Management Direction

Introduction

This proposed Forest Plan provides management direction for Los Padres National Forest.

Direction is the guidance Forest personnel use to achieve the results the Plan outlines. It also informs the public and other agencies about future programs so that understanding and cooperation will be encouraged. Management direction is derived from a variety of sources. Direction of the highest order is provided by Federal laws such as the National Environmental Policy Act, National Forest Management Act, Resources Protection Act, Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act. Additional direction is provided by the regulations and policies contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, the Forest Service Manual (FSM) and Forest Service Handbooks (FSH). At the Regional level, the Regional Guide facilitates Forest planning through its direction and its long-range program objectives for each National Forest.

The Forest Plan supplements and incorporates by reference direction provided by Federal law and codes, Forest Service policies and regulation, and Regional guidance. This Plan does not restate prior direction.

The direction provided by this Forest Plan is expressed in goals (Forest Mission), objectives, standards and guidelines, and management prescriptions that respond to public issues, management concerns, and opportunities. The responsiveness of the Forest Plan has been shaped by professional judgment and by the varying availability, suitability, and capability of land units.

Implementation of this management direction is the key to translating goals, objectives, standards and guidelines, and management areas stated in the Forest Plan into visible results. The tools of implementation are the Program Development and Budgeting and the Annual Work Planning processes. These processes supplement the Forest Plan by making the annual adjustments and changes needed to reflect current priorities within the overall Plan direction. The Program Accounting and Management Attainment Reporting System provides information for monitoring the accomplishment of the annual Forest program.

Environmental analysis for projects implementing the Forest Plan use its direction as an umbrella. Forest-wide standards and guidelines and management prescriptions are applied to project sites within the management areas. Environmental analysis will be tiered from the Forest Plan Environmental Impact Statement.

The management direction described in this chapter is composed of two major parts: Forest-wide direction and direction specific to management areas. Forest-wide direction is expressed in goals and objectives, the desired future condition of the Forest, and standards and guidelines (Sections 4.2 and 4.3.1). Management areas direction is provided by the thirty-seven prescriptions contained in Section 4.4. The summary of acreage by prescriptions is found in Table 4.4-1 and the resulting outputs and costs are displayed in Table 4.4-2.

The management direction described in this chapter is consistent with the Federal law and the Forest Service Manual; however, Federal law and the Manual are cited only to emphasize or highlight specific direction. Such specific citations do not preclude application of provisions of

the entire manual or other regulatory documents to the management direction provided by the Forest Plan.

Desired Future Condition Of Los Padres National Forest

Implementing the Forest Plan will change Forest conditions. This section of the Management Direction Chapter provides details of the expected future condition of each resource element. These details include future demand, trends of output production, and interactions with other resource elements where appropriate, and problem resolution. The existing situation (refer to Chapter 3) provides the basis for estimation of change. Unless specified otherwise, the temporal frame of reference is a 50-year planning horizon.

Improved environmental quality will be a major benefit of the Forest Plan. Coordination with policies, programs, and objectives of other Federal agencies and State and local governments will reinforce steps taken to improve overall environmental conditions.

The Forest Plan emphasizes services and commodities furnished in response to local and regional needs. Intensive management is focused in areas with high resource values. Major emphasis is placed on increasing prescribed burning to reduce fuel loading and wildfire acreage, to improve water quality, vegetative diversity, wildlife habitat capability, and to protect property and cultural resources. While an intensified prescribed burning program capitalizes on several resource opportunities it does not preclude more intensive management and protection of other resources. The Plan will also increase water supply in areas with water shortages, provide more fuelwood, and slightly increase grazing opportunities. Acreage of Wilderness and areas of special management concern (e.g. Research Natural Areas, Botanical Areas, Archeological Districts) will increase significantly. Recreation opportunities and visual quality will improve near urban areas.

Air Quality

Compliance with California air quality guidelines and local restrictions will continue. Particulate emissions from wildfire will be reduced by prescribed burning. Prescribed burning will temporarily exceed standards for total suspended particulates, but will reduce the number of days each year that wildfire emissions exceed visibility and particulate standards.

The Forest will manage air quality through control of emissions sources, particularly through cooperation with regulatory agencies and timing of prescribed fires.

Geology

The Forest will continue the current inventory of geological and seismic hazards. Risk from geological and seismic hazards will be reduced through a program of structural inspection. Land disturbing actions will either avoid or preclude acceleration of landslides.

Minerals

Minerals exploration and development will continue with an increase in exploration for energy minerals such as oil and gas. Future minerals activity will be conducted in accordance with mineral rules and regulations (refer to Section 3.4.3) and the Forest will continue to emphasize management and protection of surface resources through existing or newly developed plans. The Forest Plan will reduce the land area available for mineral development. However, the areas of high and very high mineral potentials will generally remain available over the fifty-year planning

horizon. Most oil and gas will have been produced by the end of the fifty year planning horizon with only moderate reserves remaining.

Watershed Management

Prescribed burning is expected to substantially reduce annual sedimentation and increase average annual water yield. These benefits will be concentrated in watersheds with reservoirs and major groundwater recharge basins in order to preserve and improve water storage and to increase groundwater basin recharge. Watershed improvement practices will be implemented at a moderate level (See Appendix H, FEIS). The demand will vary according to the public's ability to store increased supplies of Forest water.

Vegetation

Health and vigor of Forest vegetation will improve as the Forest Plan is implemented. The prescribed burning program will improve the age-class diversity of chaparral. Prescribed fire will also reduce stresses on species and will contribute toward the maintenance or improvement of the richness of fire-following species.

A high level of vegetation management and application of silvicultural prescriptions will improve health and vigor of forested lands. Five hundred acres per year will be reforested (see Appendix G for timber management practices). Approximately six thousand cords of fuelwood will be produced annually during the first decade. Annual fuelwood production for the balance of the planning horizon will average five thousand cords. The higher cord output in the first decade results from thinning overstocked stands to proper stocking. Demand will continue to exceed supply.

Fish and Wildlife

Under the Forest Plan, wildlife and fish habitat will be improved by using prescribed fire to increase age class diversity of the vegetation and reduce stream sediment caused by large wildfires. In addition a greater number of fishery structures and wildlife water developments will enhance wildlife and fish habitat. Early and mid-successional species habitat will also be emphasized. Consequently, the increased variety and abundance of wildlife will respond to the demands for wildlife-related recreation. Hunting and fishing opportunities will increase 28% by the end of the planning horizon.

Habitat improvement will enhance conditions for sensitive, threatened, and endangered species. Recovery programs for the California Condor and Peregrine Falcon will continue in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game. Continuing studies may lead to cooperative programs for the added reintroduction of extirpated species.

Competition for forage and the degree of riparian and aquatic impacts associated with grazing uses will become more fully mitigated through application of Forest-wide standards and guidelines and the designation of areas where wildlife management or range management will predominate. Forest objectives for Management Indicator Species are illustrated in Table 4.2-1. Management activities are intended to achieve these objectives by the end of the planning horizon.

Range Management

Grazing potential will gradually increase 38% over the planning horizon, primarily through creation of transitory range by prescribed burning. Type conversions, and intensified range management will also contribute to this increase in the latter decades. Range will be managed at a moderate use level; 34% of allotments will receive more intensive management particularly during the last three decades.

Existing range allotment plans will be reviewed and revised; new plans will be developed for any additional allotments. Range management will include maintenance and replacement of existing structural improvements and development of additional improvements as additional range is created, primarily within existing allotments.

Fire Management

Demand for protection of resources and property from fire will continue to increase as population and urbanization expand during the planning horizon. Fire management will shift from a suppression emphasis to a fuels management emphasis, largely through an effective prescribed fire program averaging 25,000 acres yearly. Such a burning program will reduce wildfire by 80% to an average of 5400 acres per year. Wildfire-related damages will diminish. The Forest will spend less for fire protection and seasonal fire closures will no longer be needed. Cooperative assistance programs will continue with Federal, State, county, and local agencies.

Recreation

Recreation opportunities on Los Padres will range from Primitive to Rural ROS classes. However, the Forest will emphasize the Primitive and Semi-Primitive ROS classes to complement local recreational opportunities and respond to public demand for experiences found in these classes.

The quality of general forest recreation will be increased because 64% of the Forest will be managed at the high standard, including the Big Sur Coast, and other heavy use areas. Construction of 105 miles of non-Wilderness trails assures that visitor use will not exceed capacity. These trails will provide day-use and extended touring opportunities and will increase access to remote areas. These trails will be designed to improve the trail system and will include loop trails, links to non-Forest recreation sites and areas, trails in the vicinity of certain populated areas, and additional trailhead facilities.

The quality of developed site recreation will be improved because 80% of the Forest's sites will be managed at the high standard, including the Big Sur coast and all heavy and moderate use areas. Increased demand for developed recreation will be accommodated primarily through construction of additional day-use sites.

Wilderness

Demographic pressures will also drive an increase in demand for recreational and non-recreational use of Wilderness. The Plan recommends an additional 253,886 acres for Wilderness (portion of Garcia [107], portion of La Brea [117], portion of Matilija [129], and a portion of Sespe-Frazier [002] Roadless Areas). Addition of these Roadless Areas to Los Padres Wilderness Areas will create 666,798 net acres of Wilderness and will further expand capability to meet demand for recreational and non-recreational uses. Thirty-eight percent of the Forest will be designated Wilderness.

Wilderness areas will be managed according to management prescriptions designed to preserve their Wilderness character. Prescribed burning will assist in the maintenance and enhancement of the Wilderness character and will reduce dangerous fuel loading. Better access and more evenly distributed use will be achieved through construction of an estimated 232 miles of trail.

Special Areas

The Plan provides for the management of existing and proposed Special Areas. Table 4.2-2 lists the areas.

Designation of Biosphere Reserve will not preclude other Forest Service management. Management of Wild and Scenic Rivers will follow approved management plans designed to protect and improve distinguishing values. Research Natural Areas will be managed to preserve their distinctive natural ecosystems for scientific and educational purposes. Forest Service management of National Natural Landmarks will not be affected by such designation; however, the nominated Landmark will be protected through its joint status as a Research Natural Area and Wilderness. Management activities in the Geological and Botanical Areas will be permitted insofar as significant values are protected.

Cultural Resources

Increased inventories and significance evaluations will provide the basis for a comprehensive program of cultural resources management. The cultural resources on approximately one-half of the Forest will have been inventoried. Eight percent of the inventoried cultural resources will have been evaluated for significance.

Demand for cultural resources protection will continue to be met through inventory, physical protection measures, and law enforcement. Heavy emphasis on interpretation of cultural resources will meet demand for public knowledge and awareness of heritage and history. Cooperation and consultation with responsible agencies and with publics with special concerns for cultural resources will continue.

Lands

The Forest will acquire non-Federal lands from willing sellers within areas of concentrated public use. Land exchanges will improve overall management by consolidating Forest land and disposing of lands whose retention does not benefit the public interest. Special uses will increase slightly especially along the Forest boundary and near private inholdings. All property lines will have been relocated and most encroachment and title claim cases will be resolved. All required additional public access will be obtained.

Facilities

The Forest Development Road system will be increased by approximately 46 miles. A higher level of maintenance will be applied to the system. Approximately eight miles of roads will be deleted from the system and obliterated because of Wilderness additions.

Facilities will be managed at a moderate intensity level. By the end of the planning horizon, the need for extensive facility maintenance will be reduced. Maintenance and operation of buildings, potable water systems, and sewage systems will meet applicable law, regulation and Forest Service Manual direction.

A total of 337 miles of Wilderness and non-Wilderness trail will be constructed; 330 miles of trail will be reconstructed.

Visual Resources

Implementation of the Forest Plan will yield an approximate 6% reduction in visual quality. Minerals development and fuelbreak construction will drive this decline. Partial offset of this decline will be achieved through increase in diversity resulting from prescribed burning, the rehabilitation of about nine thousand acres, and enhancement of certain lands, especially those forming visual backdrops for local communities.

Distinctive and sensitive landscapes will be maintained at natural appearing levels. Wilderness and Research Natural Areas will retain a primitive visual character. Within the remaining lands, management activities will be visually evident. Common landscapes will be maintained at slightly modified levels. More extensive modification may occur in seldom seen areas and along some travel routes.

Energy

Under the plan, the direction of increased recreational use of the Forest will result in increased use of energy. The plan provides for energy efficiency by requiring the use of energy efficient vehicles, housing, and offices. Providing public transportation to high use recreation areas will also be encouraged.

As national demands for energy increase, the Forest's non-renewable energy supplies (e.g., oil and gas) will be produced and used at increasing rates. Only moderate Forest reserves of non-renewable energy will remain at the end of the plan; technology will have been developed to use chaparral as a renewable energy resource, but steep topography will limit the development of this resource.

Forest-wide Direction

Forest Goals

The Mission Statement of Los Padres National Forest is a broad statement of Forest-wide management direction. The Mission Statement is composed of goals which have been designed in response to public issues and management concerns identified in the first phase of Forest planning. These goals are statements of policy and are neither quantified nor constrained by time.

The Purpose of Los Padres National Forest is: Management Of Watersheds To Provide Natural Resources For People In The Long-term

The Mission of Los Padres National Forest is to accomplish that purpose through:

a. Providing leadership in Forest resource management;

b. Managing vegetation for habitat, water production and public consumption and enjoyment;

c. Providing for the attraction, training, development, and retention of a cohesive, high performing workforce;

d. Managing fire as a major element of the ecosystem;

e. Providing for the protection of environmental quality, public health and safety, private property, and users of the Forest;

f. Managing and protecting surface resources while accommodating mineral extraction and special land uses;

g. Providing recreation opportunities appropriate to Los Padres National Forest which are limited or not available elsewhere.

Forest Objectives

Forestwide Standards and Guidelines

PHYSICAL

Air Resources

Develop and implement a plan to manage smoke emissions from Forest activities to protect and minimize impacts on air quality. Prescribed fires on National Forest System lands should be scheduled to avoid smoke intrusion into sensitive areas as defined by the State Air Resources Board.

Cooperate with the various Federal, State, and county agencies responsible for managing emissions from oil and gas developments.

Establish Baseline monitoring levels of air quality in Class I Airsheds.

