizontal wells, or other methods in suitable areas.

Fire

Fuel Management

Construct and maintain the primary fuelbreak system through prescribed fire, grazing, mechanical means, and herbicides, or a combination thereof, and maintain the fuelbreak support systems of helibases, cisterns, and access roads. Maintain fuelbreaks at a minimum 300' width with no more than two tons of flammable fuel per acre.

Fire Suppression

Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on- and off-site values, and documented in the Appendix.

Developed Recreation

Rehabilitation of Existing Developed Sites

Return designated sites to design standards. Provide site protection and resource treatments. Rehabilitate all existing sites, condition Class 2 or 3 to condition Class 1 in the next 10 years.

Management of Developed Sites and Dispersed Areas

1. Manage developed sites and dispersed areas at standard service level. If funding is inadequate, sites may be managed to low standard. See the S&Gs for a description of service levels. Sites not operated to low standard will be closed. Sites not operated for more than one year, or which cannot be operated cost effectively, may be closed or removed.

2. Reduce vandalism and provide public enjoyment through use of entrance stations, gates, and law enforcement.

3. Manage existing campgrounds and picnic areas to recommended ROS design capacity.

Recommended ROS capacity guidelines for campgrounds and picnic areas:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY DEVELOPED PORTION</u>
S-P Non-Motorized	4-12 PAOT/Acre
S-P Motorized	4-12 PAOT/Acre
Roaded Natural	13-25 PAOT/Acre
Rural	25-75 PAOT/Acre

Administration of Special Uses - Resorts and Org. Camps

Maintain and administer special use permits to meet requirements.

Dispersed Recreation

Equestrian and Hiking Trails

Maintain existing trails system. Allow for improvement of existing system by new construction and/or elimination of existing segments.

- a. Maintain the Pacific Crest Trail and National Recreation Trails at a minimum of Level 3, and all others at a minimum of Level 2.
- b. Recommended ROS capacity for existing trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY PER MILE</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	5-10 PAOT/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	5-10 PAOT/Mi
Roaded Natural	10-15 PAOT/Mi
Rural	15-20 PAOT/Mi

ORV Roads and Trails

- 1. Maintain designated ORV road and trail system. Existing 4-WD and motorcycle trails that are in conflict with wildlife needs such as deer fawning and bird of prey nest sites, will be relocated to minimize conflicts.
- 2. Trail tread maintained for enjoyable ORV travel.
- 3. Provide for resource protection along designated routes as needed.
 - a. Protect vegetation along trail corridors during prescribed burning.
 - b. Suggested ROS Capacity Guidelines - ORV Trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
S-P Motorized	0-10
Roaded Natural	10-20
Rural	20+

- 4. Provide patrol along trail routes as needed. Enforce spark arrester and noise requirements.

Target Shooting

There are no shooting areas on lands covered by this prescription.

Driving for Pleasure

Recognize and enhance opportunities for increased public enjoyment and benefits derived from driving for pleasure on State, County and Forest system roads. Coordinate maintenance and litter pickup with State and County road departments.

General Undeveloped Recreation (including Rivers and Streams)

Provide litter cleanup, sanitation, public enjoyment and law enforcement contact as directed in annual work program. ROS Class Guidelines for Rivers and Streams:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY PER MILE</u>
Primitive	0-1.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	1.5-4.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	4.5-15/Mi

Roaded Natural
Rural

15-100/Mi
100-200/Mi

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

Provide public information for environmental interpretation and management needs, where required, including consideration of unstaffed information stations.

Scenery Management

1. Design and implement management activities to provide a visually appealing landscape. Provide or enhance more viewing opportunities and increase vegetation diversity in selected areas.

- a. Do not exceed the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) as shown on the adopted VQO map.
- b. Arterial and collector roads and trails are Sensitivity Level 1.

2. Exceptions will be considered, but will require Forest Supervisor's approval. Exceptions should require a trade of like acres to be upgraded through rehabilitation or enhancement. As feasible, minimize the visual effects of management activity. See adopted VQO map.

Management Area #3

Theme

This Prescription emphasizes management of recreation opportunities in all chaparral vegetation.

Management Area Description

This Prescription will apply to all landforms with any chaparral cover types outside of RNAs, SIAs, designated Wilderness and San Dimas Experimental Forest. Acres by slopes class are:

<40% slope	=	869 acres
40-60% slope	=	13,033 acres
>60% slope	=	<u>7,438 acres</u>
TOTAL		21,340 acres

Desired Condition

The objectives of vegetation treatment are to maintain age-class mosaics of less than 12 years in the coastal sage scrub, less than 25 years in the chamise and less than 45 years in the mixed and semi-desert chaparral.

Mule deer, bighorn sheep, Chaparral Bird Assemblage, and the Riparian Bird Assemblage (where appropriate), will be used as management indicator species to monitor habitat conditions. Important habitat components of these indicator species, threatened, endangered, or sensitive plants and animals will be maintained.

Prescribed fire is the principle management tool. The following vegetation management practices, by slope class, are available:

< 40% slope: Prescribed fire; livestock grazing; mechanical and hand treatment;
40-60% slope: Prescribed Fire; livestock grazing; hand treatment;
> 60% slope: Prescribed Fire.

Herbicides may be used, when available, with any of the management practices.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classes represented are semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural, and rural. Refer to Forest ROS map for area specific designations. ROS class emphasis will be on semi-primitive non-motorized and semi-primitive motorized opportunities, with the activity emphasis on ORV, hiking, and equestrian trails. In roaded natural and rural ROS classes, the activity emphasis will be on, picnicking, camping, and special use recreation administration. ORV trail riding is permitted on designated routes only.

Water quality, soil characteristics and visual quality objectives may limit application of management activities.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription, and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #3

Water Resources

Watershed Protection

1. Maintain water quality and soil productivity to comply with applicable laws and regulations. No more than 40% of the vegetation in any watershed should be less than 5 years old at any one time. In any given year, no more than 20% of the vegetation will be manipulated in the watershed.
2. Except on fuelbreaks, do not burn or otherwise bare the soil more than once in 10 years.
3. Reduce watershed and ecosystem damages that are caused from detrimental cumulative impacts. Limit mechanical treatments to less than 60% slope.

Water Resource Improvements

Evaluate existing watershed conditions for improvement of water yield, and consider:

- a. Fuelbreak construction which would allow for maximum protection and benefit water yield;
- b. Water and sediment impoundments, and flow timing measures, to increase useable water quantities and reduce sediment damage;
- c. Age-class management which would allow for as much early successional stages of vegetation as possible, without causing irreparable damage to the watershed or ecosystem;
- d. Fuelbreak construction which would allow for maximum protection and benefit water yield;
- e. Cooperate with other agencies on water impoundments, and flow timing measures to increase useable water quantities.

Range

Range Management

1. Develop and maintain Allotment Management Plans (AMP) according to management priorities.
2. Base allotments on existing fuelbreaks and grasslands.
3. Incorporate prescribed burns and wildfire areas adjacent to fuelbreaks into the AMP.
4. Issue Livestock Use Permits until range analysis and an AMP are completed for a given allotment, then consider Term Permits.
5. Permit livestock grazing generally on slopes less than 60%. Annual range livestock utilization should leave approximately 900 lbs. per acre of residual dry matter in all chaparral types, and approximately 500 lbs. per acre on fuelbreaks.

Range Improvement

1. Prescribed burning and grazing will be used on selected areas to rejuvenate decadent chaparral and slow shrub regrowth. Except for fuelbreaks, a given area should not be burned more than once every 10 years.
2. New areas will be provided only where livestock access is available. No roads will be constructed solely for livestock access.
3. Develop new water sources where needed, and maintain all existing water developments. Provide at least 10% of all developed water for wildlife.

Silviculture

1. A minimum of 40% of the chaparral in age-class emphasis areas will be managed to targeted age-classes by the end of the 50-year planning period.
2. Utilize prescribed burning as the primary tool to accomplish age-class diversity. Treat at least 40% of the coastal sage scrub to establish a 0-12 year age-class mosaic and chamise chaparral in a 0-25 year age-class mosaic. The resultant pattern is a randomly distributed mosaic of age-classes throughout this vegetative type, with an age-class mix as follows:

Coastal Sage

- 10% early seral stage 0-3 years age-class
- 20% intermediate seral stage 4-9 years age-class
- 10% late seral stage 10-12 years age-class

Chamise Chaparral

- 10% early seral stage 0-5 years age-class
- 20% intermediate seral stage 6-15 years age-class
- 10% late seral stage 16-25 years age-class

Mixed & Semi-Desert Chaparral

Treat at least 40% of this cover type to establish a 0-45 year age-class mosaic. The resultant condition is a randomly distributed mosaic pattern of age-classes throughout this vegetative type with at least:

10% early seral stage 0-10 year age-class
20% intermediate seral stage 11-34 year age-class
10% late seral stage 35-45 year age-class

5. A maximum of 60% of any chaparral vegetation can be managed for random age-classes.
6. Maintain existing isolated stands of native conifers, oaks, and other hardwoods scattered within the chaparral vegetation types.
7. Minimize mechanical disturbance of soils to reduce the impact of habitat manipulation on small mammal communities.

Planting Vegetation

Plant native trees to maintain wildlife species diversity and emphasize vertical structure and type conversions. Consider planting shaded fuelbreaks to enhance wildlife and aesthetics. Reestablish oaks or conifers on sites that may have once supported tree cover.

Protect Valuable Plant Species

Avoid burning or otherwise damaging intermingled hardwood or conifer stands, and reseed or reforest as necessary.

Openings and Edges

1. Create edges and openings in a mosaic pattern. Retain islands of cover at least 1 acre in size on slopes less than 60%.
2. Favor forb and legume seed mixes which would be beneficial to wildlife when reseeding after wildfire.

Wood Products

Utilize forest products that become available as a result of stand treatments. Dead material in excess of wildlife needs may be utilized.

Wildlife

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

1. Provide desirable habitat conditions to maintain populations of Management Indicator Species (MIS) and species diversity. Management Indicator Species for this vegetative type are the following: mule deer, bighorn sheep, and Chaparral Bird Assemblage.
2. Minimize mechanical disturbances of soils to reduce the impact of habitat manipulation on small mammal communities.
3. Care will be used in selection and application of pesticides, with special consideration given to the impacts on wildlife, especially birds of prey (raptors).

Water Development

Design man-made water developments, and maintain existing sources for ecological requirements of wildlife species. Provide, where needed and practical, man-made water sources in the form of water impoundments, ponds, potholes, freshwater marshes, horizontal wells, or other methods in suitable areas.

Fire

Fuel Management

Construct and maintain the primary fuelbreak system through prescribed fire, grazing, mechanical means, and herbicides, or a combination thereof, and maintain the fuelbreak support systems of helibases, cisterns, and access roads. Maintain fuelbreaks at a minimum 300' width with no more than two tons of flammable fuel per acre.

Fire Suppression

Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on- and off-site values, and documented in the Appendix.

Developed Recreation

Recreation Developments

1. Provide developed recreation and facilities within resource capabilities of the Angeles National Forest for maximum recreation.
2. Priorities for development including new picnic areas, campgrounds, and group campgrounds are as follows:
 - a. Rehabilitate existing sites.
 - Rehabilitate all existing sites, condition Class 2 or 3 to condition Class 1 in the next 10 years.
 - b. Expand existing sites.
 - c. Develop new sites in areas of high demand.
3. Include law enforcement and vandalism protection in site designs.
4. Continue cooperation with State and local agencies, and the private sector, in recreation facility development and planning.
5. Provide cost-effective facilities which meet public needs and mitigate resource conflicts.
6. Design camping and picnic facilities to development levels appropriate to ROS Class:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>EXPERIENCE LEVEL</u>
Primitive	Exp. Level 1
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	Exp. Level 1
Semi-Primitive Motorized	Exp. Level 2
Roaded Natural	Exp. Level 2 or 3
Rural	Exp. Level 3 or 4

Management of Developed Sites and Dispersed Areas

1. Manage developed sites and dispersed areas at standard service level. If funding is inadequate, sites may be managed to low standard. See Appendix E for a description of service levels.

- Sites not operated to low standard will be closed.
- Sites not operated for more than one year, or which cannot be operated cost effectively, may be closed or removed.

2. Consider entrance stations at major highway access points to reduce vandalism, monitor use, and enhance public enjoyment.

3. Manage campgrounds and picnic grounds to recommended ROS design capacity.

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY DEVELOPED PORTION</u>
S-P Non-Motorized	4-12 PAOT/Acre
S-P Motorized	4-12 PAOT/Acre
Roaded Natural	13-25 PAOT/Acre
Rural	25-75 PAOT/Acre

Dispersed Recreation

Equestrian and Hiking Trails

1. Maintain Pacific Crest Trail and National Recreation Trails at a minimum Level 3. All others according to recommended ROS guidelines. Equestrian and hiking trails ROS capacity guidelines:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MI</u>	<u>TRAIL MNTCE.</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	5-10/Mi	Level 2
Semi-Primitive Motorized	5-10/Mi	Level 3
Roaded Natural	10-15/Mi	Level 4
Rural	15-20/Mi	Level 5

2. Rest areas may include potable water, shade, hitching rails, and corrals.

ORV Roads and Trails

1. Provide and maintain comprehensive network of trails.
2. Connect major open areas with trail system where possible.
3. Provide staging areas, rest areas, and overnight areas along route as necessary.
4. Suggested ROS Capacity Guidelines - ORV Trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
S-P Motorized	0-5
Roaded Natural	5-10
Rural	10+

5. Protect vegetation along trail corridors during prescribed burning.
6. Increase patrols, as necessary, in recently burned areas.
7. Provide visitor information.
8. Provide for fuel hazard reduction along ORV trails where feasible.
9. Provide patrol along trail routes, as needed. Enforce spark arrester and noise requirements.

10. Organized events will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Bicycle Trails and Lanes

1. Cooperate with State and County agencies to provide trails and bike lanes along designated routes.
2. Establish District priorities for designation of bicycle lanes and trails.
3. Promote construction of bicycle lanes when major maintenance is anticipated on State and County roads. Maintain all bicycle lanes to Level 5.
5. Establish rest areas as needed with facilities such as, potable water, bicycle racks, sanitation, and surfaced access.

Target Shooting

There are no shooting areas on lands covered by this prescription.

Driving for Pleasure

Recognize and enhance opportunities for increased public enjoyment and benefits derived from driving for pleasure on State, County and Forest system roads. Coordinate maintenance and litter pickup with State and County road departments.

Water-Related Facilities

1. Provide support facilities for water-based recreation on reservoirs, lakes and streams. Facilities may include: boat docks, marinas, entrance stations, and beaches.

2.	<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>USER CAPACITY</u>
	Roaded Natural	Boating Ramps	3 Boats/A'
	Rural	Boating Ramps	10 Boats/A'
	Rural	Water Skiing	.5-1 Skiers/A'
	Roaded Natural	Swimming/Beach	45-60 PAOT
	Rural	Swimming/Beach	60-75 PAOT

3. Coordinate with appropriate political entities to allow public recreation use on existing permitted water impoundments. Dispersed Streamplay ROS guidelines:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
Primitive	0-1.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	1.5-4.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	4.5-15/Mi
Roaded Natural	15-100/Mi
Rural	100-200/Mi

4. All new permitted impoundments will provide for public recreation wherever practical.

Parking Facilities

1. Design multi-purpose parking facilities wherever possible. Facilities may include: parking, fencing, direction and informative signing, landscaping, sanitation, trail registration, potable water, hitching rails, bicycle racks, and emergency telephones.

2. Parking facilities in or near concentrated recreation use areas should include sanitation facilities designed for handicapped users.

Observations Points

Provide observation points along major scenic highways. Utilize existing sediment placement sites, when possible. Major scenic highways are Bouquet Canyon, San Francisquito Canyon, Elizabeth Lake, Chantry Flat Road, Old 99, Hwy. 39, Old Ridge Route, Santa Clarita Divide, Glendora Ridge Road, Big Tujunga Canyon, Glendora Mountain Road, Angeles Forest Highway, East Fork Road, Mt. Baldy Road, Lake Hughes Road, and Angeles Crest Highway.

Commercial Permittees

Consider and administer permits for lands available for commercial recreation activities, providing they meet Forestwide Standards and Guidelines.

Cooperative Dispersed Assistance

Coordinate planning with State and local agencies and the private sector for dispersed recreation.

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

1. Develop District interpretive plans. Complete all plans by 1990.
2. Provide public information where required for management needs, including environmental interpretation and information stations.
3. Interpretive services will be provided at designated locations including selected administrative sites as needed. Supervisor's Office, Ranger District Offices, Vista Del Lago, Big Tujunga, Angeles Crest, San Gabriel.

Resource Treatment

1. Favor native vegetation, increase species diversity, and reduce fuel hazards in and adjacent to developed sites.
2. Develop vegetation management plans for developed sites and periphery areas.
3. Provide vegetative enhancement and shade at trailheads, parking facilities, and along major highway corridors where needed and feasible.
4. Where site conditions are favorable, plant native oaks, conifers, or other hardwoods. Apply appropriate TSI techniques and/or fuels treatment.

Resource Enhancement

Where feasible, locate man made sediment and water impoundments developed for multi-resource needs, in proximity to existing and proposed trail systems, for wildlife viewing. Introduce trees for shade and plant diversity near these water sources.

Scenery Management

1. Design and implement management activities to provide a visually appealing landscape. Provide or enhance more viewing opportunities and increase vegetation diversity in selected areas.

- a. Do not exceed the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) as shown on the adopted VQO map.
 - b. Arterial and collector roads and trails are Sensitivity Level 1.
2. Exceptions will be considered, but will require Forest Supervisor’s approval. Exceptions should require a trade of like acres to be upgraded through rehabilitation or enhancement. As feasible, minimize the visual effects of management activity. See adopted VQO map.

Management Area #4

Theme

This Prescription emphasizes management of the wildlife habitat in oak woodlands and conifer forest and woodland.

Management Area Description

This Prescription will apply to all landforms with oak and conifer forest and woodland cover outside of designated Wilderness, RNAs, SIAs and San Dimas Experimental Forest. Acres by slope class are:

< 40% slopes	=	847 acres
40-60% slopes	=	4,064 acres
> 60% slopes	=	<u>14,583 acres</u>
TOTAL		19,494 acres

Desired Condition

The objectives of vegetation management are to provide desirable habitat or satisfy ecological requirements to maintain populations of native vertebrates and enhance those of the management indicator species. Maintain a mixed species composition containing as broad a mixture of natural occurring species as is possible under southern California site conditions. The mixture will contain oaks, other hardwoods species, and mixed conifers, if possible.

Management indicator species are mule deer, bighorn sheep, Chaparral Bird Assemblage, and the Riparian Bird Assemblage (where appropriate). Important habitat components of these management indicator species; threatened and endangered; or sensitive plants and animals, will be maintained and enhanced. Vertical and horizontal diversity are enhanced.

Prescribed fire will be the principle understory management tool.

Fuelwood production is compatible and will be a by-product of the management of oak and conifer vegetative types.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classes represented are semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural. ORV trail riding is permitted on designated trails only.

Water yield will be a by-product from management activities.

Water quality, soil characteristics and visual quality objectives may limit application of management activities.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forest Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription, and may further limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #4

Water Resources

Watershed Protection

1. Maintain water quality and soil productivity to comply with applicable laws and regulations. No more than 40% of the vegetation in any watershed, as described by project level delineation, should be less than 5 years old at any one time. In any given year, no more than 20% of vegetation will be manipulated in the watershed.
2. Limit fuelbreaks to less than 60% slope where practical.
3. Reduce watershed and ecosystem damages that are caused from detrimental cumulative impacts.