Geology, Mineral, and Energy Resources

Proposed structures will be evaluated for adequate design and foundation with respect to seismic and geologic hazard using State of California guidelines.

Land disturbing actions will be avoided or conducted in a manner to preclude acceleration of active landslides or activation of dormant landslides.

Examine the seismic safety of existing administrative sites and public campgrounds by 1990.

<u>Minerals</u>

Exploration and development of mineral and energy resources is integrated with the use and protection of other resources.

The document: "Oil and Gas Lease Applications, Los Padres National Forest, Environmental Assessment, Part I," May 1983, and the Environmental Assessments and Decision Notices for Parts II, III and IV of this document are incorporated in their entirety into the Forest Plan.

These decisions and the information contained in these documents will be incorporated into the processing of pending lease applications. An Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared upon approval of this Plan to assess all pending oil and gas lease applications including those for areas released from "Further Planning" status. Later environmental documents will tier to this EIS and the Plan.

"Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications" (See Appendix J) and on-site Interdisciplinary Team analysis are used in making leasing recommendations.

When an oil and gas field discovery is made, an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared covering the development, production and eventual abandonment phases of the project. The document will disclose both environmental

consequences and required mitigation measures. Approval must be given by the Bureau of Land Management before actual oil and gas development may begin.

Sales and disposal of mineral materials is not emphasized, but may be authorized where not seriously in conflict with other resource values.

Applications for any mineral activity related to geothermal resources or phosphates will be addressed in site-specific Environmental Assessments or Environmental Impact Statements.

Any proposed activity requiring access for mineral exploration and/or development on outstanding or reserved mineral rights within classified Wilderness will be examined by a site-specific Environmental Analysis or Environmental Impact Statement before a decision is made permitting the activity.

Within areas withdrawn from mineral entry, all existing mineral rights, claimed to be valid, will be verified by a Forest Service mineral examiner prior to authorizing any surface disturbing mineral activities or surface disturbing access development.

For non-energy mineral exploration or developments, the NEPA process is used to display environmental consequences and provide a basis for management decisions.

Soils

Soil productivity and water quality will be maintained and protected through management of Forest campsite utilization and maintenance to ensure that on-site erosion is minimized. Guidelines identified in FSM 2323.1 R-5 Supplement 145 (or current revision) will be used to prevent deterioration of condition Class 1,2, and 3 sites and to restore condition Class 4 and 5 sites.

Soil productivity will be maintained during vegetation type conversions by conducting such conversions on areas with stable slopes under 40%, moderate to high soil productivity, high soil stability (Erosion Hazard Rating less than 3) and low rockiness, as defined in the Forest Soil Resource Inventory or on-site evaluations.

The quantity of vegetation to be retained during prescribed burns will be specified in the project environmental analysis. Soil erosion hazard and slope stability hazard will be two of the primary factors evaluated.

To the extent practical, all new facility developments will be situated on low productivity soils as defined in the Forest Soil Resource Inventory.

Water and Aquatic Resources

Soil productivity and water quality will be maintained and improved by restoring degraded watershed conditions as identified and prioritized in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs Inventory. Watershed restoration projects will be scheduled through the annual budget process until objectives of the restoration project are fully attained.

Best Management Practices (BMP) will be implemented to meet water quality objectives and maintain and improve the quality of surface water on the Forest. Methods and techniques for applying the BMP will be identified during project level environmental analysis and incorporated into the associated implementation documents (see Plan Appendix I).

Excessive surface disturbance of watersheds and resulting on-site and off-site soil and water deterioration will be precluded by conducting cumulative watershed impact assessments on Order III and greater drainages at the time the project environmental analysis is prepared and documented in appropriate project records.

Water rights for existing and foreseeable future National Forest consumptive uses will be secured. Water availability assurances for existing and foreseeable future non-consumptive uses will be obtained, giving priority to anadromous fisheries. All water diversions, withdrawals or other unnatural routing or dispersal of surface waters shall be evaluated to ensure that remaining quantities of water are adequate to maintain beneficial in-stream uses.

Water yield improvement opportunities will be pursued through coordinated resource management planning in order to assure mutual benefits to Forest Service and cooperating groups or agencies.

Riparian/Wetland Areas

As a minimum, riparian areas are defined as: 1) areas 100 feet from the edge of standing bodies of water; 2) areas 100 feet, on each side, of perennial stream channels; and 3) all wetlands. In addition:

a. Sections of intermittent and ephemeral stream channels will also be defined as riparian areas when identified and delineated as such in the riparian areas inventory, based on presence or absence of riparian vegetation and stream channel characteristics.

b. Until the riparian inventory is completed, the extent of riparian area within a project site will be determined on a case-by-case basis, using the criteria and definitions above.

Management activities or practices may occur in riparian areas as long as the habitat and species diversity of the area is maintained in a healthy state. Resource impacts are mitigated in favor of riparian dependent resources. Mitigating measures may include but are not limited to:

a. restricting entry,

b. revegetation,

c. replacement of lost habitat,

d. public information and contact,

e. visitor capacity management,

f. relocation of incompatible facilities or operations,

g. maintenance of wildlife corridors.

Vegetation management (removal or alteration) shall be restricted to no more than 30% reduction in the riparian ground cover that would naturally occur at any given time within the project area (does not apply to wildfires or other unplanned activities). Vegetation treatments designed to rejuvenate or protect riparian vegetation which would only temporarily alter vegetation are not limited.

Ensure habitat conditions necessary for maintenance of viable populations of riparian Management Indicator Species (Bird Assemblage) using the Habitat Capability Model. The following interim guidelines will be used pending development of the model.

a. Maintain multi-layered, diverse stands of vegetation (both horizontal and vertical strata) consistent with site potential. The highest density of vegetation is preferred in the mid and under-stories;

b. Maintain snags and nest cavity trees unless they constitute a safety hazard.

c. Maintain natural openings and edges;

d. Maintain desired vegetative cover on riparian streambanks in each watershed;

e. Evaluate vegetation treatments scheduled during bird breeding seasons ~~(March 1 - July 15)~~ to avoid unacceptable losses;

f. Maintain vegetative corridors for wildlife movement; and

g. Retain at least 60% cover within a 2 to 6 foot-height zone in scattered dense shrub thickets in known or high potential Least Bell's Vireo habitat.

Evaluate the need to implement site-specific improvement activities where riparian areas do not meet the above described conditions, or as identified in the Riparian Condition and Trend Inventory, Watershed Improvement Need Inventory, or site specific analysis.

Limit new vehicular activities in riparian areas to road and trail crossings. Any existing motorized vehicular activities in riparian areas should be relocated where feasible.

New development in streamside areas should be designed to provide a vegetative corridor suitable for wildlife travel along the riparian zone. Evaluate the need for a corridor when one is not present in existing sites.

New trails, staging areas, campgrounds and other developments are located outside the riparian where feasible.

Culverts, trail crossings and other in-channel structures in existing fishery streams shall be designed and installed to minimize adverse impacts to fishery habitats.

Riparian areas will be rehabilitated where site deterioration significantly affects water conditions and/or fish and wildlife habitat, when the site is not expected to recover naturally in a timely manner.

Perennial and intermittent streams will be protected by limiting management activities within the Streamside Management Zone. Activities are to be limited to the extent that protective vegetative conditions in the zone can be returned to predisturbance conditions within one year. (Guidelines for determining the width of streamside management zones and minimum ground cover within the zones are given in Appendix H.)

BIOLOGICAL

Biodiversity

Proposed, Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species

Forest Species of Special Emphasis, identified in Chapter 3, shall be managed using guidance from FSM 2670 as though listed as Forest Service Regionally Sensitive Species. Specific guidelines for management are to be developed for each species following implementation of the Plan.

Where approved Recovery Plans do not exist for confirmed resident listed threatened or endangered species, the Forest will develop and implement habitat management plans in coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game.

High noise producing activities, should be located and timed to avoid disturbance of nesting/breeding locations of Sensitive or Special Emphasis wildlife species.

Ensure collection of data to monitor project impacts on selected populations of MIS, T&E species, Sensitive and Special Emphasis species, and to develop management guidelines for species without habitat management plans.

Protect all identified Spotted Owl territories:

a. All identified Spotted Owl nest sites will be protected with a buffer zone around each and excluding activities within this zone which would cause destruction of their nesting habitat (tree canopy). The size of the zone will be determined by studies of the California Spotted Owls since it appears their requirements are distinct from the northern subspecies.

b. In known Spotted Owl and raptor nesting and roosting core areas retain more than 60% over-story canopy closure and 60 to 80% closure in the mid-story; and,

c. Retain at least 40% over-story canopy closure in foraging areas.

Identify essential habitat for all Sensitive and Special Emphasis species and prescribe measures to prevent the destruction or adverse modification of such habitat. Apply management prescriptions (Habitat Management Plans) which will provide high and medium capability habitat (as defined in Habitat Capability Models) sufficient to maintain or enhance the above species.

Allow no ground disturbing activities in known or suspected habitat of the Giant Kangaroo Rat, San Joaquin Kit Fox, or Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard, without consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Game.

Maintain a minimum of 25 acres of suitable canopy cover (as determined by Habitat Capability Model) around identified Goshawk nest sites, and an additional 25 acre alternate site in the near vicinity of each site.

Prevent the destruction or adverse modification of habitat determined to be critical for threatened or endangered species. Where established, follow guidelines in the recovery plan for each species. (See Table 3.0-1)

Manage sensitive plant species to ensure their viability.

Plan vegetation management practices to protect or enhance populations of Sensitive or Special Emphasis plant species.

Emphasize Sensitive and Special Emphasis plant species habitat protection and improvement in resource management and fire suppression activities.

Prevent the destruction or adverse modification of habitat determined to be essential for Sensitive or Special Emphasis plant species.

Range

The standard for grass and forb utilization is the moderate level (See FSH 2209). This takes into account the combined forage and cover needs for wildlife populations and domestic grazing use.

Range development projects will be limited to existing range allotments, unless forage improvement projects are of sufficient size to make a viable operating unit along with associated natural rangelands.

Trespass livestock shall be managed according to direction in FSM 2200. Feral animals (e.g., wild pigs) shall be managed using State Fish & Game regulations.

Fuelbreak maintenance by livestock grazing is encouraged where feasible.

Silviculture

Health of tree stands will be maintained and enhanced for their multiple use values. Sound silvicultural prescriptions will be prepared and used to guide management of stands in support of Management Area objectives.

Forest products for both individual and commercial use will be sold as availability dictates. Priority will be given to personal use where it meets project objectives.

Tree seedling survival potential and economic efficiency of forestation and reforestation projects will be assured by on-site evaluations to define plantability and species selection prior to project initiation.

Wildlife and Fish

Maintain at least 10% of wildlife habitat as usable forage and at least 10% as usable cover (See Glossary for definitions).

An age class mosaic of at least 10% early succession, 20% intermediate succession and 10% late succession will be achieved by the end of the prescribed rotation cycles in treated areas (See Appendix G for definitions of successional stages).

An average of at least 1.5 snags per acre will be retained throughout treated compartments in the conifer forest type (of these, 1.2 snags per acre should be 15-24 inches dbh and greater than 20 feet tall; 0.3 snags per acre greater than 24 inches dbh and greater than 20 feet tall).

Maintain down logs and woody debris for wildlife. An average of 5 or more down logs per acre at least 13 inches in diameter and 20 feet in length should be retained in forested areas. At least 10% of slash or other woody debris in all treated forested compartments will be retained in configurations suitable for selected wildlife use.

Existing water sources will be maintained in a usable state for wildlife needs. Minimize human/wildlife/livestock interactions which may be detrimental to wildlife populations.

Existing hardwood stands will be retained to provide for mast production and nesting habitat.

Perennial stream habitats will be managed to at least maintain fisheries habitat for viable populations of native fish species.

Extirpated native species may be reintroduced within their historic ranges where found to be compatible with management area objectives and direction.

To enhance hunting and fishing access, limited use of Forest administrative roads may be permitted when conditions would not cause road or resource damage, be in conflict with other emphasized uses or restrictions, and not pose a safety hazard.

All Management Indicator Species should be monitored in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies or organizations capable of providing usable data collected under established procedures and standards. Monitoring results will be used to verify, or modify as needed, the output assumptions in the Plan, or to justify needed changes in management activities.

Project analysis shall address the maintenance of sufficient habitat to support, at a minimum, estimated numbers and distribution of reproductive individuals to ensure the continued existence of viable wildlife populations within the Forest planning area. This analysis includes development of needed mitigation measures.

DISTURBANCE PROCESSES

Fire

A Forest-wide Fire Management Implementation Plan to meet Management Area objectives will be developed and implemented within one year of approval of the Forest Plan.

Fire access roads will be maintained at maintenance level 2 standard or better.

Fire management activities will be coordinated with adjacent private landowners, persons or organizations having improvements or facilities in the area, and other agencies responsible for land management and/or protection.

Conduct studies to determine the long-term effects of conducting prescribed burns during different seasons of the year on the reseeding and resprouting of native plant species.

Insects and disease

An integrated pest management (IPM) approach will be followed during the planning and implementation of all appropriate resource management activities, particularly those that influence the vegetation. Under this approach, a full range of pest management alternatives, including cultural, biological, mechanical and chemical methods, will be considered and 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 efficacy and cost effectiveness of each alternative. Monitoring and enforcement plans to implement specific measures will be determined during this site-specific process. Pest detection, surveillance, evaluation, prevention, suppression and post-action evaluation are integral components of the Integrated Pest Management approach.

Undesirable species

To the extent possible, native or naturalized plant species should be planted rather than exotic species. Preference will be given to the use of native species.

SOCIAL

Developed Recreation

Developed site user fees will be increased to bring them in line with costs and to reduce public competition with the private sector. Increase fees or reduce costs so that Regional standards for recovery of routine operation costs are met.

Low use developed sites will be closed where annual use consistently falls below 10% of theoretical seasonal capacity.

New developed sites will be located and designed so associated general forest use does not increase trespass or other conflicts with private lands or developments.

New recreation residence tracts will not be established.