Water Resource Improvements

Evaluate existing watershed conditions for improvement of water yield, and consider:

- a. Shaded fuelbreaks to provide increased protection of the adjacent stands;
- b. Water and sediment impoundments, and flow timing measures, to increase useable water quantities and reduce sediment damage; and
- c. Understory age-class management that would allow for as much early successional stages of vegetation as possible, without causing irreparable damage to the watershed or ecosystem;
- d. Implement harvest and thinning operations that would allow for as much early successional stages of vegetation as possible, and create opening compatible with other resource needs.

Range

Livestock will not be grazed in wildlife emphasis areas unless required for habitat maintenance and enhancement.

Silviculture

1. Manage stands toward an irregular size structure of non-uniform arrangement of tree sizes (from juveniles to old growth) with trees of differing size classes interspersed singly or in small groups to produce high habitat diversity needed to maintain the ecological requirements of wild-life species.
2. All age groups need not be represented on every acre.
3. Provide a continuing supply of oaks. Favor large, old trees with a good record of high acorn production.
4. Make every effort to prevent loss of more than 30% of the tree canopy over as a result of management.

5. Maintain natural occurring oak savannahs. In oak savannah, maintain at least a 25% tree canopy cover.
6. Stands to be managed under this direction should be carefully evaluated for mistletoe and appropriate control action taken if necessary.
7. Maintain a mixed species composition containing as broad a mixture of naturally occurring species as possible under southern California site conditions. The mixture will contain oaks as well as other hardwood species.
8. Management efforts will be aimed toward maintaining variety where it occurs naturally, rather than introducing it in locations unfavorable to species mixtures. a. Manage to achieve a non-uniform arrangement of tree sizes, from juveniles to old growth interspersed singly or in small groups to produce high habitat diversity for wildlife.
9. Caution should be taken when developing prescriptions for managing undergrowth vegetation or reducing fuel loads under most oaks. Light fires can be used to stimulate oak sprouting.

Harvest

1. Harvest trees as needed to maintain healthy vigorous stands. a. Individual and commercial cordwood sales will be at an average of 2300 cords per year.
2. Sanitation-salvage treatment may be applied where fire damage or insect problems develop. Otherwise, removal of old growth trees will be based on the likelihood of survival until the next treatment, as determined by overall health and vigor of individual trees.

Regeneration

1. Forestation should be undertaken only in areas where there are long-term multiple resource benefits. Planting projects will be scheduled in District reforestation plans.
2. Oaks should generally be planted in groups or blocks rather than individually among conifers, to insure their long-term survival in the stand.
3. Consider cutting decadent oaks before they die to take advantage of sprouting. Snag requirements and wildlife needs will be considered before cutting.
4. Oak regeneration, either as sprouts or seedlings, should be considered as valuable and desirable as conifer regeneration.
5. When planting a brush field, mixtures of conifers should be used, rather than a single species, where growing conditions permit. Native hardwoods will also be planted.

Pruning and Thinning

1. Thin oaks and conifers to promote vigor and reduce potential damage from forest pests.
2. Prune oaks and conifers as needed to provide recreational stands, reduce ladder fuels, and lessen mistletoe impacts.
3. Thinning standards will be developed for each project and will consider recreational screening, wildlife needs, pest management and fire hazards, as well as silvicultural needs.
4. Release of plantations from grass and brush is imperative for survival of young stands and good growth. Plans for release will be made at the time of planting.

5. When thinning, all native conifer and hardwood species will be considered to provide for the ecological requirements of wildlife species.

Old Growth

1. Existing old growth trees will be retained in the stand as long as possible.
2. Younger age-classes will be managed to provide replacements for old growth trees in the future.
3. Continue present policy of not setting a predetermined rotation age for old growth trees.
4. Need for removal of old growth trees will be determined by a silvicultural prescription based on an analysis of stand structure and environmental conditions influencing tree growth, insect risk, and public enjoyment.

Snags and Down Material

1. Sufficient snags will be retained to satisfy the requirements for snag-dependent wildlife species. Retain, on an average, 1.5 snags per acre, 20" dbh or greater wherever available.
2. In some cases, old growth trees will be left standing after they die to provide wildlife habitat with emphasis on those that occur in draws, drainages, and riparian zones.
3. Cleanup measures will not be so intensive as to create unnatural park-like conditions.
4. Retain snags, that are not safety hazards, around outer periphery of existing and planned campgrounds and picnic areas, where practical.

Openings and Edges

1. Leave dead and down material for a variety of animal communities. Retain, where possible, 3-4 down logs per acre, 20" dbh or greater and 20' long.
2. Maintain natural openings or create openings and edges where possible.

Wood Products

See "Harvest", above.

Wildlife

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

1. Provide desirable habitat conditions to maintain viable populations of all native vertebrates and enhance those of Management Indicator Species (MIS). Management Indicator Species for this vegetative type are the following: mule deer, bighorn sheep, Chaparral Bird Assemblage, and Riparian Bird Assemblage (where appropriate).
2. Minimize mechanical disturbances of soils to reduce the impact of habitat manipulation on small mammal communities.
3. Care will be used in selection and application of pesticides, with special consideration given to the impacts on wildlife, especially birds of prey (raptors).
4. Maintain understory vegetation to provide horizontal and vertical diversity for wildlife.
5. Leave dead and down material for a variety of animal communities. Retain at least 3-4 down logs per acre on an average, 20" dbh or greater and 20' long.

Water Development

1. Design man-made water developments, and maintain existing sources for ecological requirements of wildlife species. Provide, where needed and practical, man-made water sources in the form of impoundments, ponds, potholes, freshwater marshes, horizontal wells, or other methods in suitable areas.
2. Maintain natural water supply for wildlife needs.

Fire

Fuel Management

1. Consider underburning once every 10-14 years with low intensity Rx fire to reduce natural fuel loading and to prevent encroachment of unwanted shade-tolerant conifers and brush that create vertical fuel ladders.
 - a. Prescribed fire use will be site and wildlife species specific.
 - b. Natural fuel loading and reproduction needs will determine burning regimes.
2. Construct and maintain the primary fuelbreak system through prescribed fire, grazing, mechanical means, and herbicides, or a combination of these methods. Maintain the fuelbreak support systems of helibases, cisterns, and access roads. Maintain fuelbreaks at a minimum 300' width with no more than two tons of flammable fuel per acre.
3. Consider shaded fuelbreaks.

Fire Suppression

Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on and off site values.

Developed Recreation

Rehabilitation of Existing Developed Sites

Return designated sites to design standards, and provide site protection and resource treatments. Rehabilitate all existing sites, condition Class 2 and 3, to condition Class 1 in the next 10 years.

Management of Developed Sites and Dispersed Areas

1. Manage developed sites and dispersed areas at standard service level. If funding is inadequate, sites may be managed to low standard. See the S&Gs for a description of service levels. Sites not operated at least to low standard will be closed. Sites not operated for more than one year, or which cannot be operated cost effectively, may be closed or removed.
2. Reduce vandalism and provide public enjoyment through use of entrance stations, gates, and law enforcement.
3. Manage existing campgrounds and picnic areas to recommended ROS design capacity. Recommended ROS capacity guidelines for campgrounds and picnic areas:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY DEVELOPED PORTION</u>
S-P Non-Motorized	4-12 PAOT/Acre
S-P Motorized	4-12 PAOT/Acre
Roaded Natural	13-25 PAOT/Acre
Rural	25-75 PAOT/Acre

Administration of Special Uses - Resorts and Org. Camps

Maintain and administer special use permits to meet requirements.

Dispersed Recreation

Equestrian and Hiking Trails

1. Maintain existing trails system. Allow for improvement of existing system by new construction and/or elimination of existing segments. Maintain the Pacific Crest Trail and National Recreation Trails at Level 3, and all others at Level 2.

2. Recommended ROS capacity for existing trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY PER MILE</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	5-10 PAOT/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	5-10 PAOT/Mi
Roaded Natural	10-15 PAOT/Mi
Rural	15-20 PAOT/Mi

ORV Roads and Trails

1. Maintain designated ORV road and trail system. Minimize additions to the system, wherever possible.

2. Provide for resource protection along designated routes. Protect vegetation along trail corridors during prescribed burning.

3. Suggested ROS Capacity Guidelines - ORV Trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
S-P Motorized	0-10
Roaded Natural	10-20
Rural	20+

4. Provide rest and staging areas along routes as practical.

5. Provide patrols within heavily used areas and along trail system as needed. Enforce spark arrester and noise requirements.

6. Use of sections of trail may be restricted, and seasonally closed for wildlife management needs, such as, but not limited to, fawning seasons, nesting requirements or other habitat enhancement concerns.

Target Shooting

There are no shooting areas on lands covered by this prescription.

Driving for Pleasure

Recognize and enhance opportunities for increased public enjoyment and benefits derived from driving for pleasure on State, County and Forest system roads. Coordinate maintenance and litter pickup with State and County road departments.

General Undeveloped Recreation (including Rivers and Streams)

Provide litter cleanup, sanitation facilities, public enjoyment and law enforcement contact as directed by the annual work program. ROS Class Guidelines for Rivers and Streams:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY PER MILE</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	1.5-4.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	4.5-15/Mi
Roaded Natural	15-100/Mi
Rural	100-200/Mi

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

Provide public information where required for environmental interpretation and management needs, including consideration of unmanned information stands.

Scenery Management

1. Design and implement management activities to provide a visually appealing landscape. Provide or enhance more viewing opportunities and increase vegetation diversity in selected areas.
 - a. Do not exceed the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) as shown on the adopted VQO map.
 - b. Arterial and collector roads and trails are Sensitivity Level 1.
2. Exceptions will be considered, but will require Forest Supervisor's approval. Exceptions should require a trade of like acres to be upgraded through rehabilitation or enhancement. As feasible, minimize the visual effects of management activity. See adopted VQO map.
3. Forest Supervisor's approval will be required for management activities that will exceed the duration of impact standards for any particular VQO category.

Management Area #5

Theme

This prescription emphasizes management of recreation opportunities in the oak woodlands and conifer forest.

Management Area Description

This prescription will apply to all landforms with oak and conifer forest and woodland cover outside of designated wilderness, RNAs, SIAs and San Dimas Experimental Forest. Acres by slope class are:

< 40% slopes	=	10,076 acres
40-60% slopes	=	15,302 acres
> 60% slopes	=	<u>16,726 acres</u>
TOTAL		42,104 acres

Desired Condition

Management of the vegetation in oak and conifer stands is shown in Prescription 4 and is to be included by reference, and considered part of this Prescription.

Conifer/Oak Bird Assemblage and the Riparian Bird Assemblage (where appropriate) will be used as management indicator species to monitor habitat conditions. Important habitat components of these management indicator species and threatened, endangered, or sensitive plants and animals, will be maintained.

Fuelwood production is compatible and will be a by-product of the management of oak and conifer vegetation types.

Prescribed fire will be the principle understory management tool.

All Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classes are represented in this vegetative type, but the primary ROS classes are semi-primitive non-motorized, roaded and rural. In the semi-primitive non-motorized areas, activity emphasis is on hiking and equestrian trails, cross-country skiing and trail camps. Refer to Forest ROS map for area specific designations.

In the roaded natural and rural ROS classes activity emphasis is on developed recreation, primarily, visitor information facilities, camping, picnicking, organization camps, and downhill skiing. In addition, there are water based recreation opportunities in riparian areas.

Water yield will be a by-product from management activities.

Water quality, soil characteristics and visual quality objectives may act to limit application of management activities.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #5

Water Resources

Watershed Protection

1. Maintain water quality and soil productivity to comply with applicable laws and regulations. No more than 40% of the vegetation in any watershed should be less than 5 years old at any one time. In any given year, no more than 20% of the vegetation will be manipulated in the watershed.

2. Reduce watershed and ecosystem damages that are caused from detrimental cumulative impacts. Limit fuelbreaks to less than 60% slope where practical.

Water Resource Improvements

Evaluate existing watershed conditions for improvement of water yield, and consider:

- a. Shaded fuelbreaks to provide increased protection of adjacent stands;

- b. Water and sediment impoundments, and flow timing measures, to increase useable water quantities and reduce sediment damage;
- c. Understory age-class management that would allow for as much early successional stages of vegetation as possible, without causing irreparable damage to the watershed or ecosystem.

Range

Livestock will not be grazed in wildlife emphasis areas unless required for habitat maintenance and enhancement.

Silviculture

See Management Prescription #4 for vegetation management of oak and conifer stands.

Wood Products

See Management Prescription #4.

Wildlife

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

1. Provide desirable habitat conditions to maintain populations of all native vertebrates and enhance those of Management Indicator Species (MIS). Management Indicator Species for this vegetative type are the following: Conifer/Oak Bird Assemblage and Riparian Bird Assemblage.
2. Care will be used in selection and application of pesticides, with special consideration given to the impacts on wildlife, especially birds of prey (raptors).

Fire

Fuel Management

1. Construct and maintain the primary fuelbreak system through prescribed fire, grazing, mechanical means, and herbicides, or a combination of these methods. Maintain the fuelbreak support systems of helibases, cisterns, and access roads. Maintain fuelbreaks at a minimum 300' width with no more than two tons of flammable fuel per acre.
2. Consider shaded fuelbreaks.

Developed Recreation

Recreation Developments

1. Provide developed recreation and VIS facilities to meet the demand in the Angeles National Forest zone of influence.
2. Priorities for development including new picnic areas, campgrounds, and group campgrounds are as follows:
 - a. Rehabilitate existing sites.
 - Rehabilitate all existing sites, condition Class 2 or 3 to condition Class 1 in the next 10 years.
 - b. Expand existing sites.

- c. Develop new sites in areas of high demand.
- 3. Include law enforcement and vandalism protection in site designs.
- 4. Continue cooperation with State and local agencies, and the private sector, in recreation facility development and planning.
- 5. Provide the most cost-effective facilities which meet public needs and mitigate resource conflicts.
- 6. Design camping and picnic facilities to development levels appropriate to ROS Class.

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>EXPERIENCE LEVEL</u>
Primitive	Exp. Level 1
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	Exp. Level 2
Semi-Primitive Motorized	Exp. Level 2
Roaded Natural	Exp. Level 2 or 3
Rural	Exp. Level 3 or 4

- 7. Provide a variety of designs and materials to simulate natural colors and textures of soil, rock and vegetation.

Management of Developed Sites and Dispersed Areas

1. Manage developed sites and dispersed areas at standard service level. If funding is inadequate, sites may be managed to low standard. See Standards and Guidelines for a description of service levels.

- a. Sites not operated to low standard will be closed.
- b. Sites not operated for more than one year, or which cannot be operated cost effectively, may be closed or removed.

2. Consider entrance stations at major highway access points to reduce vandalism, monitor use, and enhance public enjoyment.

3. Manage existing campgrounds and picnic grounds to recommended ROS design capacity. Suggested ROS Capacity guideline for Camping and Picnicking:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY IN DEVELOPED PORTION, PAOT/ACRES</u>
Primitive	1-8
S-P Non-Motorized	4-12
S-P Motorized	4-12
Roaded Natural	13-25
Rural	25-75
Urban	75-150

Winter Sports

- 1. Maintain trail system at least to Level 3.
- 2. Annual snow safety and operating plans will be approved prior to November 15 of each year. Mt. High West, Mt. High East, Movie Slope, Ski Sunrise, Kratka Ridge, Mt. Waterman, Mt. Baldy, Buckhorn Ski Club.

3. Provide cross-country ski trails along viable routes. Utilize existing roads, trails and developed sites wherever appropriate.
4. Permittees will complete master development plans at all existing ski areas. Development plans completed by 1990.
5. Consider issuance of new permits for expansion of existing ski areas only after approval of master plans, providing they meet FSM requirements for classification and approval.
6. Develop and expand existing permitted areas only.
 - a. Allocations are not to exceed a Forestwide total of 2,465 acres.
 - b. During study of possible expansion of existing ski areas, the permittee shall investigate the use of mass transit as an alternative to construction of more parking facilities.
7. Manage ski areas with consideration of public enjoyment and resource capability.
8. Comfortable capacity will be agreed to in the Master Development Plan.
9. Provide a balance of skill levels Forestwide and at individual resorts, if possible.
10. Do not permit construction of public overnight accommodations within the permit boundary, since accommodations can be developed on adjacent private lands or in the L.A. Basin.

Dispersed Recreation

Equestrian and Hiking Trails

1. Maintain the Pacific Crest Trail and National Recreation Trails to a minimum Level 3. All others to recommended ROS guidelines. Equestrian and hiking trails ROS capacity guidelines:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MI</u>	<u>TRAIL MNTCE.</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	5-10/Mi	Level 2
Semi-Primitive Motorized	5-10/Mi	Level 3
Roaded Natural	10-15/Mi	Level 4
Rural	15-20/Mi	Level 5

2. Rest areas may include seating, potable water, shade, hitching rails, and corrals.

ORV Roads and Trails

1. Provide and maintain comprehensive network of trails.
2. Connect major ORV open areas with trail system, where possible.
3. Provide staging areas, rest areas, and overnight areas along route as necessary.
4. Suggested ROS Capacity Guidelines - ORV Trails.

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
S-P Motorized	0-5
Roaded Natural	5-10
Rural	10+

5. Protect vegetation along trail corridors during prescribed burning.

6. Increase patrols, as necessary, in recently burned areas.
7. Provide visitor information.
8. Provide for fuel hazard reduction along ORV trails where feasible.
9. Provide patrol along trail routes, as needed. Enforce spark arrester and noise requirements.
10. Organized events will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Bicycle Trails and Lanes

1. Cooperate with State and County agencies to provide trails and bike lanes along designated routes.
2. Establish District priorities for designation of bicycle lanes and trails.
3. Promote construction of bicycle lanes when major maintenance is anticipated on State and County roads. Maintain all bicycle lanes to Level 5.
4. Establish rest areas as needed which may provide potable water, bicycle racks, sanitation, and surfaced access.

Target Shooting

There are no shooting areas on the lands covered by this prescription.

Driving for Pleasure

Recognize and enhance opportunities for increased public enjoyment and benefits derived from driving for pleasure on State, County and Forest system roads. Coordinate maintenance and litter pickup with State and County road departments.

General Undeveloped Recreation (including Rivers and Streams)

Provide litter cleanup, sanitation, public enjoyment and law enforcement contact as stated in the annual work program.) Dispersed streamplay ROS Guidelines:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	1.5-4.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	4.5-15/Mi
Roaded Natural	15-100/Mi
Rural	100-200/Mi

Water-Related Facilities

1. Provide support facilities for water-based recreation on reservoirs, lakes and streams. Facilities may include boat ramps, docks, parking areas, entrance stations, and beaches.
2. Coordinate with appropriate political entities to allow public recreation use on existing permitted water impoundments.
3. All new permitted impoundments will provide for public recreation wherever practical.
4. Dispersed Streamplay ROS guidelines:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
Primitive	0-1.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	1.5-4.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	4.5-15/Mi
Roaded Natural	15-100/Mi
Rural	100-200/Mi

Parking Facilities

1. Design multi-purpose parking facilities wherever possible. Facilities may include: parking, fencing, direction and informative signing, landscaping, sanitation, trail registration, potable water, hitching rails, bicycle racks, and emergency telephones.
2. Parking facilities in or near concentrated recreation use areas should include sanitation facilities designed for handicapped users.

Observation Points

1. Provide observation points along major scenic highways. Utilize existing sediment placement sites, when possible. Major scenic highways are Mt. Wilson, Big Pines Highway, Angeles Crest Highway, Mt. Baldy Road, Highway 39 and Angeles Forest Highway.
2. Facilities may include parking, landscaping, sanitation, signs and barriers.