Recreation residence tenure decisions resulting from existing future use studies are incorporated into this Plan:

a. Review the 1994 expiration date for recreation residence permits on tenure in the Santa Ynez Recreation Area. Review will be limited to determining the public need for the area on the scheduled date. Permittees will be notified as to the status of this review and of any changes in the scheduled expiration date.

b. The rebuilding or expansion of facilities and structures in permits on tenure will not normally be permitted.

Dispersed Recreation

Cooperate with the State, other agencies and user groups to identify and, where compatible with Forest Plan management objectives and the maintenance of natural resources, 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.

Bicycle use on Forest trails will be regulated when any of the following conditions are present:

a. Trail design does not accommodate wheeled vehicles (i.e. grade, soil type, drainage structures, tread design, etc.);

b. Bicycle use causes unacceptable conflicts with emphasized uses or activities;

c. Bicycle use is incompatible with management area objectives.

d. Unacceptable tread or other resource damage is likely to occur from trail use during inclement weather.

OHV use will be permitted only on designated roads and trails as shown on the Forest OHV map or as authorized under special use permit.

The following criteria will be applied to each management area when considering modifications to the OHV plan:

a. Consistency with Management Area objectives.

b. Minimization of conflicts between vehicle users and non-vehicle users.

c. Protection and maintenance of the natural resource base.

d. Adequacy of administration and maintenance capability.

Proposed OHV events will be evaluated in the field by an ID team prior to permit issuance. Timing, location, and size of the event will be key factors in such evaluations.

Recreational (target) shooting will be regulated as needed to minimize user conflicts on public and private lands and to ensure compatibility with Management Area objectives.

General Recreation

Private sector development and operation of public recreational facilities will be encouraged in areas adjacent to, and compatible with, National Forest lands.

Permitted uses and developments on National Forest lands will be encouraged when compatible with recreation opportunities, management area objectives and when such uses or developments will best provide for identified public needs.

Adequate visitor control and vandalism protection features will be provided to enhance visitor protection and reduce law enforcement needs at all new and reconstructed development Scale 3 and 4 sites.

Heritage Resources

The Forest's curated and archived collections including artifacts, oral history records, photographs and records, maps and atlases, and other historical data will be actively managed.

Confidentiality of cultural resource site locations will be maintained.

All project impact areas will be inventoried prior to implementation to allow identification, protection, and mitigation of any significant cultural properties. The consultation process mandated by Federal regulations (36 CFR 800) will be completed early in the planning for individual projects.

Public education and interpretation efforts will be utilized as a means of creating increased public awareness and concern for cultural resources.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

Recreation planning and management will be integrated with other management activities through use of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS). The recreational environmental setting, experience, and activity opportunities appropriate to each management area will be maintained.

Scenery management

Visual Quality Objectives will be met with the following exceptions:

a. Minor adjustments, not to exceed a drop of one VQO level are allowable with the Forest Supervisor's approval, provided the minimum VQO specified for each Management Area will not be exceeded and visual resource improvement measure(rehabilitation, enhancement) will be undertaken elsewhere in the Management Area to balance the resulting decline in visual quality.

b. Temporary drops of more than one VQO may be made during and immediately following project implementation with Forest Supervisor's approval providing they do not exceed one year in duration.

2. Scenic highways will be managed under the guidance of Corridor Viewshed Plans. These Plans will be developed to provide project level implementation direction. Scenic corridors are identified by Management Area prescriptions. In the interim, foregrounds and middlegrounds of the scenic corridors of the following travel routes will be maintained to Retention and/or Partial Retention Visual Quality Objectives:

a. Officially designated California State and County scenic highways: Highways 1, 33, 154.

b. California State Scenic Highway System routes as per September 1970 Master Plan: Highways 41, 101, 126, 150, 166.

3. Lands of high visual absorption capability will be given priority for management activities which may impact visual quality.

4. All Visual Condition 6 lands will be evaluated and prioritized for rehabilitation; rehabilitation will occur on a scheduled basis.

5. Acquire and implement capability for application of three dimensional computer imagery to vegetative management practices and minerals development.

Wilderness resources

ADMINISTRATIVE

Infrastructure

Transportation

Road construction will be minimized. Any road proposals on National Forest land will be situated to best accommodate all anticipated uses and to support Management Area objectives.

The number of miles of roads and/or motorized trails will be limited to an average of three miles per square mile of area per major watershed. Road/trail straight-of-way should not exceed one-half mile where possible. Total cleared road rights-of-way width should be limited to no more than 66 feet when possible.

A debris (sluff and slide) disposal plan will be prepared for Forest lands adjacent to California State Scenic Highways 1, 33 and 154 in coordination with the California Department of Transportation.

Public road agencies will be encouraged to accept jurisdiction and maintenance of Forest Development Roads needed to provide public services and access to private lands, residences, and businesses.

Obliterate any Forest Development Roads that become unnecessary for the protection and management of the Forest. Such roads are returned to a near-natural appearing condition compatible with the surrounding terrain.

Maintain a Forest Transportation Plan. This Plan should identify all ~~Forest Development~~ Roads and determine appropriate maintenance levels and priorities.

Facilities

Administrative (office, storage, communications) facilities shall be provided and maintained so as to:

a. Provide safe and functional workspace to support and enhance high work performance;
b. Support the "host role" concept in location and design of buildings to facilitate our dealings with cooperators, users of Forest resources, and recreation visitors;
c. Provide for effective and efficient protection and management of the Forest by location and design of buildings; and,
d. Maximize net present value over the life of the facility while meeting environmental constraints.

Maintain a Forest Administrative Management Plan. This Plan will identify acquisition, maintenance and disposal needs and priorities for Forest Service owned structures.

Housing facilities for employees may be provided when necessary to meet the Forest mission, when insufficient acceptable private sector facilities are available, or when recruitment and retention of a highly qualified workforce is severely constrained as a result of local high cost and availability of acceptable housing.

Real Estate

The Forest Landownership Adjustment Plan will be revised and updated to address the land adjustment activities appropriate to each Management Area or to achieve Forest-wide direction.

Resolve backlog of occupancy trespass and title claim cases within seven years. Resolve new cases within two years of discovery.

Existing withdrawals will be reviewed by 1990 to determine whether the continuation of the existing withdrawals would be consistent with the statutory objectives of the programs for which the lands were dedicated. Lands that no longer require withdrawal will be returned to their original status.

In addition to those lands normally classified as being suitable for National Forest purposes, the following types of lands will be desirable for acquisition, or retention, if currently in federal ownership: lands that best meet public recreation needs, areas of scenic value, and lands that ensure access to public lands and resources.

In addition to those National Forest lands normally classified as being available for exchange, the following types of lands will be desirable for disposal by land exchange: parcels that are suitable for development by the private sector if development (residential, agricultural, recreational, etc.) is clearly in the public interest.

Parcels with critical or unique resources (wetlands, floodplains, threatened or endangered species habitat, historical or cultural resources, visual features, critical ecosystems, etc.) may be available for exchange only when adverse effects on these resources are mitigated by reserving interests to protect the resource, or when exchange would acquire other critical or unique resources of equal or greater value.

Landownership adjustments will be accomplished in accordance with the "Criteria for Landownership Adjustments and Land Classification Guidelines" included in Appendix K. The

public, State and local agencies will be provided an opportunity to evaluate the consequences of such transactions prior to decision making.

Priorities for landline location and corner protection and/or remonumentation are as follows:

Priority I. a. Pending litigation. b. Protection of corner monumentation and/or corner accessories when under immediate threat of destruction or disturbance. c. Prevention of encroachments.

Priority II. Resource Management projects planned along or near property lines to prevent encroachment by Forest Service on adjoiner. Landlines common with another federal agency are handled at the discretion of the Forest Supervisor.

Priority III. Cadastral surveys planned to resolve known or suspected encroachments in the following cases: a. Newly identified problem areas. b. Known cases - old or new.

Priority IV. All other cadastral surveys needed to prevent encroachment and meet other management objectives.

Special Uses

Sanitary landfills will only be permitted when suitable sites cannot be located elsewhere on non-Forest lands. If possible, such lands will be exchanged or transferred to the appropriate agency prior to use as sanitary landfill.

Proposals for major new reservoirs or the enlargement of existing reservoirs which impact National Forest System lands and resources will require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Joint preparation of such documents with Federal, State, or Local Agencies is preferred.

Where special uses have the potential for producing noise levels above those deemed to be compatible with the Management Area objectives, the Special Use Permit will establish maximum noise levels which may not be exceeded. Noise levels must not exceed OSHA standards for occupational safety and levels acceptable for wildlife protection.

All new or replacement electric distribution lines of 35 kilovolt or less and all new or replacement telephone lines and television cables will be placed underground where environmentally and economically feasible unless modified by a site specific environmental analysis.

Electronics facilities will be managed as follows:

a. Allow existing uses to continue. Implement opportunities to improve the appearance of existing facilities, and where possible achieve consistency with Management Area objectives.

b. Demand for additional electronics facilities will be accommodated on private lands or within existing designated sites in preference to enlargement of existing sites or development of new sites.

c. Existing electronics sites will have an approved site plan completed by 1995 which will establish future development limits of facilities. Amended site plans will be required for expansion of facilities outside existing sites. New sites will not be permitted without an approved site plan.

d. Where existing sites are not consistent with Management Area objectives future development on these sites will be allowed where they improve or, as a minimum, do not diminish the degree of consistency which already exists.

e. Construction of new sites or expansion of facilities outside of existing designated sites must be fully consistent with Management Area objectives.

Transportation and Utility Corridors

Transportation and utility corridors may be established, if in the public interest. Where additional facilities are needed, existing rights-of-way will be preferred over new rights-of-way designations where environmentally suitable.

Road and trail rights-of-way will be acquired across non-National Forest lands as needed to implement Management Area objectives.

The Forest will cooperate with owners of intermingled and adjacent land and with local governments in order to develop road or trail systems that serve the needs of all users.

Public trail rights-of-way along fuelbreaks will be provided where landowners are willing and where consistent with Management Area objectives.

Coordination

Provide an environment that promotes the active participation of the public in the management of the Forest.

Coordinate and cooperate with appropriate Federal, State and local agencies and private landowners in planning and administration of programs for management of National Forest land and resources.

Coordinate with Monterey County, Coastal Commission and Big Sur Multiagency Advisory Council on Coastal Consistency determinations for Forest programs, activities and developments within the Coastal Zone. The Forest Supervisor serves as a participant on the council.

Ensure that Forest Service facilities and programs (including contracting opportunities, special use permits and employment) are responsive to the informational and design needs of the physically handicapped and minority groups.

a. Promote the use of symbol signing.

b. Provide bilingual personnel, brochures and signing in areas heavily used by the Hispanic community.

Meet human and community needs by providing work/educational experiences, particularly for the elderly, disadvantaged and minority community. Volunteers and other Human Resource Programs will help accomplish planned work while meeting budget constraints.

Forest activities significantly increasing noise levels above background levels will be reviewed to determine the environmental effects and appropriate mitigation. Frequency and duration of the noise are considered in determining significance. Off-highway vehicle operation in the Forest will comply with State noise control laws. (36CFR261.13)

Law Enforcement

Primary emphasis will be prevention of violations, thus enhancing the protection of the public, employees, and Forest resources and property.

Management of Forest emphasizes user and employee safety and protection, and resource protection. Resolution of illegal occupancies is a priority.

The Forest Law Enforcement Management Plan will be fully implemented to meet law enforcement responsibilities. Law enforcement considerations are an integral part of all Forest management programs.

The Forest will provide and use qualified and appropriately equipped personnel capable of protecting people and resources. The safety of visitors and employees will the major criteria in all law enforcement activities.

Cooperating agencies will be encouraged to fully redeem their basic responsibility for providing public protection. The Forest will support cooperators in meeting these responsibilities.

Law enforcement activities are conducted in a manner which preserves the rights and expectations of Forest users. Enforcement is fair and consistent to those violating the law.

LPF Management Area Direction

Management Area 1

Theme

Resource Protection

Management Area Description

Management Area 1 consists of seven, relatively small and widely separated areas comprising a total of 20,515 acres. The locations of these areas are:

1a, on the north boundary of the Ventana Wilderness at Ponciano Ridge (Monterey RD); within one mile of the north shore of Lopez Reservoir (Santa Lucia RD);

1c, five miles east of Lopez Reservoir (Santa Lucia RD), and;

1d and 1e, two nearly contiguous areas in the Cuyama oil field two miles south of Ventucopa (Mount Pinos RD)

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of grasslands, hardwood forest, and conifer forest. Potential habitat for the San Joaquin Kit Fox exists in the area. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 50% of the area.

Desired Condition

Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. General forest recreation opportunities are provided in a variety of ROS classes. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Wildlife habitat provides for maintenance of viable native populations. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Exploration and development of energy resources are accommodated consistent with management area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

Minerals (management practices 48, 49, 50, 51)

1. Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

a. Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

b. All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

c. Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

Water Resources (30, 35)

1. Implement soil and watershed improvement projects for areas within or adjacent to the Sespe Oil Field to correct identified soil erosion or water quality problems.

Human-caused oil seeps are corrected or contained. Corrective action is initiated within two years of its identification in the watershed needs inventory.

Range (14, 15, 16, 17)

1. Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

2. Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

3. Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

4. Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Wildlife & Fish (10,11)

1. Provide habitat management to at least maintain viable populations of native fish & wildlife species and retain existing opportunities for hunting, fishing and viewing of fish and wildlife.

Utilize existing forestwide standards.

2. In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

3. Projects which may destroy or modify San Joaquin Kit Fox habitat shall be reviewed by Forest Biologist prior to approval.

Fire (34, 35, 36, 37)

1. Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives, and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Carmel River, Lopez Creek, Huasna River, Lower Cuyama River, a small portion of the Upper Santa Ynez River, Lower Sespe Creek and a very small area of Hopper Canyon Watersheds. For burned acreage targets, prevent-ability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Dispersed Recreation (33, 44, 46)

1. Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

2. Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities. Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard.

a. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

b. Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

3. Trail and ORV route construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Heritage Resources (1, 2, 3)

1. Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

2. Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

3. Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Scenery Management (5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

1. Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

a. Variety class A lands are managed to meet retention.

b. State Highway 33, Lopez Lake and other sensitivity 1 viewshed lands are managed for retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Infrastructure (31)

1. Maintain public access roads.

Roads providing access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Management Area 3

Theme

Watershed management.