Commercial Permittes

Consider and administer permits for lands available for commercial recreation activities, providing they meet Forestwide Standards and Guidelines.

Cooperative Dispersed Assistance

Coordinate planning with State and local agencies and the private sector for dispersed recreation.

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

1. Develop District interpretive plans. Complete all plans by 1990.
2. Provide public information where required for management needs, including environmental interpretation and information stations.
3. Interpretive services will be provided at designated locations including selected administrative sites as needed. Supervisor's Office, Ranger District Offices, Chilao, Big Pines, Crystal Lake, Mt. Wilson.

Resource Treatment

1. Favor native vegetation. Increase species diversity. Reduce fuel hazards in and adjacent to developed sites.
2. Develop vegetation management plans for developed sites and periphery areas.
3. Provide vegetative enhancement and shade at trailheads, parking facilities, and along major highway corridors where needed and feasible.

4. Where site conditions are favorable, plant native oaks, conifers, or other hardwoods. Apply appropriate TSI techniques and/or fuels treatment.

5. Perpetuate large conifer tree cover within developed sites and periphery areas. Plant young trees to insure future generations enjoyment of this vegetation type.

Resource Enhancement

Where feasible, locate man made sediment and water impoundments developed for multi-resource needs, in proximity to existing and proposed trail systems, for wildlife viewing. Introduce trees for shade and plant diversity near these water sources.

Scenery Management

1. Design and implement management activities to provide a visually appealing landscape. Provide or enhance more viewing opportunities and increase vegetation diversity in selected areas.

a. Do not exceed the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) as shown on the adopted VQO map.

b. Arterial and collector roads and trails are Sensitivity Level 1.

2. Exceptions will be considered, but will require Forest Supervisor's approval. Exceptions should require a trade of like acres to be upgraded through rehabilitation or enhancement. As feasible, minimize the visual effects of management activity. See adopted VQO map.

3. Forest Supervisor's approval will be required for management activities that will exceed the duration of impact standards for any particular VQO category.

Management Prescription #6

Theme

This Prescription emphasizes management of all activities in the pinyon and juniper vegetation types.

Management Area Description

This Prescription applies to all landforms with pinyon and juniper cover located outside of RNAs, SIAs, designated wilderness and San Dimas Experimental Forest. Acres by slope class are:

< 40% slope	=	862 acres
40-60% slope	=	3,163 acres
> 60% slope	=	<u>3,162 acres</u>
TOTAL		7,187 acres

Desired Condition

The objectives of vegetation management are to maintain and enhance wildlife habitat and recreational values.

Mule deer, and the Pinyon/Juniper Bird Assemblage, are the management indicator species used to monitor habitat conditions. Important habitat components of management indicator species, threatened, endangered or sensitive plants and animals will be maintained and enhanced.

Horizontal and vertical vegetation diversity will be maintained for wildlife habitat.

Yield of wood products will be compatible with other activities. Transportation systems will be maintained in support of recreation opportunities, while providing the necessary protection and enhancement of wildlife needs.

Recreation opportunity classes represented are semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural. Opportunity emphasis will be on semi-primitive non-motorized. In the roaded natural and rural ROS classes the activity emphasis will be on driving for pleasure and viewing scenery. Refer to Forest ROS map for area specific designations.

ORV trail riding on designated routes is allowed as identified on the ORV Planning map.

Water quality, soil characteristics and visual quality objectives may act to further limit application of management activities.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #6

Water Resources

Watershed Protection

1. Maintain water quality and soil productivity to comply with applicable laws and regulations. No more than 40% of the vegetation in any watershed should be less than 5 years old at any one time. In any given year, no more than 20% of the vegetation will be manipulated in the watershed.
2. Except on fuelbreaks, do not burn or otherwise bare the soil more than once in 10 years.
3. Reduce watershed and ecosystem damages that are caused from detrimental cumulative impacts. Limit fuelbreaks to less than 60% slope where practical.

Water Resource Improvements

Evaluate existing watershed conditions for improvement of water yield, and consider:

- a. Shaded fuelbreaks to provide increased protection of adjacent stands.
- b. Water and sediment impoundments, and flow timing measures, to increase useable water quantities and reduce sediment damage; and
- c. Understory age-class management which would allow for as many early successional stages of vegetation as possible, without causing irreparable damage to the watershed or ecosystem.

Range

Range Management

There is no grazing on lands covered under this prescription.

Silviculture

1. On slopes greater than 40%, retain natural successional processes and resultant conditions as much as practical.
2. On slopes up to 40%, the following management directions should be followed:
 - a. Maintain an irregular size structure of non-uniform arrangement of tree sizes (from juveniles to old growth), with trees of differing size classes interspersed singly or in small groups, to produce the high habitat diversity needed to maintain the ecological requirements of wildlife species.
 - b. Stands to be managed under this direction should be carefully evaluated for mistletoe, and appropriate control action taken, if necessary.
3. All age groups need not be present on every acre.
4. Prevent loss of more than 30% of the tree canopy cover as a result of management activities.
5. Retain all existing native hardwoods and conifers that occur within the pinyon/juniper type, where practical.

Snags and Dead and Down Material

1. Sufficient snags will be retained to satisfy the requirements for snag-dependent wildlife species.
 - a. Retain an average of 1.5 snags per acre.
 - b. Select larger size classes where possible.
2. Cleanup measures will not be so intensive as to create unnatural parklike conditions.
3. Retain hard and soft snags, wherever practical.
4. Retain snags around outer periphery of existing and planned campgrounds and day use areas, when they do not create a safety hazard.
5. Leave dead and down material for a variety of wildlife.

Openings and Edges

1. Create openings and edges, no larger than five acres in size, when practical. Maintain natural openings and edges where possible.
2. No type conversions to non-native grasslands or monoculture plantations.

Wood Products

There are no wood products from the lands covered under this prescription.

Wildlife

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

1. Provide desirable habitat conditions to maintain viable populations of all native vertebrates and enhance those of Management Indicator Species (MIS). Management Indicator Species for this vegetative type are the following: mule deer and Pinyon/Juniper Bird Assemblage.

2. Minimize mechanical disturbances of soils to reduce the impacts of habitat manipulation on small mammal communities.
3. Care will be used in selection and application of pesticides, with special consideration given to the impacts on wildlife, especially birds of prey (raptors).

Water Development

1. Design water developments and maintain necessary water sources for the ecological requirements of dependent wildlife species.
 - a. Maintain natural water sources for wildlife needs.
 - b. Provide, where needed and practical, man-made water sources in the form of impoundments, ponds, potholes, marshes, and horizontal wells in suitable areas.

Fire

Fuel Management

1. Consider underburning once every 20-30 years with low intensity Rx fire to reduce natural fuel loading, and to prevent encroachment of unwanted brush which creates vertical fuel ladders.
 - a. Rx fire use will be site and species specific.
 - b. Natural fuel loading and reproduction needs will determine burning regimes.
2. Construct and maintain primary fuelbreak systems with prescribed fire, grazing, mechanical means, and herbicides, or a combination these methods. Maintain the fuelbreak support systems of helibases, cisterns, and access roads. Maintain fuelbreaks at a minimum 300' width with no more than two tons of flammable fuel per acre.
3. Consider shaded fuelbreaks.
4. Extreme care should be taken when developing prescribed fire prescriptions for managing pinyon pine plant communities.

Fire Suppression

Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on- and off-site values.

Developed Recreation

Rehabilitation of Existing Developed Sites

Return existing sites to design capacity and provide site protection and resource treatments. Rehabilitate all existing sites, condition Class 2 or 3 to condition Class 1 in the next 10 years.

Management of Developed Sites and Dispersed Areas

1. Manage developed sites and dispersed areas at standard service level. If funding is inadequate, sites may be managed to low standard. See the S&Gs for a description of service levels. Sites not operated to low standard will be closed. Sites not operated for more than one year, or which cannot be operated cost effectively, may be closed or removed.
2. Reduce vandalism and provide public enjoyment through use of entrance stations, gates, and law enforcement.

Administration of Special Uses - Resorts and Org. Camps

Maintain and administer special use permits to meet requirements.

Dispersed Recreation

Equestrian and Hiking Trails

1. Maintain existing trails system. Allow for improvement of existing system by new construction and elimination of existing segments. Maintain the Pacific Crest Trail and National Recreation Trails at a minimum of Level 3, and all others at a minimum of Level 2.

2. Manage existing trails to recommended ROS capacity. ROS capacity guidelines for trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY PER MILE</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	5-10 PAOT/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	5-10 PAOT/Mi
Roaded Natural	10-15 PAOT/Mi

ORV Roads and Trails

1. Provide and maintain comprehensive network of ORV trails. Suggested ROS Capacity Guidelines - ORV Trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
S-P Motorized	0-5
Roaded Natural	5-10
Rural	10+

2. Connect major ORV open areas with trail system where possible.
3. Provide staging areas, rest areas, and overnight areas along route as necessary.
4. If feasible, protect vegetation along trail corridors during prescribed burning.
5. Increase patrols, as necessary, in recently burned areas.
6. Provide visitor information.
7. Provide for fuel hazard reduction along ORV trails where feasible.
8. Provide patrol along routes, as needed. Enforce spark arrester and noise requirements.
9. Organized events will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Target Shooting

There are no shooting areas on lands covered by this prescription.

Driving for Pleasure

Recognize and enhance opportunities for increased public enjoyment and benefits derived from driving for pleasure on State, County and Forest system roads. Coordinate maintenance and litter pickup with State and County road departments.

General Undeveloped Recreation (including Rivers and Streams)

Provide litter cleanup, sanitation, public enjoyment and law enforcement contact as stated in the annual work program. Dispersed Streamplay ROS Guidelines:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>USE CAPACITY PER MILE</u>
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized	1.5-4.5/Mi
Semi-Primitive Motorized	4.5-15/Mi
Roaded Natural	15-100/Mi

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

Provide public information as required for environmental interpretation and management needs, including consideration of unmanned information stations.

Scenery Management

1. Design and implement management activities to provide a visually appealing landscape. Provide or enhance more viewing opportunities and increase vegetation diversity in selected areas.

- a. Do not exceed the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) as shown on the adopted VQO map.
- b. Arterial and collector roads and trails are Sensitivity Level 1.

2. Exceptions will be considered, but will require Forest Supervisor's approval. Exceptions should require a trade of like acres to be upgraded through rehabilitation or enhancement. As feasible, minimize the visual effects of management activity. See adopted VQO map.

3. Forest Supervisor's approval will be required for management activities that will exceed the duration of impact standards for any particular VQO category.

Management Area #7

Theme

This prescription emphasizes management of all ROS class rural and limited roaded natural corridors, outside the utility corridors, for all vegetative types.

Management Area Description

This prescription will apply to all soil types in the rural and limited roaded natural corridors which covers 102,825 acres of land in the different vegetation types of these high recreation use areas.

Desired Condition

The objective is the enhancement of high use areas for recreation opportunities. These include motorized and non-motorized recreation activities, such as driving for pleasure, viewing scenery, picnicking, camping, fishing, hiking, shooting, waterplay, snowplay, skiing, ORV open areas, and special use recreation administration. ORV open areas and trail riding is permitted on designated routes as identified on the Forest recreation map. Conventional use of highway-type vehicles is provided for in design and construction of facilities. Motorized travel may be prohibited or restricted to designated routes, to protect physical and biological resources. Refer to Forest ROS map for area specific designations.

Visual resources are managed so that activities maintain or improve the quality of recreation opportunities. Management activities should harmonize and blend with the natural setting. Rehabilitation should be used to restore landscapes to a desirable visual quality.

Wildlife habitat will be managed to support at least minimum viable populations of all native vertebrate species.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription and may limit management activities.

Vegetative management includes all types of manipulation measures on slopes less than 60%, and the use of livestock grazing to maintain treated areas outside riparian zones. Fuelwood production is compatible in the conifer/oak woodland. Prescribed fire will be the principle understory management tool.

Water quality and soil productivity will limit other management activities.

Management of the vegetation in oak and conifer stands is shown in Prescription 4 and is to be added to, and considered part of, this Prescription.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #7

Water Resources

Watershed Protection

1. Maintain water quality and soil productivity to comply with applicable laws and regulations. No more than 40% of the vegetation in any watershed should be less than 5 years old at any one time. In any given year, no more than 20% of the vegetation will be manipulated in the watershed.
2. Except on fuelbreaks, do not burn or otherwise bare soil, more than once in 10 years.
3. Reduce watershed and ecosystem damages that are caused from detrimental cumulative impacts. Limit fuelbreaks to less than 60% slope where practical.

Water Quality

No change from existing conditions is permitted in accordance with State standards. Water quality measurements include bacteriological, biological, chemical, and physical parameters.

Range

Range Management

1. Develop and maintain Allotment Management Plans (AMP) according to fuel management priorities.
2. Base allotments on existing fuelbreaks and grasslands.
3. Incorporate prescribed burns and wildfire areas adjacent to fuelbreaks into the AMP.
4. Issue Temporary Livestock Use Permits until range analysis and an AMP are completed for a given allotment, then consider Term Permits.

5. Permit livestock grazing generally on slopes less than 60%. Annual range livestock utilization should leave approximately 900 lbs. per acre of residual dry matter in all chaparral types, and approximately 500 lbs. per acre on fuelbreaks.

Range Improvement

1. Prescribed burning and grazing will be used on selected areas to rejuvenate decadent chaparral and slow shrub regrowth. A given area should not be reburned within 10 years.
2. New areas will be provided only where livestock access is available. No roads will be constructed solely for livestock access.
3. Develop new water sources as needed, and maintain all existing water developments. Provide at least 10% of all developed water for wildlife.

Silviculture

1. See Prescription #4 for vegetation management for oak and conifer stands.
2. See Prescription #3 for vegetation management for chaparral vegetative types.

Wildlife

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

1. Provide desirable habitat conditions to maintain viable populations of all native vertebrates and enhance those of Management Indicator Species (MIS). Management Indicator Species for this vegetative type are the following: Mule deer, bighorn sheep, Chaparral Bird Assemblages and Conifer/Oak Woodland Bird Assemblages.
2. Care will be used in selection and application of pesticides, with special consideration given to the impacts on wildlife, especially birds of prey (raptors).

Fire

Fuel Management

1. Construct and maintain primary fuelbreak system through prescribed fire, grazing, mechanical means, and herbicides, or a combination of these methods. Maintain the fuelbreak support systems of helibases, cisterns, and access roads. Maintain fuelbreaks at a minimum 300' width with no more than two tons of flammable fuel per acre.
2. Consider shaded fuelbreaks.
3. Maintain age class mosaics ranging from 0-45 years in chaparral types.
4. Hazard reduction will occur along road corridors through the use of Rx fire, grazing, mechanical treatment, and herbicides, or a combination thereof.

Fire Suppression

1. Fire retardants may be used where feasible to reduce fire starts along major routes.
2. Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on- and -off-site values.

Developed Recreation

Recreation Developments

1. Provide developed recreation and interpretive service facilities for maximum recreation opportunity.
2. Priorities for development including new picnic areas, campgrounds, and group campgrounds are as follows:
 - a. Rehabilitate existing sites.
 - Rehabilitate all existing sites, condition Class 2 or 3 to condition Class 1 in the next 10 years.
 - b. Expand existing sites.
 - c. Develop new sites in areas of high demand.
3. Include law enforcement and vandalism protection in site designs.
4. Continue cooperation with State and local agencies, and the private sector, in recreation facility development and planning.
5. Provide cost-effective facilities which meet public needs and mitigate resource conflicts.
6. Design camping and picnic facilities to development levels appropriate to ROS Class.
 - a. Limited Roaded Natural will have an Experience Level 2 or 3.
 - b. Rural will have an Experience Level 3 or 4.

Rehabilitation of Existing Developed Sites

Based on use and rehabilitation costs, establish priorities for rehabilitation. Rehabilitate all existing sites, condition Class 2 or 3 to condition 1 in the next 10 years.

Management of Developed Sites and Dispersed Areas

1. Manage developed sites and dispersed areas at standard service level. If funding is inadequate, sites may be managed to low standard. See Standards and Guidelines for a description of service levels.
 - a. Sites not operated to low standard will be closed.
 - b. Sites not operated for more than one year, or which cannot be operated cost effectively, may be closed or removed.
2. Consider entrance stations at major highway access points to reduce vandalism, monitor use, and enhance public enjoyment.
3. Manage campgrounds and picnic grounds to recommended ROS design capacity:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>DEVELOPED PORTION</u>
Roaded Natural	15-25 PAOT/Acre
Rural	25-75 PAOT/Acre

Winter Sports

Management of Ski Areas is in Prescription #5.

Dispersed Recreation

Equestrian and Hiking Trails

1. Maintain the Pacific Crest Trail and National Recreation Trails to a minimum Level 3. All others to recommended ROS guidelines. Equestrian and hiking trails ROS capacity guidelines:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MI</u>	<u>TRAIL MNTCE.</u>
Roaded Natural	10-15/Mi	Level 4
Rural	15-20/Mi	Level 4

2. Rest areas may include potable water, shade, hitching rails, and corrals.

ORV Roads and Trails

1. Provide and maintain comprehensive network of ORV trails.
2. Connect major ORV open areas with trail system, where possible.
3. Provide staging areas, rest areas, and overnight areas along route as necessary.
4. Suggested ROS Capacity Guidelines - ORV Trails:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
Roaded Natural	5-10
Rural	10+

5. If feasible, protect vegetation along trail corridors during prescribed burning.
6. Increase patrols, as necessary, in recently burned areas.
7. Provide visitor information.
8. Provide for fuel hazard reduction along ORV trails where feasible.
9. Provide patrol along trail routes, as needed. Enforce spark arrester and noise requirements.
10. Organized events will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

ORV Open Areas

1. Design and construct support facilities in ORV open areas to accommodate 3-6 vehicles per acre.
2. Organized events will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Bicycle Trails and Lanes

1. Cooperate with State and County agencies to provide trails and bike lanes along designated routes.
2. Establish District priorities for designation of bicycle lanes and trails.
3. Promote construction of bicycle lanes when major maintenance is anticipated on State and County roads. Maintain all bicycle lanes to Level 5.
4. Establish rest areas as needed which may provide potable water, bicycle racks, sanitation, and surfaced access.

Target Shooting

1. Provide for concentrated recreational target shooting, within designated area. Capacity for target shooting is estimated at 8 PAOT/acre, maximum.
2. Maintain signs and remove trash for user enjoyment and protection of the resources.

Driving for Pleasure

Recognize and enhance opportunities for increased public enjoyment and benefits derived from driving for pleasure on State, County and Forest system roads. Coordinate maintenance and litter pickup with State and County road departments.

Water-Related Facilities

1. Provide support facilities for water-based recreation on reservoirs, lakes and streams.
2. Coordinate with appropriate political entities to allow public recreation use on new or existing permitted water impoundments.
3. Dispersed Streamplay ROS guidelines:

<u>ROS CLASS</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>PAOT/MILE</u>
Limited Roaded Natural	Boating	3 Boats/Acre
Rural	Boating	10 Boats/Acre
Rural	Water Skiing	0.5-1.0 Skiers/Acre
Limited Roaded Natural	Swimming/Beach	45-60 PAOT/Acre
Rural	Swimming/Beach	60-75 PAOT/Acre
Roaded Natural	Dispersed Streamplay	15-100 PAOT/Mile
Rural	Dispersed Streamplay	100-200 PAOT/Mile

Parking Facilities

1. Design multi-purpose parking facilities wherever possible. Facilities may include: parking, fencing, direction and informative signing, landscaping, sanitation, trail registration, potable water, hitching rails, bicycle racks, and emergency telephones.
2. Parking facilities in or near concentrated recreation use areas should include sanitation facilities designed for handicapped users.