Management Area Description

Management Area 3 consists of three separate areas comprising 48,677 acres in total. These areas are situated as follows:

3a, seven miles west of King City between Reliz Canyon and Junipero Serra Peak on the east boundary of the Ventana Wilderness (Monterey RD);

3b, three miles south of Atascadero between Eagle Peak and the Cuesta Grade (Santa Lucia RD); and,

3c, five miles northeast of San Luis Obispo on the northeast boundary of the Santa Lucia Wilderness (Santa Lucia RD).

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of grasslands, hardwood forest, and conifer forest. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 30% of the area.

Desired Condition

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the watershed emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Distinctive landscapes are maintained at a slightly modified level. Viewshed of Highway 101, communities of Atascadero and Santa Margarita and Reliz Canyon Road are maintained at the natural appearing to slightly modified level. Wildlife habitat provides for maintenance of viable native populations. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Exploration and development of energy resources are accommodated consistent with management area direction.

Standard and Guidelines

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

1. Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

   a. Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

   b. All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

c. Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

Water Resources (30, 38)

1. Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

2. In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Range (14, 15, 16, 17)

1. Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

2. Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long- term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

3. Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

4. Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Wildlife & Fish (10, 11)

1. Provide habitat management to at least maintain viable populations of native fish & wildlife species and retain existing opportunities for hunting, fishing and viewing of fish and wildlife.

Utilize existing forestwide standards.

Fire (34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

1. Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Arroyo Seco River and Salinas River Watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

2. Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and meet fire management objectives.

Dispersed Recreation (32, 33, 44, 46)

1. Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

2. Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

a. Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

b. Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

3. Trail and ORV route construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Heritage Resources (1, 2, 3)

1. Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

2. Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

3. Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Scenery Management (5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

1. Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

a. Variety Class A lands are managed as a minimum for partial retention.

b. U.S. Highway 101, lands surrounding communities of Santa Margarita and Atascadero, and the viewshed of Reliz Canyon Road are managed for retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

c. Electronic facilities, as a minimum, will be managed to meet partial retention when viewed from Santa Margarita or at background distances from State Highway 101.

Infrastructure (31)

1. Maintain public access roads.

Roads providing access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Management Area 4

Theme

Non-motorized General Forest Recreation and Watershed Management

Management Area Description

Management Area 4 consists of five widely separated land units comprising a total of 57,659 acres. These units are situated as follows:

4a, twelve miles northeast of Los Alamos between Manzanita Mountain and Timber Peak (Santa Lucia RD);

4b, two small parcels one mile south of Ozena Campground (Mount Pinos RD);

4c, twelve miles west of Frazier Park at Upper Dry and Apache Canyons (Mount Pinos RD);

4d, six miles north of Santa Paula, (Ojai RD); and,

4e, three miles north of Piru in the vicinity of Lake Piru (Ojai RD).

Chaparral is the dominant vegetation type in 4a, 4b, 4d, and 4e; pinyon-juniper is predominant in 4c. Inclusions of grasslands, conifer forest, and hardwood forest also occur. Critical habitat for the California Condor exists in this management area. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 15% of the area.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides opportunities primarily in the semi-primitive non-motorized ROS class with emphasis on extended trip and day-use hiking and equestrian use, general forest camping, and associated activities where appropriate. Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation and watershed emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. State Highway 33, Lockwood-Ozena county Road, Colson Canyon Road, La Brea Canyon Road, and Lake Piru viewshed are maintained at natural appearing or slightly modified levels. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas within one mile of trail or fuelbreak access and on slopes less than 60%. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Exploration and development of energy resources are accommodated consistent with management area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

1. Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

   a. Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

   b. All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

   c. Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

Water Resources (30, 38)

1. Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

2. In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Range (14, 15, 16, 17)

1. Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

2. Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

3. Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

4. Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Wildlife & Fish (10, 11, 12)

1. Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age and size classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

- Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.
- Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.
- Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~- No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

PINYON-JUNIPER: ~~Thin where needed to favor open stands with abundant midstory and understory; retain an average of at least 30% canopy cover over the total area.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

- Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

2. In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

3. Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Fire (34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

1. Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Lower Piru Creek, Upper Cuyama River, Upper Piru Creek, Upper Sespe Creek, Badlands, Santa Paula Creek, Timber Canyon and Lower Sespe Creek Watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

2. Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Developed Recreation (41, 43, 46)

1. Maintain sites to at least minimum public health and safety standards. Sites are operated to minimize costs.

2. Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs.

3. Provide for site rehabilitation by volunteers when facilities cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards through routine general maintenance.

Dispersed Recreation (32, 33, 44, 46)

1. Phase out existing public sector developed sites. Convert to dispersed facilities if needed to enhance dispersed opportunities, to aid in distributing use, or for resource protection.

2. Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

3. Maintain the trail system, trailhead facilities, staging areas and Wilderness entry points as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

a. Trail construction may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities. Trail maintenance and construction standards:

ROS class:	Semi-primitive - level 2 or 3
Roaded Natural	level 3

b. Signing is maintained as needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Heritage Resources (1, 2, 3)

1. Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

2. Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

3. Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Scenery Management (5b, 5c)

1. Maintain a natural appearing to slightly modified landscape.

a. Variety Class A landscapes are managed to meet retention.

b. Viewshed lands of State Highway 33, Lockwood-Ozena road, Colson Canyon road, La Brea Canyon road, and Lake Piru are managed to meet partial retention (see VQO map).

Infrastructure (31)

1. Maintain public access roads.

a. Roads providing access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

b. Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Management Area 5

Theme

Wildlife and Range Management

Management Area Description

Management Area 5 is a single 36,563 acre locality situated five miles south of New Cuyama (Mount Pinos RD). The predominant vegetation types are chaparral and pinyon-juniper with inclusions of hardwood forest and conifer forest; large expanses of grasslands, or "potreros", also occur in the Area. Critical Habitat for the California Condor exists in this management area. The area is also potential habitat for the San Joaquin Kit Fox. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 65% of the area.

Desired Condition

Wildlife habitat enhancement is emphasized in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; primary emphasis is on roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these emphasis zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Grazing capacity is increased through structural improvements, prescribed burning, and type conversion in suitable chaparral areas outside of wildlife emphasis areas.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the wildlife and grazing emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. State Highway 166 Viewshed is maintained at the slightly modified level. Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives. Exploration and development of energy resources are accommodated consistent with management area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

1. Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

a. Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

b. All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

c. Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.).

Water Resources (30, 38)

1. Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- and ecological needs of existing vegetation.

2. In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Range (14, 15, 16, 17)

1. Increase grazing capacity using range and other funds by applying grazing strategy "D" as identified in individual allotment plans if not in conflict with other resources or if cost-effective.

One of the major forage improvement practices will be type conversion in suitable chaparral areas. The major new structures will be fences, water troughs and small ponds.

Wildlife & Fish (10, 11, 12)

1. Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big-game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

- Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.
- Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.
- Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

- ~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

PINYON-JUNIPER: ~~Thin where needed to favor open stands with abundant midstory and understory; retain an average of at least 30% canopy cover over the total area.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

- Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

2. Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

3. Projects which may destroy or modify San Joaquin Kit Fox habitat shall be reviewed by Forest Biologist prior to approval.

Fire (34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

1. Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Lower Cuyama River and Sisquoc River Watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

2. Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Dispersed Recreation (33, 44, 46)

1. Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

2. Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

a. Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

b. Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

2. Trail and OHV route construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Heritage Resources (1, 2, 3)

1. Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

2. Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

3. Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Scenery Management (5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

1. Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

a. Variety Class A areas within the Highway 166 viewshed are managed to meet retention; all other variety Class A lands are managed to meet partial retention.

b. All lands within the Highway 166 viewshed, other than variety Class A lands, are managed to meet partial retention.

c. Foreground view areas from 9N11 are managed to meet partial retention.

d. Electronic facilities at Olive Canyon will be managed as a minimum to meet partial retention when viewed from State Highway 166.

Infrastructure (31, 32)

1. Maintain administrative access roads.

Roads providing access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Management Area 6

Theme

General Forest Recreation

Management Area Description:

Management Area 6 consists of two large units comprising 197,039 acres in total. These units are situated as follows:

6a, in the vicinity of the eastern Cuyama Valley and southern San Joaquin Valley, extending from Ozena in the southwest corner to Fort Tejon in the northeast (Mount Pinos RD); and,

6b, four miles south of Frazier Park between Thorn Meadows and Hungry Valley (Mount Pinos RD).

The predominant vegetation type is pinyon-juniper woodland with inclusions of hardwood forest, conifer forest, grasslands, and sagebrush scrub. Potential habitat for the San Joaquin Kit Fox exists in the area.

There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 5% of the area.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides a range of opportunities including ORV use of designated routes. The area is managed to provide general forest and cost efficient developed site recreation opportunities in the roaded natural, and semi-primitive motorized. ROS classes with emphasis on opportunities for driving for pleasure, ORV use, hiking, hunting and other wildlife related activities, equestrian use, general forest camping, gathering forest products, and nature study where appropriate.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. National Forest lands within the Fort Tejon State Park Viewshed are maintained at a natural appearing level. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Exploration and development of energy resources are accommodated consistent with Management Area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

<u>Cultural Resources</u> (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand. Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40 percent of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 42, 44, 46)

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Provide opportunities for motorized and non-motorized trail oriented activities through maintenance or construction of a trail system, ORV routes, trailheads and staging facilities adequate to meet public demand, maintain ROS Class experiences and insure acceptable resource protection.

Trail maintenance and construction standards: ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3, SPM - level 2 or 3, RN - level 3

Signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety is maintained.

Emphasize providing loop and connecting trails to enhance opportunities and minimize resource damage.

ORV route planning in area 6b is coordinated with the Hungry Valley State OHV Park.

Provide entrance and informational stations during heavy use periods where needed for effective ORV use regulation.

Take advantage of opportunities for visitor interpretation of unique visual, geologic and botanical features.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

Variety class A lands are managed to meet retention.

Lands visible form Interstate Highway 5, State Highway 33, Hungry Valley State Park, Lockwood-Ozena Road, and Forest roads 8N01, 8N12, 7N03, 9N10, and 9N05 are managed to meet retention and partial retention (see VQO map).

Electronic facilities at Pine Mountain will be managed as a minimum to meet partial retention when viewed from Cuddy Valley road.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big-game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle~~.

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area. No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.

PINYON-JUNIPER: ~~Thin where needed to favor open stands with abundant midstory and understory; retain an average of at least 30% canopy cover over the total area.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

Projects which may destroy or modify San Joaquin Kit Fox habitat shall be reviewed by Forest Biologist prior to approval.

<u>Range Resource</u> (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practice 38)

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

With the exception of the Ballinger Canyon ORV area the density of roads is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Lockwood, Upper Piru Creek, Frazier Park, and Buena Vista Lake Watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

Management Area 7

Theme

General Forest Recreation and Visual Resources

Management Area Description

Management Area 7 is a single 28,453 acre locality comprising the scenic viewshed of Frazier Park and vicinity (Mount Pinos RD).

The predominant vegetation type is pinyon-juniper woodland with inclusions of grassland, sagebrush scrub, conifer forest, and hardwood forest.

Desired Condition

Recreation opportunities are provided in the roaded natural ROS class with emphasis on maintaining public access, visitor information and orientation and driving for pleasure. Most landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as major disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation and visual emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand.

Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 42, 44, 46)

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Provide opportunities for trail oriented activities through maintenance or construction of a trail system, trailheads and staging facilities adequate to meet public demand, maintain ROS Class experiences and insure acceptable resource protection.

Trail maintenance and construction standards: ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3, SPM - level 2 or 3, RN - level 3

Signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety is maintained.

Emphasize providing loop and connecting trails to enhance opportunities and minimize resource damage.

Utilize opportunities to provide for relatively low density ORV touring on designated routes.

Routes are designated where ORV use does not conflict with emphasized activities, and where the use can be effectively regulated.

Take advantage of opportunities for visitor interpretation of unique visual, geologic and botanical features.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing to modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands are managed for retention.

Lands visible from the community of Frazier Park, Interstate Highway 5, Cuddy Valley Road, and Lockwood-Ozena Road are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Recreation administrative facilities remain visually subordinate in the foreground distance zone of sensitivity level 1 travel routes.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts

Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality. Management activities are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area. No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.

PINYON-JUNIPER: ~~Thin where needed to favor open stands with abundant midstory and understory; retain an average of at least 30% canopy cover over the total area.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practice 38)

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Lockwood, Frazier Park, Upper Cuyama River and Upper Piru Creek watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Management Area 10

Theme

Visual Resources and Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Management Area Description:

Management Area 10 consists of two nearly contiguous units comprising 18,344 total acres within the scenic corridor of Highway 33. These units are situated as follows:

10a, two miles north of Cuyama Peak (Mount Pinos RD); and,

10b, in the vicinity of Pine Mountain including portions of the Upper Cuyama and Sespe drainages (Mount Pinos RD, Ojai RD).

The predominant vegetation type in 10a is pinyon-juniper; the predominant vegetation types in 10b are pinyon-juniper and chaparral. Inclusion of grassland, hardwood forest, sagebrush scrub, and conifer forest also occur. Critical habitat for the California Condor exists in this Management Area and any projects which may destroy of modify this habitat shall undergo consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval of the proposal. Potential habitat for the San Joaquin Kit Fox exists in the area.

Desired Condition

The visual emphasis is on maintaining the rugged natural appearing character of the landscape. Most landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing level; the remaining landscapes are maintained at a slightly modified level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as greater than minor disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape. Wildlife emphasis would center on habitat improvement for mule deer and protection of essential condor habitat. Fisheries are emphasized for Sespe Creek.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the visual emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes, followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

<u>Cultural Resources</u> (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand.

Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail and ORV route construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing to slightly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

Recreation facilities remain visually subordinate in the foreground distance zone of Highway 33.

Prepare a corridor viewshed plan for State Highway 33.

Coordinate with Ventura County Planning Department.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts.

Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 4, 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality. Management activities are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big-game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession, and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5-year period.~~

PINYON-JUNIPER: ~~Thin where needed to favor open stands with abundant midstory and understory; retain an average of at least 30% canopy cover over the total area.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Manage stream segments containing anadromous fisheries to provide 90% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for steelhead trout.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Projects which may destroy or modify San Joaquin Kit Fox habitat shall be reviewed by Forest Biologist prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17 30)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Upper Cuyama River and Upper Sespe Creek watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Minerals (management practice 49)

Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to cover any proposed phosphate mining of Pine Mountain. Process will be initiated with the filing of an Operating Plan by the claimant.

Management Area 11

Theme

Water Yield Enhancement and Wildlife Habitat

Management Area Description:

Management Area 11 consists of two separate land units comprising 44,458 total acres. These units are situated as follows:

11a, 10 miles east of San Luis Obispo between the northeast boundary of the Santa Lucia Wilderness and the west slope of the La Panza Range (Santa Lucia RD); and,

11b, five miles east of Twitchell Reservoir between Buckhorn Ridge and Bone Mountain (Santa Lucia RD).

The predominant vegetation is chaparral with inclusions of grassland, hardwood forest, and conifer forest. Critical Habitat for the California Condor exists in this Management Area. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 20% of the area.

Desired Condition

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used in this management area to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Water yield projects would be designated and implemented to increase water yield of the management area. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access . Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the watershed emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. View areas from Pozo County Road, High Mountain Road, Colson Canyon Road, and La Brea Canyon Road are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Exploration and development of energy resources are accommodated consistent with Management Area Direction.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand.

Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Maintain existing designated ORV routes where needed to meet public demand and where administration and maintenance is adequate to provide acceptable resource protection.

Trail construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

Lands visible from Pozo Road, High Mountain Road, Colson Canyon Road, and La Brea Canyon Road are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Electronic facilities at Tepesquet Peak will be managed, as a minimum, to meet retention when viewed from Highway 101 and the community of Sisquoc.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles~~.

ALL HABITAT TYPES: Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession, and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10 year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period~~.

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be “D.”

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost effective.

Watershed

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4
- ecological needs of existing vegetation

In chapparal use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Emphasize water yield improvement opportunities through vegetation manipulation and structural developments. Vegetation treatments are located on chaparral areas having the greatest water yield potential.

Transportation

1. Maintain public access roads. Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM, level 2; RN, level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

2. Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife. Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

- This management area is within Sisquoc River, La Brea Creek, Lower Cuyama River, Salinas River and Huasna River watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Minerals (management practices 48, 49, 50, 51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

a. Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

b. All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

c. Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-private non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles).

Management Area 12

Theme

Wildlife and Watershed Management

Management Area Description:

Management Area 12 consists of five separate land units comprising 78,589 total acres. These units are situated as follows:

12a, twelve miles west of Greenfield between Chews Ridge and Arroyo Seco (Monterey RD);

12b, seventeen miles west of King City between Arroyo Seco and the Upper San Antonio drainage (Monterey RD);

12c, eight miles west of Fort Hunter-Liggett Headquarters between Cone Peak and Slickrock Creek (Monterey RD);

12d, five miles southwest of New Cuyama on the north slope of the Sierra Madre Ridge between the Miranda Pine and Montgomery Potrero vicinities (Santa Lucia RD, Mount Pinos RD); and,

12e, five miles northeast of Ojai and east of Chief Peak (Ojai RD).

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of grassland, hardwood forest, and conifer forest. Critical habitat of the California Condor and potential habitat for the San Joaquin Kit Fox exists on the Southern units.

Desired Condition

Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these emphasis zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the wildlife and watershed emphasis. Management of cultural resources emphasizes sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with focused protection and enhancement. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Viewsheds of State Highway 166, Carmel Valley Road, Nacimiento-Ferguson Road, Tassajara

Road, Arroyo Seco Road, Cone Peak Road and trails in the Ventana Wilderness are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Enhance cultural properties in the same areas with interpretive signing.

Developed Recreation Sites 41, 43, 46

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand.

Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation 32, 33, 44, 46

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities. Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard.

Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail and ORV route construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e

Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

Variety Class A landscapes are managed to meet retention.

Areas visible from State Highway 166, Carmel Valley Road, Nacimiento-Ferguson Road, Tassajara Road, Arroyo Seco Road, and trails in the Ventana Wilderness are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

The MIRA observatory is managed to meet partial retention when viewed at middle ground distances.

Electronic facilities at Plowshare Peak and McPherson Peak will be managed, as a minimum, to meet partial retention when viewed from State Highway 166.

Fish & Wildlife 10, 11, 12

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals. No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

CONIFERS: Where hardwoods are mixed in with conifers, a viable composition (at least 50% of existing) is retained in hardwood production as determined by an approved silvicultural prescription.

An average of 15 snags per 5 acre block are retained in treated compartments. Distribution can range from random to clumped.

An average of 10 or more down logs of suitable size are retained per 5 acre block in treated compartments.

Natural shrub islands should be retained where feasible.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Manage stream segments containing anadromous fisheries to provide 90% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for steelhead trout.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Projects which may destroy or modify San Joaquin Kit Fox habitat shall be reviewed by Forest Biologist prior to approval.

Range Resource 14, 15, 16, 17

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long- term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed 30, 38

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Withdrawals (management practice 26)

Recommend withdrawal of this management area from leasable mineral entry on all public domain lands within the Coastal Zone.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Carmel River, Arroyo Seco River, San Antonio River, Nacimiento River, Lower Cuyama River, and Upper Sespe Creek watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Management Area 13

Theme

General Forest Recreation and Wildlife (including specific protection for wild horses in the Black Mountain Wild Horse Territory).

Management Area Description

Management Area 13 is a single 35,011 acre locality situated seven miles northeast of Santa Margarita Lake between Highway 58 and Pine Mountain (Santa Lucia RD).

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest, grassland, and conifer forest. Critical Habitat for the California Condor exists within this area.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides a range of opportunities including ORV use of designated routes. The area is managed to provide general forest and cost efficient developed site recreation opportunities in the roaded natural, semi-primitive motorized, and semi-primitive non-motorized ROS classes. Emphasis is on opportunities for driving for pleasure, ORV use, hiking, hunting and other wildlife related activities, equestrian use, general forest camping, gathering forest products and nature study, where appropriate. Wildlife habitat enhancement is emphasized in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%. Primary emphasis is in roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these emphasis zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. The Black Mountain Wild Horse Territory is to be managed principally, but not exclusively, for the welfare of the wild horse herd in compliance with the guide lines set forth in the Wild Horse and Burro Act of 1971 (PL 92-195) and the Black Mountain Wild Horse Environmental Assessment of 1980, as amended.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation and wildlife emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Distinctive landscapes are maintained at a slightly modified level. State Highway 58 View Areas are maintained at the slightly modified level. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation

methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand.

Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 42, 44, 46)

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Provide opportunities for motorized and non-motorized trail oriented activities through maintenance or construction of a trail system, OHV routes, trailheads and staging facilities adequate to meet public demand; maintain ROS Class experiences and insure acceptable resource protection.

Trail maintenance and construction standards by ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3; SPM - level 2 or 3; RN - level 3.

Signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety is maintained.

Emphasize providing loop and connecting trails to enhance opportunities and minimize resource damage.

Provide entrance and informational stations during heavy use periods where needed for effective OHV use regulation.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

Variety Class A landscapes are managed to meet retention.

Lands within the viewshed of State Highway 58 are managed to meet partial retention.

Electronic facilities at Black Mountain will be managed, as a minimum, to meet partial retention when viewed from State Highway 58 and Pozo Road.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12, 18)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals. No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period~~.

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

CONIFERS: Where hardwoods are mixed in with conifers, a viable composition (at least 50% of existing) is retained in hardwood production as determined by an approved silvicultural prescription.

An average of 15 snags per 5 acre block are retained in treated compartments. Distribution can range from random to clumped.

An average of 10 or more down logs of suitable size are retained per 5 acre block in treated compartments.

Natural shrub islands should be retained where feasible.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

With the exception of the Pozo-La Panza OHV area, the density of roads is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Salinas River, Huerhuero, and San Juan Creek watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Management Area 14

Theme

Watershed Management

Management Area Description:

Management Area 14 is a single 10,591 acre locality situated adjacent to Pyramid Reservoir between Snowy Peak and the Gold Hill vicinity (Mount Pinos RD).

The predominant vegetation types are conifer forest at upper elevations and chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest, grassland, and sagebrush scrub.

Desired Condition

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used in this management area to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed and water yield improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the watershed emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Trails and general forest facilities are constructed and maintained to meet demand and to enhance opportunities. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Interstate Highway 5, Pyramid Lake, and Forest Road 8N01 viewsheds are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60 %; priority is give to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand.

Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 42, 44, 46)

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Provide opportunities for motorized and non-motorized trail oriented activities through maintenance or construction of a trail system, OHV routes, trailheads and staging facilities adequate to meet public demand, maintain ROS Class experiences and insure acceptable resource protection. Trail maintenance and construction standards: ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3, SPM - level 2 or 3, RN - level 3.

Signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety is maintained.

Emphasize providing loop and connecting trails to enhance opportunities and minimize resource damage.

Provide entrance and informational stations during heavy use periods where needed for effective OHV use regulation.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

Maintain a natural appearing to modified landscape.

Variety Class A landscapes are managed to meet retention.

Areas viewed from Interstate Highway 5, Pyramid Lake, and Forest road 8N01 are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment~~

~~should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

CONIFERS: Where hardwoods are mixed in with conifers, a viable composition (at least 50% of existing) is retained in hardwood production as determined by an approved silvicultural prescription.

An average of 15 snags per 5 acre block are retained in treated compartments. Distribution can range from random to clumped.

An average of 10 or more down logs of suitable size are retained per 5 acre block in treated compartments.

Natural shrub islands should be retained where feasible.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 24, 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Emphasize water yield improvement opportunities through vegetation manipulation and structural developments.

Vegetation treatments are located on chaparral areas having the greatest water yield potential.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife. Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Upper Piru Creek Watershed. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Management Area 16

Theme

Visual Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 16 consists of two nearly contiguous land units comprising 15,607 total acres within the scenic corridor of Highway 154. These units are situated on the north slope of the Santa Ynez Mountains (Santa Barbara RD) as follows:

16a, between Nojoqui Falls and the Bald Mountain vicinity; and

16b, between Refugio Pass and San Marcos Pass.

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of grassland, hardwood forest, and conifer forest.

Desired Condition

The visual emphasis is on maintaining the rugged natural appearing character of the landscape. Most landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing level; the remaining landscapes are maintained at a slightly modified level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as greater than minor disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the visual emphasis. Management of cultural resources emphasizes protection of cultural properties and a sample-based, post-fire inventory program. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Trails are constructed and maintained to meet demand and to enhance opportunities. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion, and flooding. Watershed and water yield improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Give priority to enhancement through site-specific and area-specific opportunities for interpretation.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 42, 43, 45, 46)

Provide an unstaffed entry-point information station on Highway 154.

Operate and maintain sites to a moderate standard level.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards through routine general maintenance.

Administer private sector sites to foster permit compliance.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the trail system, trailhead facilities, staging areas and Wilderness entry points as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trail maintenance and construction standards for ROS class: Semi-primitive - level 2 or 3
Roaded Natural - level 3

Signing is maintained as needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing to slightly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

Recreation facilities remain visually subordinate in the foreground distance zone of Highway 154.

Electronic facilities at Broadcast Peak, Santa Ynez Peak, and Camino Cielo will be managed, as a minimum, to meet partial retention when viewed from State Highway 154 and Lake Cachuma.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts.

Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 4, 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality.

Management activities are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Prepare a Corridor Viewshed Plan for State Scenic Highway 154.

Coordinate with Santa Barbara County Planning Department.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big-game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment~~

~~should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 24, 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered: area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%; soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4; ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Emphasize water yield improvement opportunities through vegetation manipulation and structural developments.

Vegetation treatments are located on chaparral areas having the greatest water yield potential.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads.

Primary access roads are maintained to at least level 3 standards.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Lower Santa Ynez River watershed. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Management Area 25

Theme

Range Management

Management Area Description:

Management Area 25 consists of two separate land units comprising 25,927 total acres. These units are situated as follows:

25a, nine miles east of Lopez Reservoir between the vicinities of Pine Ridge and Pilitas Mountain (Santa Lucia RD); and,

25b, fifteen miles northeast of Twitchell Reservoir between Branch Mtn. and Carrizo Canyon (Santa Lucia RD).

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest, conifer forest, and grassland.

Desired Condition

Grazing capacity is increased through structural improvements, prescribed burning, and type conversion in suitable chaparral areas.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the Range Management emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at lightly modified level. Highway 166 view areas are maintained at the slightly modified level. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects

may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand.

Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands are managed to meet partial retention.

Lands within the State Highway 166 viewshed are managed to meet partial retention.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5-year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Increase grazing capacity using range and other funds by applying grazing strategy "D" as identified in individual allotment plans if not in conflict with other resources or if cost-effective.

One of the major forage improvement practices will be type conversion in suitable chaparral areas. The major new structures will be fences, water troughs and small ponds.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Alamo Creek, Huasna River, Salinas River, San Juan Creek and Lower Cuyama River watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Management Area 26

Theme

Range Management

Management Area Description:

Management Area 26 is a single 7,677 acre locality situated five miles north of Lake Cachuma between Ranger Peak and La Jolla Basin (Santa Barbara RD).

The predominant vegetation types are oak grassland and chaparral with inclusions of conifer forest. A portion of this area is located within the Highway 154 scenic corridor.

Desired Condition

Grazing capacity is increased through structural improvements, prescribed burning, and type conversion in suitable chaparral areas.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the Range Management emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Distinctive landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing level. State Highway 154 and Figueroa Mountain Road viewsheds are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS

classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities.

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed and water yield improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d)

Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands are managed to meet retention.

Areas viewed from State Highway 154 and Figueroa Mountain Road are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5-year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Increase grazing capacity using range and other funds by applying grazing strategy "D" as identified in individual allotment plans if not in conflict with other resources or if cost-effective.

One of the major forage improvement practices will be type conversion in suitable chaparral areas. The major new structures will be fences, water troughs and small ponds.

Watershed (management practices 24, 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Emphasize water yield improvement opportunities through vegetation manipulation and structural developments.