Observation Sites

Provide observation points along major scenic highways. Utilize existing sediment placement sites, when possible. Major scenic highways are Bouquet Canyon, San Francisquito Canyon, Elizabeth Lake, Chantry Flat Road, Old 99, Hwy. 39, Old Ridge Route, Santa Clarita Divide, Glendora Ridge Road, Big Tujunga Canyon, Glendora Mountain Road, Angeles Crest Highway, Angeles Forest Highway, East Fork Road, Mt. Baldy Road, and Lake Hughes Road.

Commercial Permittees

1. Consider and administer permits for lands available for commercial recreation activities, providing they meet Forestwide Standards and Guidelines.
2. Utilize concessionaire operations where cost savings can be achieved, public needs met, and resources maintained or enhanced.

Cooperative Dispersed Assistance

Coordinate planning with State and local agencies and the private sector for dispersed recreation.

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

1. Develop District interpretive plans. Complete all plans by 1990.
2. Provide public information where required for management needs, including environmental interpretation and information stations.
3. Interpretive services will be provided at designated locations, including selected administrative sites as needed. Supervisor's Office, Ranger District Offices, Vista Del Lago, Big Tujunga, Angeles Crest, San Gabriel, Big Pines, Littlerock, Chilao, Chantry Flat.

Resource Treatment

1. Favor native vegetation. Increase species diversity. Reduce fuel hazards in and adjacent to developed sites.
2. Develop vegetation management plans for developed sites and periphery areas.
3. Provide vegetative enhancement and shade at trailheads, parking facilities, observation sites, and along major highway corridors where needed and feasible.
4. Where site conditions are favorable, plant native oaks, conifers, or other hardwoods. Apply appropriate TSI techniques and/or fuels treatment.

Resource Enhancement

Where feasible, locate man made sediment and water impoundments developed for multi-resource needs, in proximity to existing and proposed trail systems, for wildlife viewing. Introduce trees for shade and plant diversity near these water sources.

Scenery Management

1. Design and implement management activities to provide a visually appealing landscape. Provide or enhance more viewing opportunities and increase vegetation diversity in selected areas.
 - a. Do not exceed the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) as shown on the adopted VQO map.
 - b. Arterial and collector roads and trails are Sensitivity Level 1.
2. Exceptions will be considered, but will require Forest Supervisor's approval. Exceptions should require a trade of like acres to be upgraded through rehabilitation or enhancement. As feasible, minimize the visual effects of management activity. See adopted VQO map.
3. Forest Supervisor's approval will be required for management activities that will exceed the duration of impact standards for any particular VQO category.
4. Improve the visual resource within corridors through litter pickup, sign maintenance, and facility design. Man-made structures should not be dominant, but subordinate to the landscape.

Special Uses

Non-Recreation

Ensure permitted special uses are compatible with associated National Forest activities within the area.

Management Area #8

Theme

This prescription emphasizes management of existing and potential utility corridors across National Forest land.

Management Area Description

This prescription will apply to at least 16,440 acres of National Forest lands identified as existing or potential corridors, and located out of SIAs, RNAs, existing or proposed wilderness areas and San Dimas Experimental Forest.

Desired Condition

Powerline right-of-way corridors will generally be considered the width of existing corridors. Pipeline corridors will be generally 100 feet in width for existing corridors.

When corridors are fully utilized, future lines may be considered for location to and as near as possible to existing corridors, considering topography, safety, reliability, environmental impacts, and technical feasibility.

Livestock management is compatible within the corridors. Significant changes in the vegetative cover will be permitted.

Road access will be necessary except in areas of critical resource concern.

Recreational opportunities will continue within the corridors except where damage to facilities are expected.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription, and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #8

Range

Range Management

1. Allotment plans can include utility corridors.
2. No mechanical treatment over 40% slopes.
3. Permit livestock grazing generally on slopes of less than 60%. Annual range livestock utilization should leave approximately 500 lbs per acre of residual dry matter.

Silviculture

Improve vegetative diversity, where possible. Coordinate vegetative treatment practices with utility companies to maintain a mosaic pattern within powerline corridors.

Wildlife

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

Care will be used in selection and application of pesticides, with special consideration given to the impacts on wildlife, especially birds of prey (raptors).

Fire

Fuel Management

Construct and maintain the primary fuelbreak system through prescribed fire, grazing, mechanical means, herbicides, or a combination thereof, and maintain the fuelbreak support systems of helibases, cisterns, and access roads. Standards will be set on a case-by-case basis in cooperation with utility permittees.

Fire Suppression

Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on- and off-site values, and documented in the Appendix.

Developed Recreation

Management of Developed and Dispersed Recreation

This includes all recreation use allowed that is compatible with the type of corridor it is located in. Utility corridors will be given priority when any unresolvable conflicts occur.

Dispersed Recreation

ORV Roads and Trails

Selected sections of powerline utility roads may be open, designated and managed as ORV travel routes. The road maintenance standards are set by the utility companies. If conflicts occur between the ORV users and powerline reliability, the utility company may request closure of routes to the public and/or request offsetting funds from users. (See Utility Corridors S. & G.)

Target Shooting

There are no shooting areas on the lands covered by this prescription.

Scenery Management

Design and implement management activities to provide a visually appealing landscape. Provide or enhance more viewing opportunities and increase vegetation diversity in selected areas.

- a. Do not exceed the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) as shown on the adopted VQO map.
- b. Arterial and collector roads and trails are Sensitivity Level 1.

Infrastructure

Transportation System

1. Utility companies will provide and maintain a transportation system necessary for maintaining the product facilities. Utility companies will maintain roads to minimum Level 2. If Forest Service or public traffic is allowed on any road, establish a cooperative road maintenance agreement to share cost.
2. New roads will be allowed only where necessary.

Management Area #9

Theme

This prescription emphasizes wilderness management of all lands and resources in the San Gabriel, Sheep Mountain, and Cucamonga Addition Wilderness Areas. Human activity will be limited to a level that will protect the wilderness values. Areas where past activities have resulted in adverse impacts will be identified and managed to rehabilitate the sites.

Management Area Description

This prescription applies to 81,718 acres of land within the boundaries of the 36,118 acre San Gabriel, 41,200 acre Sheep Mountain, and 4,400 acre Cucamonga Addition.

Desired Condition

Wildlife habitat will be protected to assure viable populations of all native vertebrate species. The management indicator species will be bighorn sheep. Livestock grazing is limited to recreation pack saddlestock. Vegetative management activities, such as prescribed fire, may be utilized when there is a demonstrated need to ensure protection of the long-term wilderness values, public enjoyment, and on- or off-site resource objectives and goals.

Facilities and trails will be provided to aid in protection of wilderness solitude and soil and water quality.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription, and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #9

Air Resources

Air Quality

Air quality is maintained. In Federal mandatory Class I areas, protect air quality related values by meeting requirements for prevention of significant deterioration. In other areas, State standards are met.

Mineral Resources

1. In wilderness, minerals activities will be limited to valid claims or patents. Wilderness areas were closed to mineral entry, under the General Mining Laws of 1872, on December 31, 1983, but prior existing rights must be recognized and may be developed. All mining operations within

wilderness shall be compatible with and provide for maintenance of wilderness characteristics. The closing of the wilderness to the mineral leasing laws is currently under consideration by Congress. Any request for leasing in wilderness areas will be deferred until Congress acts in this matter.

2. Minerals activities will be conducted in a manner consistent with protection of wilderness values.

3. Structures for valid mining operations will be permitted only under approved operation plans.

Soils

1. Soil disturbances resulting from trail construction, reconstruction, water barring or other activities will be stabilized and rehabilitated. Accelerated erosion will be treated and rehabilitated.

2. Campsites will be managed to maintain soil and vegetative loss. Inventory all campsites to determine site condition class as defined in FSM 2300. Manage campsites to a minimum of condition Class 2. Take appropriate action and rehabilitate any campsites condition Class 4 or below. Soil compaction and accelerated erosion will be monitored and rehabilitation treatments undertaken to protect soils.

Water Quality

No change from existing conditions is permitted in accordance with State standards. Water quality measurements include bacteriological, biological, chemical and physical parameters.

Silviculture

Reduce unnatural excessive fuel loading which has resulted from past exclusion of wildfire.

Wildlife

1. Present species diversity will be maintained to the extent practical.

2. No exotic species will be introduced.

3. Use patterns for people will be established and managed to minimize conflicts with wildlife.

4. Protect threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.

5. Maintain the habitat of the big horn sheep by:

- a. Continuing investigations of the requirements for bighorn sheep to determine management activities necessary to maintain habitat carrying capacity.
- b. Allowing habitat improvement, including vegetative manipulations when necessary, to maintain habitat carrying capacity as part of the wilderness character.

6. Management Indicator Species will be monitored and appropriate practices will be recommended to maintain viable populations.

Fire

Fuel Management

1. Prescribed fire will be used to reduce the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness, or escaping from wilderness, to an acceptable level.
2. Planned ignitions will be used to reduce unnatural buildup of fuels within wilderness when the use of prescribed fire or other fuel treatment measures outside of wilderness is not sufficient to achieve fire management objectives within wilderness.

Fire Suppression

1. Fire prevention and suppression activities will be conducted to ensure that wilderness values, public enjoyment, and on- and off- site resource goals and objectives are met.
 - a. Smoke from prescribed fire will be dispersed within a 72-hour period.
 - b. Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on- and off-site values, and have been documented in the Appendix.
2. Mechanical transport, motorized equipment and aircraft may be used in wilderness fire suppression after appropriate approval.
3. Lightning caused fires will not be allowed to burn because they pose serious threats to life and natural resources within wilderness and life, property, or natural resources outside wilderness areas.
4. Helitorch use will be allowed, but no aircraft or equipment fueling or maintenance will occur within wilderness.