Vegetation treatments are located on chaparral areas having the greatest water yield potential.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Lower Santa Ynez River watershed. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

Management Area 27

Theme

Motorized General Forest Recreation

Management Area Description:

Management Area 27 is a single 320 acre locality situated adjacent to Interstate Highway 5 in the vicinity of Gorman. The predominant vegetation is grassland with inclusions of pinyon-juniper and hardwood forest.

Desired Condition

Recreation emphasizes maintaining area access and OHV opportunities. Acquisition of the area by the State of California for incorporation into the Hungry Valley OHV Park is encouraged. Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation emphasis.

Standards and Guidelines

General Forest Recreation (management practices 44, 46)

Provide open motorized recreation opportunities except as necessary to insure acceptable resource protection or as necessary to be compatible with the State OHV Plan.

Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Visual Resources (management practices 5d, 6)

Reduce the visual impact of OHV activities on the community of Gorman over time.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts consistent with recreation objectives.

Rehabilitation occurs on Visual Condition Class 5 and 6 lands where technically feasible to meet VQOs.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11)

Provide habitat management to at least maintain viable populations of native wildlife species.

Utilize existing forestwide standards.

Landownership (management practices 27)

Encourage management and acquisition of this Management Area by the State of California for incorporation in the Hungry Valley Off Highway Vehicle Park (OHV).

Management Area 28

Theme

Non-Motorized General Forest Recreation, Water Yield Enhancement and Wildlife

Management Area Description:

Management Area 28 is a single 156,569 acre locality. Its convoluted shape spans the upper Santa Ynez watershed from San Marcos Pass to Cachuma Mountain on the west, and from Potrero Seco and Murietta Saddle on the east; a smaller portion extends into the Matilija and Sespe watersheds between Murietta Saddle and Sespe Gorge (Santa Lucia RD, Santa Barbara RD, Ojai RD).

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of grasslands, hardwood forest, and conifer forest. Portions of this area are located within the scenic corridors of Highways 33 and 154. The area contains habitat of the Least Bell's Vireo and the California Condor, both T & E species.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides general forest opportunities primarily in the semi-primitive non-motorized ROS class with emphasis on extended trip and day-use hiking and equestrian use, general forest camping, and associated activities where appropriate. Limited opportunities for OHV use may be provided when not in conflict with emphasized activities. Water yield projects would be designed and implemented to increase the water yield of the management area. Wildlife habitat enhancement, primarily chaparrel management for both game and non-game species, occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%. Priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Threatened and Endangered species management is emphasized in riparian areas identified as suitable habitat for the Least Bell's Vireo.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation and water yield emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Distinctive landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing level. View Areas from State Highways 33 and 154, East Camino Cielo Road, Lake Cachuma, Paradise Road, Santa Ynez Recreation Complex, Buckhorn Road, Matilija Creek and Matilija Reservoir are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained.

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed and water yield improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Maintain sites to at least minimum public health and safety standards.

Sites are operated to minimize costs

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the existing trail system, trailhead facilities, staging areas and Wilderness entry points as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trail maintenance and construction standards by ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3; RN - level 3 (or 4 in primarily day use areas)

Signing is maintained as needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Routes are designated where OHV use does not conflict with emphasized activities, and where the use can be effectively regulated.

Utilize opportunities to provide for relatively low density OHV touring on designated routes.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c)

Maintain a natural appearing to slightly modified landscape.

Variety Class A landscapes are managed to meet retention.

Areas viewed from State Highways 33 and 154, East Camino Cielo Road, Lake Cachuma, Paradise Road, Santa Ynez Reacreation Area, Buckhorn Road, Matilija Creek, and Matilija Reservoir are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Variety Class A landscapes are managed to meet retention.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5-year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage essential habitat of Least Bells Vireo to help perpetuate and where possible enhance the survival of the species. Follow Least Bells Vireo Habitat Management Plan.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 24, 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Emphasize water yield improvement opportunities through vegetation manipulation and structural developments.

Vegetation treatments are located on chaparral areas having the greatest water yield potential.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Improve fire equipment access.

Alignment and width of East Camino Cielo Road 5N12 and Romero Camuesa Road 5N15 are improved as necessary to achieve single land low-bed transport of D-9 or similar crawler tractors from Romero Saddle to Mono Debris Basin (approximately six curves need improvement of turning radius and width).

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Lower Santa Ynez River, Upper Santa Ynez River and Santa Cruz Creek watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Management Area 29

Theme

General Forest Recreation and Range Management

Management Area Description:

Management Area 29 is a single 58,777 acre locality situated three miles north of Twitchell Reservoir between Los Machos Hills and Miranda Pine Mountain.

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of grassland, hardwood forest, and conifer forest. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 10% of the area.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides a range of opportunities including OHV use of designated routes. The area is managed to provide general forest and cost efficient developed site recreation opportunities in the roaded natural, semi-primitive motorized, and semi-primitive non-motorized ROS classes. Emphasis is on opportunities for driving for pleasure, OHV use, hiking, hunting and other wildlife related activities, equestrian use, general forest camping, gathering forest products and

nature study where appropriate. Grazing capacity is increased through structural improvements, prescribed burning, and type conversion in suitable chaparral areas.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation and grazing emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. View areas from State Highway 166 are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities.

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives. Exploration and development of energy resources are accomodated consistent with management area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Promote full utilization of developed site facilities by limiting available capacity to a level that adequately meets demand.

Sites are operated to approximate annual use levels of 30 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Sites are operated to a moderate standard level giving priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 42, 44, 46)

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Provide opportunities for motorized and non-motorized trail oriented activities through maintenance or construction of a trail system, OHV routes, trailheads and staging facilities adequate to meet public demand, maintain ROS Class experiences and insure acceptable resource protection.

Trail maintenance and construction standards: ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3; SPM - level 2 or 3; RN - level 3.

Signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety is maintained.

Emphasize providing loop and connecting trails to enhance opportunities and minimize resource damage.

Provide entrance and informational stations during heavy use periods where needed for effective OHV use regulation.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands are managed to meet retention.

Areas viewed from State Highway 166 are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Increase grazing capacity using range and other funds by applying grazing strategy "D" as identified in individual allotment plans if not in conflict with other resources or if cost-effective.

One of the major forage improvement practices will be type conversion in suitable chaparral areas. The major new structures will be fences, water troughs and small ponds.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Huasna River, Alamo Creek and Lower Cuyama River watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

Management Area 32

Theme

Oil and gas exploration and development

Management Area Description

Management area 32 consists of three relatively small parcels along the southeastern portion of the Forest; 9680 acres, as follows:

32a San Cayetano Mountain, four miles northwest of Fillmore (Ojai RD),

32b Oak Flat, five miles north of Fillmore (Ojai RD), and;

32c Rodeo Flat, six miles northeast of Fillmore (Ojai RD

The entire area is within a geologic structure that has known oil and gas reserves or high potential for oil and gas discovery and development.

Desired Condition.

Oil and gas exploration and development are integrated with the management and protection of resource values. Prescribed burning or other vegetative manipulation methods are used to maintain mixed vegetation age classes that protect soil and water resources from wildfire, soil erosion, and flooding. General Forest recreation opportunities are provided. Distinctive landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. View Areas from State Highway 126, the city of Fillmore, and Oak Flat Road. Lake Piru Recreation sites and trails are maintained at a slightly modified level. Wildlife habitat provides for maintenance of viable native populations.

Standards and Guidelines

<u>Cultural Resources</u> (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

<u>General Forest Recreation</u> (management practices 33, 44, 46)

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

Maintain a natural appearing to strongly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands are managed to meet retention or partial retention.

Areas viewed from State Highway 126, the city of Fillmore, Lake Piru, Oak Flat Road, and other sensitivity level 1 recreation sites and travelways are managed to meet partial retention except as noted on VQO map.

VQO tradeoff (see Section 4.3.19) will only be allowed in areas where it will be feasible to restore visual conditions to levels shown on the VQO map.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts.

Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 4, 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11)

Provide habitat management to at least maintain viable populations of native fish and wildlife species and retain existing opportunities for hunting, fishing and viewing of fish and wildlife.

Utilize existing forestwide standards.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement soil and watershed improvement projects for areas within or adjacent to the Sespe Oil Field to correct identified soil erosion or water quality problems.

Human-caused oil seeps are corrected or contained. Corrective action is initiated within two years of its identification in the watershed needs inventory.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads.

Roads providing access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives, and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Lower Sespe, Santa Paula, and Upper Piru Watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Minerals (management practices 48, 49, 50, 51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with management and protection of other resource values.

Areas disturbed by exploration (roads, pads, etc.) are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

Roads are managed to be consistent with identified ROS classes.

Management Area 33

Theme

Visual Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 33 consists of three nearly contiguous units comprising 7,981 total acres within the scenic viewshed of the city of San Luis Obispo and vicinity. These units are situated as follows:

33a, five miles northwest of San Luis Obispo between vicinities of Toro Creek and Tassajera Peak (Santa Lucia RD);

33b, three miles north of San Luis Obispo at Cuesta Pass (Santa Lucia RD); and,

33c, four miles east of San Luis Obispo on Piney Ridge (Santa Lucia RD).

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 5% of the area.

Desired Condition

The visual emphasis is on maintaining the rugged natural appearing character of the landscape. Most landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing level; the remaining landscapes are essentially maintained at a slightly modified level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as greater than minor disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the visual emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection

done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest opportunities consistent with demand in a variety of ROS classes. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained.

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives. Exploration and development of energy resources are accomodated consistent with management area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Maintain signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing to slightly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

Electronics facilities must, as a minimum, meet partial retention when viewed as background from San Luis Obispo or State Highway 1.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts.

Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 4, 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common scenic quality.

Management activities are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10 year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads.

Existing roads are maintained to at least level 3 standards.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Pacific Ocean tributaries watershed. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

Management Area 37

Theme

Visual Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 37 consists of two nearly contiguous units comprising 23,814 total acres within the scenic viewshed of Highway 33, the city of Ojai and vicinity. These units are situated as follows:

37a, adjacent to Ojai between Santa Ana Canyon and Topa Topa Bluff (Ojai RD); and ,

37b, four miles north of Santa Paula on the slope of Santa Paula Ridge.

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest, grassland, and conifer forest. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 7% of the area.

Desired Condition

The visual emphasis is on maintaining the rugged natural appearing character of the landscape. Landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as greater than minor disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the visual emphasis. Management of cultural resources emphasizes protection and enhancement of cultural properties and a sample-based, post-fire inventory program. Recreation provides a primarily roaded natural ROS class experience in an area subject to relatively intensive use levels. Day-use activities are encouraged which enhance enjoyment of the natural environment such as viewing scenery, pleasure driving, hiking, equestrian use, nature study, and water play. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained.

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. A fuelbreak system is constructed and maintained. Exploration and development for energy resources are accomodated consistent with Management Area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

<u>Cultural Resources</u> (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Emphasize a proactive program of protection of cultural properties, especially rock paintings.

Give priority to enhancement of site-specific and area-specific opportunities for interpretation.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 32, 33, 42, 43, 46)

Provide an unstaffed entry point information station on Highway 33.

Provide vista points and turnouts to enhance opportunities for viewing scenery where appropriate.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 44, 46)

Develop an interpretative and information plan for the area.

Develop and utilize self-guided tours, nature trails, interpretive programs, brochures and displays, and signing as appropriate.

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Promote the use of public transportation to the area.

Construct and maintain trails and trailhead parking areas planned through coordination with state or local government agencies, or those needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Provide looptrails and/or connecting trails where necessary to enhance hiking and equestrian opportunities.

Give priority to trails adjacent to urban areas, and to trails which connect urban areas with backcountry opportunities.

Provide trail oriented opportunities for viewing scenery. Thin and prune vegetation to open vistas where appropriate.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing to slightly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

Recreation/administrative facilities and special use activities remain visually subordinate to the desired landscape character in the foreground distance zone of Highway 33.

Electronics facilities at Sisar Peak and administrative facilities at Nordoff Peak will be managed, as a minimum, to meet partial retention when viewed from State Highways 33, 150, and the city of Ojai.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts. Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 4, 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality. Management activities are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Prepare a corridor viewshed plan for State Highway 33. Coordinate with Ventura County Planning Department.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big-game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5-year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads.

Roads providing access to trailhead facilities are maintained to at least a level 3 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Casitas Reservoir, Ventura River and Santa Paula Creek watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Develop water along primary ridges.

One source is provided an average of every four miles.

Special Uses (management practices 25)

Agricultural uses on National Forest lands may be accomodated when evaluation shows they are in the public interest and support Management Area emphasis.

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

Management Area 38

Theme

Visual Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 38 is a single 41,881 acre locality situated on the south slope of the Santa Ynez Mountains between Gaviota Peak and Chismahoo Mountain (Santa Barbara RD, Ojai RD) comprising the scenic viewshed of Highway 154, the city of Santa Barbara and vicinity.

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest, grassland, and conifer forest. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 10% of the area.

Desired Condition

The visual emphasis is on maintaining the rugged natural appearing character of the landscape. Landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as greater than minor disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the visual emphasis. Management of cultural resources emphasizes protection and enhancement of cultural properties and a sample-based, post-fire inventory program. Recreation provides a primarily roaded natural ROS class experience in an area subject to relatively intensive use levels. Day-use activities are emphasized which enhance enjoyment of the natural environment such as viewing scenery, pleasure driving, hiking, equestrian use, nature study, and water play. Limited opportunities are available for low density ORV use. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained.

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. A fuelbreak system is constructed and maintained. Exploration and development of energy resources are accommodated consistent with Management Area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

<u>Cultural Resources</u> (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Emphasize a proactive program of protection of cultural properties, especially rock paintings.

Give priority to enhancement to site-specific and area-specific opportunities for interpretation.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 32, 33, 40, 42, 43, 45)

Provide additional developed facilities as needed to enhance day-use opportunities.

Construction standards: RN - level 3 or 4

Maintain facilities at Condition Class 1.

Facilities are scheduled for rehabilitation which cannot be maintained at Condition Class 1 through routine maintenance.

Develop an interpretative and information plan for the area.

Develop and utilize self-guided tours, nature trails, interpretive programs, brochures and displays, and signing as appropriate.

Operate and maintain sites to meet full standard requirements according to development scale and season of use. Emphasize sites which enhance day-use opportunities.

Administer private sector sites to foster permit compliance.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Provide for bicycle use where sufficient demand is present.

Promote the use of public transportation to and within the area.

Increase opportunities for pleasure driving and viewing scenery. Vista points and turnouts are provided where appropriate.

Utilize existing opportunities to provide for relatively low density OHV touring on designated roads and/or trails.

Routes are designated only where OHV use does not conflict with emphasized activities, and where the use can be effectively regulated.

Construct and maintain trails and trailhead parking areas identified in the Santa Barbara Front Composite Plan, planned through coordination with State or local government agencies, or those needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Maintenance and construction standards: ROS classes: SPNM - level 2 or 3, SPM - level 3, RN - level 3 or 4

Signing is provided as needed to identify trail head facilities, provide for informed progressive travel and user convenience, and to promote resource protection.

Provide loop trails and/or connecting trails where necessary to enhance hiking and equestrian opportunities.

Give priority to trails adjacent to urban areas, and to trails which connect urban areas with back country opportunities.

Provide trail-oriented opportunities for viewing scenery.

Thin and prune vegetation to open vistas where appropriate.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing to slightly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

Recreation/administrative facilities and special use activities remain visually subordinate to the established landscape character in the foreground distance zone of Highway 154 and East/West Camino Cielo.

Electronics and administrative facilities at Santa Ynez Peak (East and West), Broadcast Peak, and Camino Cielo will be managed, as a minimum, to meet partial retention when viewed from US Highway 101.

Electronics facilities at West La Cumbre, one mile west of La Cumbre, and at Rattlesnake Pass will be managed as a minimum to meet partial retention when viewed from US Highway 101 and the city of Santa Barbara.

Electronics and Forest Service administrative facilities at La Cumbre Peak will be managed to meet retention when viewed from US Highway 101 and the city of Santa Barbara.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts.

Activities include rehabilitation of Visual Condition 4, 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality.

Management activities when conducted are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Prepare a corridor viewshed plan for State Highway 154. Coordinate with Santa Barbara County Planning Department.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Upgrading of West Camino Cielo Road to a level 3 standard is considered to provide a scenic drive.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Santa Barbara Front West and Santa Barbara Front East watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Develop water along primary ridges.

Special Uses (management practices 25)

Agricultural uses on National Forest lands may be accommodated when evaluation shows they are in the public interest and support management area emphasis.

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values.

Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

MANAGEMENT AREA 39

Theme

Watershed Management

Management Area Description:

Management Area 39 is a single 14,323 acre locality situated adjacent to Lake Casitas between White Ledge Peak and Laguna Ridge (Ojai RD).

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest, grassland, and conifer forest. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 40% of the area.

Desired Condition

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used in this Management Area to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed and water yield improvement projects may be implemented. A fuelbreak system is constructed and maintained.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the watershed emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest opportunities consistent with demand in a variety of ROS classes. Distinctive landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing level. View areas from State Highway 150 and Lake Casitas are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Any recommended energy leases will include a "no surface occupancy" stipulation.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Signing is maintained as needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 6)

Maintain a natural appearing to modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands are managed to meet retention.

Areas viewed from State Highway 150 and Lake Casitas are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts.

Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 5 and 6 (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big-game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Acres treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5-year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Grazing may be increased by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Watershed (management practices 24, 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Emphasize water yield improvement opportunities through vegetation manipulation and structural developments.

Vegetation treatments are located on chaparral areas having the greatest water yield potential.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Design and locate roads to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management area is within Casitas Reservoir watershed. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Complete construction of the Ojai fuelbreak system.

Develop water along primary ridges.

One source is provided an average of every four miles.

Special Uses (management practices 25)

Agricultural uses on National Forest lands may be accommodated when evaluation shows they are in the public interest and support Management Area emphasis.

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values, giving special emphasis to watershed management

Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable. If leasing is recommended, include the "no surface occupancy" stipulation in addition to other appropriate stipulations.

Management Area 42

Theme

Visual and Recreation Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 42 consists of two land units comprising 6,440 total acres. These lands essentially represent the foreground viewshed of State Scenic Highway 1 and are situated along the Monterey County coast between the Highway 1 corridor and the Pacific Ocean as follows:

42a, five miles southeast of Point Sur between Cooper Point and Wreck Beach (Monterey RD); and,

42b, three miles east of Lopez Point between Limekiln Creek and Salmon Cone (Monterey RD).

The predominant vegetation types are coastal sage, chaparral, and coast redwood with inclusion of other conifers, grassland, and hardwood forest. The area contains potential habitat of the endangered Smith's Blue Butterfly.

Desired Condition

Retention of the natural wooded and pastoral quality of the landscape visible from Highway 1 and major viewing areas is the primary emphasis within the area. Landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as greater than minor disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape. Fisheries management is also emphasized. This emphasis is centered on enhancement of the resident and anadromous fishery to optimize natural productivity of local cold water streams.

Developed sites and other recreational and intrepretative opportunities are of a quality, scale, and character which do not encourage a significant increase in the numbers of users of the area. Recreation emphasizes general forest and developed site recreation opportunities oriented toward providing a roaded natural ROS class experience in an area subject to relatively intensive use levels. Emphasized are day-use activities which enhance enjoyment of the natural environment such as viewing scenery, pleasure driving, beach uses, picnicking, hiking and nature study.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the visual and recreation emphasis. Management of cultural resources emphasizes protection and enhancement of cultural properties and places a priority on complete inventory of cultural properties. Wildlife habitat provides for maintenance of viable native populations with special provisions for anadromous fisheries. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Recommendations are included for specific landownership adjustments and a mineral entry withdrawal.

Activities or developments proposed to occur within the Coastal Zone (See Map) are reviewed using the land use and resource policies of the Big Sur Local Coastal Program. Admendments to management area direction are also coordinated with policies of the Local Coastal Program.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Inventory all cultural resources in this unit.

Evaluate, with community assistance when appropriate, the significance and condition of all inventoried cultural properties.

Where recreation or grazing cause impacts, emphasize a proactive program of protection of cultural properties including interpretive and educational contacts with Forest users and other physical protection measures.

Give priority for enhancement to point and non-point cultural resources interpretation.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 32, 33, 40, 42, 43, 46)

Construct additional vehicle-access day-use units to provide opportunities for picnicking, beach and trail access, and to provide public rest stop facilities.

Sites are constructed to a development scale 4 standard.

Units and facilities are of a quality, scale, and character which do not encourage a significant increase in the number of users of the Big Sur area.

Visibility of development is minimized. Sites where existing topography or vegetation provide natural screening are favored.

New development is subordinate to and blends with its environment, using materials or colors that will achieve that effect.

Construction is coordinated with CalTrans and the California Coastal Commission.

Develop and implement an interpretative information program for the area.

Promote use dispersal by emphasizing underutilized opportunities in areas east of Highway 1 and alternatives to day-use of the Ventana Wilderness.

Construct nature trails and install interpretative signing where appropriate.

Provide unstaffed entry point information stations along Highway 1.

Construct up to two visitor information centers, if needed, in cooperation with appropriate state and local agencies.

The centers serve as visitor information facilities and are of a scale and character which do not encourage a significant increase in the number of users of the Big Sur area.

Maintain facilities in Condition Class 1.

Operate and maintain sites to meet full standard requirements according to design level and season of use.

Establish reservation system during heavy use season where practical.

Prohibit livestock in developed sites not designed for this use.

Facilities for loading, unloading and containment of recreational livestock may be provided in sites with significant equestrian demand.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Encourage and support the use of public transportation to and within the area.

Support maintenance and enhancement of Highway 1 as a two lane scenic highway. Enhance opportunities for viewing scenery.

Construct and maintain a trail system, trailhead facilities and day use parking adequate to enhance public use of on-site attractions and to provide connector links with adjacent area opportunities.

Construct and maintain trails to a level 4 or 5 standard.

Signing is provided as needed to identify trail head facilities, provide for user convenience and safety, and to promote resource protection.

Emphasis is on locating trails only where topographic or vegetation screening is adequate to conceal the trail's linear characteristics, and where potential conflicts with private landowners are minimized.

Emphasize providing trailhead facilities in locations convenient, but not readily visible from, Highway 1.

Cooperate with State and county agencies in determining feasibility and development of a coastal biking and hiking trail.

Off-road vehicle use is not appropriate.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing landscape character.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

An unobstructed view of the land and sea interface, essentially free of structural intrusion, is maintained.

Redwood stands and associated riparian species are managed to retain a natural appearing landscape.

Pastoral settings and wooded areas are maintained where they currently exist.

Signs are constructed of natural materials and are of minimal size and quantity.

Recreation range and administrative facilities remain visually subordinate (i.e. meet partial retention) as viewed from State Highway 1.

Prepare a corridor viewshed plan for State Scenic Highway 1.

Coordinate with Monterey County Local Coastal Program.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts.

Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 4, 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality.

Management activities are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11)

Provide habitat management to at least maintain viable populations of native fish and wildlife species and retain existing opportunities for hunting, fishing, and viewing of fish & wildlife.

Utilize existing forestwide standards.

Manage stream segments containing anadromous fisheries to provide 90% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for steelhead trout.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Projects which may destroy or modify Smith's Blue Butterfly habitat (coastal buckwheat plants) shall be reviewed by the Forest Biologist prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term range watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Retain the existing balance between grazing lands and natural/untreated lands within the area.

Landownership (management practice 27)

Adjust the Forest boundary by seeking Congressional action to include lands acquired from Hunter-Liggett Military Reservation.

Acquire private lands or interests therein from owners or donors who desire to sell where needed for enhancing public access.

Encourage continuation of the social and cultural values of the Big Sur community by not pursuing a policy of extinguishing inholdings within the area except when the owners desire to sell.

Withdrawals (management practice 26)

Recommend withdrawal of all National Forest lands within this management area from commercial leasable and locatable mineral, oil and gas entry.

Special Uses (management practice 25)

Encourage the extension of commercial electric power northward from Salmon Creek.

Transmission lines are consistent with the resource policies of the Big Sur Local Coastal Program.

Forest Land and Resource Planning (management practices 29)

Coordinate with Monterey County, the California Coastal Commission, and the Big Sur Multi-Agency Advisory Council on consistency determinations for developments, programs, and activities proposed by the Forest Service.

The land use and resource policies of the Big Sur Local Coastal Program are used as a standard for Agency consistency determinations.

The Forest Supervisor is a participant on the Big Sur Multi-Agency Advisory Council.

Coordinate with CalTrans, the California Coastal Commission, Monterey County, and the Big Sur Multi- Agency Council prior to proceeding on all developments, program and/or activity proposals.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

For the purpose of this plan, new or expanded roads are developments and undergo the coordination and review process with State and local agencies.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Ocean Front watershed. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Minerals (management practice 49)

Deny any mineral lease application for lands which are within the Coastal Influence Zone and are acquired lands with Weeks Act status.

Management Area 48

Theme

Visual Resources and Recreation

Management Area Description:

Management Area 48 consists of three separate land units comprising 49,042 acres along the west slope of the coast range in Monterey County within the scenic viewshed of Highway 1, Big Sur and vicinity. They are identified as follows:

48a, five miles Northeast of Point Sur surrounding Bottchers Gap (Monterey RD);

48b, four miles east of Point Sur encompassing the Pico Blanco area (Monterey RD);

48c, adjacent to Highway 1 from Post Summit to Anderson Peak (Monterey RD); and,

48d, one mile east of Cape San Martin between Mill Creek and San Carpoforo Creek (Monterey RD).

The vegetation is highly varied with the predominant types being chaparral, coastal sage, scrub, mixed hardwood forest, grasslands, and conifer and redwood forests. The Pico Blanco limestone deposits are located within this Management Area (48b). This area is known to contain extensive

limestone deposits and is covered by unpatented mining claims. The southern portion of the area (48d) contains a number of small mining claims filed primarily for gold and jade minerals. The area contains potential habitat of the endangered Smith's Blue Butterfly.

Desired Condition

Retention of the natural visual resource is the primary emphasis within the area. Landscapes visible from Highway 1 or major public viewing areas are essentially retained at a natural appearing level; the remaining landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing level or at a slightly modified level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as greater than minor disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape. Fisheries are also emphasized. This emphasis is centered on enhancement of the resident and anadromous fishery to optimize natural productivity of local cold stream waters.

Development of recreational facilities is subordinate to retention of the visual resource and the maintenance of existing facilities to a high standard. Developed sites and other recreational and interpretive opportunities are of a quality, scale and character which do not encourage a significant increase in the number of users of the area. Recreation provides general forest and developed site recreation opportunities in the roaded natural and semi-primitive non-motorized ROS classes, with emphasis on providing a semi-primitive non-motorized experience in an area subject to relatively intensive use levels. Activities are emphasized which enhance the visitors enjoyment of the visual resource of the Big Sur area such as: viewing scenery, hiking, equestrian use, nature study, gathering forest products, hunting and family camping.

Mining activities are recognized as a legal, non-conforming activity within the Management Area when conducted in a manner consistent with permit requirements of the Local Coastal Plan (as required by the Supreme Court decision of March 24, 1987) and implemented in a manner consistent with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970. The area is recommended for withdrawal from all mineral entry and no leasing. This measure, if approved, will preclude additional mineral claims. Valid existing claims will not be effected by this action.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the visual and recreation emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Streams are managed to emphasize the natural productivity of the resident and anadromous fishery. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Management of redwoods and other forested stands occurs in support of the recreation and visual emphasis. Some management may be required to maintain stand health.

Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods are used to maintain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives. Recommendations are included for specific landownership adjustments. Activities or developments proposed to occur within the Coastal Zone are reviewed by using the land use and resource policies of the Big Sur Local Coastal Program (See Map).

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 40, 41, 43)

Operate and maintain developed sites to meet full standard requirements according to development scale and season of use.

Construct family campground units to provide additional capacity for visitors to the Highway 1 Big Sur area. Campgrounds serve to accommodate Big Sur visitors without significantly increasing use levels.