Dispersed Recreation

Equestrian and Hiking Trails

1. Pack and saddle stock may be prohibited on some trails that are not maintained for horse use. Tying, picketing, hobbling, or loose heading of recreational livestock is prohibited within 100 feet of streams.
2. Implement a trail management program to facilitate dispersal of users, reduce congested portal areas, and provide opportunities for solitude and challenge. Locate trails at least 100 feet from streams, where possible.
3. Develop loop trails.
4. Emphasize low standards of trail construction except in principle travel corridors where joint use by horses and hikers is being encouraged.
5. New trails will be provided to minimize impacts from concentrated use, to distribute people, and to increase user enjoyment. Trails will be developed to Level 3 standards with a maximum of 24 inch tread.
6. Provide an internal east-west trail system in the San Gabriel Wilderness and improve the conditions of sections of the north-south trails. Trails designated for equestrian use will be maintained for 10 foot height and 6 foot width. All trails will be maintained at Level 3.

7. Trailheads will be located outside of wilderness boundaries. Facilities provided at these trailheads will be compatible with the planned use level inside the wilderness.
8. Signs used for resource protection and at trail junctions will be designed to facilitate public travel and enjoyment while blending in with the surroundings. Signs will be made of vandal-proof materials to the extent possible.

Target Shooting

There are not shooting areas on the lands covered by this prescription.

Camping

1. Designated campsites may be provided within 100 feet of primary trails or live streams where natural features make this necessary.
2. Camping within 100 feet of live streams is not permitted except at designated sites. Visitors are urged to utilize low impact camping techniques to reduce the impact on the land.
3. Open campfires will be restricted to designated campsites in primary travel areas and according to fire restrictions.
 - a. Forestwide fire restrictions apply to wilderness.
 - b. Use of self-contained stoves is encouraged.
4. Maintain campsites to minimum of condition Class 2 as defined in FSM 2300.
5. Level of use is managed to provide for isolation and solitude. Established capacities are not exceeded on more than 20 days per year. Maximum encounters with groups range between three and six encounters per day.
6. Visitor use may be limited by informing visitors of alternative opportunities outside the wilderness, and by instituting a permit system. A permit system may be used to maintain current use levels, to alter use patterns, or to reduce restrictions on visitors within the wilderness.
 - a. Suggested Recreation Use Capacity Level:
 - Travel Corridors 0-10 PAOT/mile
 - Area wide use level .02 PAOT/acre
 - b. Alternate low use entry points:
 - Sheep Mountain
 - Cow Canyon Saddle
 - Vincent Gap
 - Prairie Fork Cucamonga
 - Buck Point (S.B.)

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

Provide visitor information facilities to interpret the wilderness and impart wilderness ethics to visitors. These facilities will be located outside of wilderness boundaries.

Wilderness Resources

Emphasize opportunities for isolation, solitude and challenge, while providing for concentrated use in travel corridors and designated campsites.

Litter Control

1. Maintain wilderness quality.
2. Encourage pack-in/pack-out.

Scenery Management

1. Manage for maximum protection of the natural landscape. All activities will be designed and implemented so the impact of humans is not apparent, and the area appears in an untrampled and natural condition. VQO at the Preservation level.
2. Manmade facilities will be compatible with the primitive character as much as possible, with native materials as the principle source of raw materials.

Infrastructure

Access

Private land and mining claim access will be provided at the minimum standard to meet the needs of private landowners. Protect wilderness values that cause the least impact on the primitive character of the land.

Facilities

Administrative facilities or structures will be constructed only if necessary to protect and manage the wilderness resource, upon the approval of the Regional Forester. Structures will be low maintenance and utilizing native materials wherever possible.

Real Estate

All non-federal inholdings will be acquired as they become available. Acquisition policy of willing buyer/willing seller will prevail.

Special Uses

1. Land occupancy authorized prior to wilderness designation and not eliminated as a stipulation of designation, will be managed to reduce impact on wilderness values.
2. Outfitter/guide operations are subject to the same restrictions as the general public, including recreation livestock.
3. Outfitter camping is permitted only in designated sites, as specified in the outfitter/guide permit.

Management Prescription #10

Theme

This prescription provides for management of existing, proposed, and potential special interest areas (SIA's), including botanical and geological areas. Management emphasis in SIA's is to

promote conservation and preservation of the resources present. Where possible, foster public use and enjoyment of their significant values.

Management Area Description

This prescription applies to the following:

<u>Botanical Areas</u>	<u>Approximate Size</u>
Mt. Baden-Powell	250 acres
Mt. San Antonio	320 acres
<u>Geological Areas</u>	
Devil's Punchbowl	1310 acres

Desired Condition

Pursuant to 36 CFR 29k .1, and the authority delegated to the Regional Forester by the Chief, these areas are designated as botanical or geological areas. Establishment reports will be prepared confirming the precise boundaries.

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription, and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #10

Mineral Resources

1. Prospecting, and other minerals activities will be limited to valid claims or patents, after establishment of the SIA. Special Interest Areas will be closed to mineral entry, under the General Mining Laws of 1872.
2. All mining operations within SIA's shall be compatible with, and provide for maintenance of SIA characteristics.

Silviculture

To retain and enhance objectives of the SIA. Veg research sampling and investigation by permit only.

Fire

Fuel Management

Use of fire in these areas must be compatible with protection of SIA resources present, and may be a prerequisite to maintenance of the natural processes within the area.

Fire Suppression

SIA resource values and public enjoyment will be protected through fire prevention and suppression practices. Specific fire suppression objectives have been developed in support of fire management plans considering on- and off-site values, and are documented in the Appendix.

Developed Recreation

Developed recreation is allowed when it does not threaten the integrity of natural or cultural values within the SIA. No recreational facilities other than trails and signing will be constructed within the Mt. San Antonio or Mt. Baden-Powell botanical areas.

Dispersed Recreation

Dispersed recreation should be controlled to avoid damage to the resources present. Trail construction and improvement is allowed as needed to enhance interpretive opportunities, and direct people through the area to minimize resource damage. Within the Mt. San Antonio and Mt. Baden-Powell botanical areas, no collection of native materials for campfire fuel is allowed.

ORV Roads and Trails

SIA's are closed to ORV use.

Target Shooting

There are no shooting areas on the lands covered by this prescription.

General Recreation

Interpretive Services

Interpretive Services perform an integral part in the management of SIA's. Interpretive programs will be designed to inform the public about the resources within SIA's to prevent inadvertent destruction that may occur when people are unaware of their unique values.

Scenery Management

Manage for maximum protection of the natural landscape. All activities will be designed and implemented so the impact of humans is not apparent and the area appears in an untrammelled and natural condition. VQO at the Preservation level.

Management Area #11

Theme

This prescription provides for the management of existing and proposed Research Natural Areas (RNA's) in accord with the terms in their respective establishment reports. This management also applies to those potential RNAs that are officially designated as "Candidate Areas".

Management Area Description

Fern Canyon, located in the San Dimas Experimental Forest, is the only Research Natural Area currently on the Forest, and covers 1,460 acres.

Fall Canyon, located on the Arroyo Seco Ranger District, is officially designated as a Candidate Research Natural Area, and covers 1,030 acres.

Desired Condition

Riparian zone, T&E, and cultural resource values will be protected by following the Forestwide Standards and Guidelines as part of this Prescription, and may limit management activities.

Standards and Guidelines, Management Area #11

Mineral Resources

1. Minerals activities will be conducted in a manner consistent with protection of RNA values. Research Natural Areas will be closed to mineral entry, under, the General Mining Laws of 1872.
2. All mining operations within RNAs shall be compatible with, and provide for maintenance of RNA characteristics.

Water Resources

To the extent possible, water quality and quantity will be maintained at a level which represents natural conditions. Water yield increases and flow alterations designed to respond to off-site issues and concerns are not permitted.

RNA's

1. Inventory, establishment, and management of RNAs follows direction in FSM 4063. An establishment report for the Falls Canyon RNA (approximately 1,225 acres which includes Falls and Strains Canyons) will be prepared and submitted to the Chief for establishment action.
2. Inventory, evaluation, and selection of deferred aquatic and geologic elements and unrepresented botanical elements will be accomplished prior to the next plan revision.

Range

Grazing of livestock is prohibited.

Silviculture

No vegetation management activities (seeding, snag removal, planting, etc.) are permitted except as required to restore or maintain the biological condition for which the area was established. Veg research sampling and investigation by permit only.

Wildlife

Research Natural Areas provide wildlife habitat by maintaining natural, biological processes. Manipulation of habitat strictly for wildlife enhancement is not permitted.

Fire

Fuel Management

1. Use of fire in these areas must be compatible with protection of RNA resources present, and may be a prerequisite to maintenance of the natural processes within the area.
2. Prescribed fire may be used as required.

Fire Suppression

1. Fire prevention and suppression practices will ensure that resource values within and adjacent to RNAs and public enjoyment are protected.
2. Fire management practices will be site specific and will be delineated by the establishment report for each RNA.

Developed Recreation

No developed recreation is allowed except for existing facilities that do not pose threats to the natural integrity of the RNA.

Dispersed Recreation

Non-motorized, dispersed recreational use is permitted, but not encouraged.

Target Shooting

There are no shooting areas on lands covered by this prescription.

Scenery Management

Manage for maximum protection of the natural landscape. All activities will be designed and implemented so that the impact of man is not apparent, and the area appears in an untrampled and natural condition. VQO at the Preservation level.

Infrastructure

Transportation System

1. Motorized vehicle use is prohibited.
2. Construction of roads and trails is allowed, if required to provide access for research purposes. Trails which aid in the preservation of biological conditions by channeling recreational use will be constructed and maintained. Establishment maintenance levels based on transportation objectives for the road or trail.
3. All other road and trail construction is not permitted.