Campgrounds and facilities are of a quantity, scale, and character which do not encourage a significant increase in the number of users of the Big Sur area.

Sites are constructed to a development scale 4 standard.

Predisturbed sites are used when possible for new development.

Sites are constructed with facilities required to implement a fee system.

Maintain facilities at Condition Class I.

Facilities are scheduled for rehabilitation which cannot be maintained at Condition Class I through routine maintenance.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 42, 44, 46)

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection or emphasized activities.

Provide information and interpretive services primarily in the form of brochures, maps and signs.

Utilize information opportunities to reduce trespass on private lands within the area.

Encourage trail-oriented activities through construction or maintenance of an adequate trail system, trailhead facilities, and equestrian staging areas.

Trail and trailhead facilities are constructed and maintained to level 2 or 3 standard. Routes are selected to minimize visual impacts.

Provide signing needed to identify trailhead facilities, provide for informed progressive travel, user convenience and safety, and to promote resource protection.

Emphasis is on locating trails only where topographic or vegetation screening is adequate to conceal the trail's linear characteristics and where potential conflicts with private landowners are minimized.

Emphasize providing trailhead facilities in locations convenient to, but not readily visible from, Highway 1.

Emphasize the "pack-it-in, pack-it-out" litter disposal program.

Provide loop or connector trails to enhance opportunities, disperse use, and provide trail access to the Ventana Wilderness.

Encourage trail links with facilities on Highway 1 where appropriate.

Provide trail-oriented opportunities for viewing scenery. Thin and prune vegetation to open vistas where appropriate.

Off-road vehicle use is not appropriate.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing or slightly modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

Signs within the area are constructed of natural materials.

Electronic facilities at Anderson Peak and Manuel Peak will be managed, as a minimum, to meet retention when viewed from State Highway 1.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts.

Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 4, 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality.

Management activities are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are utilized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objectives. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required for insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain all snags within the compartments which are not an insect, disease, or safety problem.

CONIFERS: Where hardwoods are mixed in with conifers, a viable composition is retained in hardwood production as determined by an approved silvicultural prescription.

An average of 15 snags per 5 acre block are retained in treated compartments. Distribution can range from random to clumped.

An average of 10 or more down logs of suitable size are retained per 5 acre block in treated compartments.

Natural shrub islands should be retained where feasible.

Manage stream segments containing anadromous fisheries to provide 90% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for steelhead trout.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Projects which may destroy or modify Smith's Blue Butterfly habitat (coastal buckwheat plants) shall be reviewed by the Forest Biologist prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16)

Maintain grazing capacity using range and other funds by applying grazing strategy "C" as identified in individual allotment plans if not in conflict with other resources or if cost-effective.

Timber (management practices 19, 47)

Management of forested stands will be based on silvicultural prescriptions designed to support the management emphasis on visual resources and recreation.

Provide size class and species diversity with emphasis on larger sizes.

Integrated Pest Management will be a primary consideration in development of silvicultural prescriptions.

Management of redwoods will support the visual emphasis and recreation.

Completion of a plant communities inventory is required prior to any management activities in redwood, unless actions are needed to protect health and safety.

Redwood stands and associated species are managed to provide a natural appearing landscape when viewed from public roads and trails.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement a watershed improvement program to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions.

Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- and ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Landownership (management practice 27)

Seek Congressional action to adjust Forest boundary to include Federal land acquired from Hunter-Liggett Military Reservation.

Acquire private lands or interests therein from owners or donors who desire to sell, where desireable to enhance opportunities for public use.

Encourage continuation of the social and cultural values of the Big Sur community by not pursuing a policy of extinguishing inholdings within the area, except when the owners desire to sell.

Strive to obtain the right-of-way needed to provide for public non-motorized use, emphasizing Wilderness entry opportunities on North Coast Ridge Road.

Withdrawals (management practice 26)

Recommend withdrawal of this Management Area from leasable mineral entry on all public domain lands.

Special Uses (management practice 25)

Encourage the extension of commercial electric power northward from Salmon Creek.

Transmission lines are consistent with the resource policies of the Big Sur Local Coastal Program.

Forest Land and Resource Planning (management practice 29)

The California Coastal Commission, Monterey County and the Big Sur Multi-Agency Advisory Council are notified of all amendments proposed to this Management Plan which could effect Coastal Zone lands within the area. Should the Forest Supervisor determine that an amendment to the plan is not significant within the meaning of 36 CFR 219.10 (f), upon request, the Secretary of Agriculture will provide the justification for the determination to the foregoing State and local agencies or reclassify the amendment as significant.

The land use and resource policies of the Big Sur Local Coastal Program are used as a standard for review and control of all proposed developments.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

New or expanded roads are considered developments for purposes of this plan and undergo the process of review by State and local agencies.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Little Sur River, Big Sur River and Ocean Front watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Develop water sources on primary ridges where needed.

One source is provided an average of every four miles.

Minerals (management practice 49)

Design and locate any needed roads to minimize resource damage especially visual impacts to the Highway 1 Viewshed.

Minimize changes in the existing landscapes.

Rehabilitate undesireable impacts.

Minimize wildlife habitat losses.

Maintain natural scrub islands where practical.

Minimize disturbance to riparian areas.

Maintain water quality.

Rehabilitate disturbed areas as soon as practical.

Work closely with Coastal Authorities, citizens, and mining claimants to assure full consideration of the Big Sur Local Coastal Plan.

Claimants will secure necessary permits from the State.

Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to cover proposed mining of Pico Blanco. Process will be initiated by filing of Operating Plan by Granite Rock.

Recommend withdrawal of the Management Area from mineral entry on all public domain lands.

Management Area 51

Theme

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

Management Area Description:

Management Area 51 is a single 1,181-acre locality situated seventeen miles west of Greenfield on Chews Ridge between the Forest boundary and China Camp (Monterey RD).

The predominant vegetation types are conifer forest and hardwood forest. The conifer forest is primarily Coulter pine. The oak forest has an overstory crown cover of at least 60% and is generally lacking a well-developed herbaceous understory.

Desired Condition

Overall emphasis is on development and maintenance of a multistory canopy composed of trees of all size classes with well distributed small openings. Thinning is emphasized in overstocked areas. Management activities are to be emphasized on areas under 60% slope and with suitable trail or road access.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the wildlife emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides general forest opportunities consistent with demand in a variety of ROS classes. Landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites/ 41, 43, 46

Maintain sites to at least minimum public health and safety standards.

Sites are operated to minimize costs.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs.

Provide for site rehabilitation by contributed effort when facilities cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards through routine general maintenance.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Maintain the existing trail system and trailhead facilities as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities.

Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard.

Signing is maintained as needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction is not emphasized but may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e)

Maintain a natural appearing to modified landscape.

Areas viewed from the Tassajara Road are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Chews Ridge lookout and MIRA observatory are managed as a minimum to meet partial retention when viewed at middleground distances from Carmel Valley Road, Tassajara Road, and recreation trails in the Ventana Wilderness.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big-game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CONIFERS: Where hardwoods are mixed in with conifers, a viable composition (at least 50% of existing) is retained in hardwood production as determined by an approved silvicultural prescription.

An average of 15 snags per 5-acre block are retained in treated compartments. Distribution can range from random to clumped.

An average of 10 or more down logs of suitable size are retained per 5 acre block in treated compartments.

Natural shrub islands should be retained where feasible.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long-term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Timber (management practices 19, 19a, 19b, 21, 47)

Management of forested stands will be based on silvicultural prescriptions.

Provide size class and species diversity.

Integrated pest management will be a primary consideration in development of silvicultural prescriptions.

Recommmended basal areas for pure conifer and conifer/mixed hardwood stands are 100-140 square feet/acre and 80-90 square feet/acre, respectively.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads

Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife.

Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This Management Area is within Carmel River watershed. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

MANAGEMENT AREA 52

Theme

General Forest Recreation and Wildlife Habitat

Management Area Description:

Management Area 52 consists of four separate land units comprising 10,647 total acres. These units are situated as follows:

52a, seven miles northwest of Frazier Park at upper Pleito Creek (Mount Pinos RD);

52b, five miles northwest of Frazier Park at upper Cherry Creek (Mount Pinos RD);

52c, two miles northwest of Frazier Park at Tecuya Mountain (Mount Pinos RD); and,

52d, five miles west of Pyramid Reservoir centered on Alamo Mountain (Mount Pinos RD).

This management area consists of conifer and hardwood forest. The conifer forest is primarily ponderosa and/or Jeffrey pine often mixed with sugar pine, white fir or incense cedar. The hardwood forest has an overstory crown cover of at least 60% and is generally lacking a well-developed herbaceous understory.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides for general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities primarily in the semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural ROS classes. A variety of activities are featured including OHV use, hiking, hunting and other wildlife related activities, equestrian use, fishing, general forest camping, gathering forest products, and nature study where appropriate. Wildlife habitat emphasis is on development and maintenance of a multistory canopy composed of trees of all size classes with well distributed small openings. Thinning is emphasized in size classes under 30 inches DBH. Trees larger than 30 inches will be retained so long as the stand is not jeopardized. Management activities are to be emphasized on areas under 60% slope and with suitable trail or road access.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation and wildlife emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Distinctive landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. View areas from the Cuddy Valley Road(9N05), and Alamo Mountain Road(8N01) are maintained at a natural appearing to slightly modified level. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 41, 43, 46)

Maintain sites to at least minimum public health and safety standards.

Sites are operated to minimize costs.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs.

Provide for site rehabilitation by contributed effort when facilities cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards through routine general maintenance.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 42, 44, 46)

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Provide opportunities for motorized and non-motorized trail oriented activities through maintenance or construction of a trail system, OHV routes, trailheads and staging facilities adequate to meet public demand, maintain ROS Class experiences and insure acceptable resource protection. Trail maintenance and construction standards: ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3; SPM - level 2 or 3; RN - level 3.

Signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety is maintained.

Emphasize providing loop and connecting trails to enhance opportunities and minimize resource damage.

Provide entrance and informational stations during heavy use periods where needed for effective OHV use regulation.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d)

Maintain a natural appearing to modified landscape. Variety Class A lands are managed for retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Areas viewed from Cuddy Valley Road and Alamo Mountain Road are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability.

~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45%intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CONIFERS: Where hardwoods are mixed in with conifers, a viable composition (at least 50% of existing) is retained in hardwood production as determined by an approved silvicultural prescription.

An average of 15 snags per 5 acre block are retained in treated compartments. Distribution can range from random to clumped.

An average of 10 or more down logs of suitable size are retained per 5 acre block in treated compartments.

Natural shrub islands should be retained where feasible.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Timber (management practices 19, 19a, 19b, 21, 47)

Management of forested stands will be based on silvicultural prescriptions. Provide size class and species diversity with emphasis on larger sizes.

Integrated pest management will be a primary consideration in development of silvicultural prescriptions.

Recommended basal areas for pure conifer stands and conifer/mixed hardwood stands are 100-140 square feet/acre and 80-90 square feet/acre, respectively.

Higher basal areas are acceptable in stands with a high proportion of trees greater than 30 inches dbh.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads. Roads providing access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife. Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits. This management area is within Upper Piru Creek, Frazier Park and Buena Vista Lake watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

MANAGEMENT AREA 54

Theme

Visual Resources and Wildlife Habitat

Management Area Description:

Management Area 54 is a single 5,397 acre locality centered on Frazier Mountain (Mount Pinos RD) within the scenic viewshed of Frazier Park and vicinity.

This management area consists of conifer and hardwood forest. The conifer forest is primarily ponderosa and/or Jeffrey pine often mixed with sugar pine, white fir or incense cedar. The hardwood forest has an overstory crown cover of at least 60% and is generally lacking a well developed herbaceous understory.

Desired Condition

Landscapes are maintained at a slightly modified level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as major disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape. Wildlife habitat emphasis is on development and maintenance of a multistory canopy composed of trees of all size classes with well distributed small openings. Thinning is emphasized in all size classes. Management activities are to be emphasized on areas under 60% slope and with suitable trail or road access.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the visual and wildlife emphasis. Management of cultural resources emphasizes sample-based, post-fire inventory with protection focused on cultural values associated with Frazier Mountain. Recreation provides general forest and cost efficient developed site opportunities in a variety of ROS classes. Trails and general forest facilities are constructed and maintained to meet demand and to enhance opportunities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of all inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Protect cultural values specific to Frazier Mountain from changes which alter the present natural appearing landscape.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 42, 44, 46)

Permit general forest camping when not in conflict with acceptable resource protection.

Provide opportunities for motorized and non-motorized trail oriented activities through maintenance or construction of a trail system, OHV routes, trailheads and staging facilities adequate to meet public demand, maintain ROS Class experiences and insure acceptable resource protection. Trail maintenance and construction standards: ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3; SPM - level 2 or 3; RN - level 3.

Signing needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety is maintained.

Emphasize providing loop and connecting trails to enhance opportunities and minimize resource damage.

Provide entrance and informational stations during heavy use periods where needed for effective OHV use regulation.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 6, 7)

Maintain a slightly modified landscape Electronics and administrative facilities at Frazier Mountain will be managed as a minimum to meet partial retention when viewed from Interstate Highway 5.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts. Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality. Management activities when conducted are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability. ~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CONIFERS: Where hardwoods are mixed in with conifers, a viable composition (at least 50% of existing) is retained in hardwood production as determined by an approved silvicultural prescription.

An average of 15 snags per 5 acre block are retained in treated compartments. Distribution can range from random to clumped.

An average of 10 or more down logs of suitable size are retained per 5 acre block in treated compartments.

Natural shrub islands should be retained where feasible.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Timber (management practices 19, 19a, 19b, 21, 47)

Management of forested stands will be based on silvicultural prescriptions designed to support the management emphasis. Provide size class and species diversity with emphasis on larger sizes.

Integrated pest management will be a primary consideration in development of silvicultural prescriptions.

Recommended basal areas for pure conifer stands and conifer/mixed hardwood stands are 100-140 square feet/acre and 80-90 square feet/acre, respectively.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads. Roads providing primary access to general forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife. Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits. This management area is within Upper Piru Creek, Frazier Park and a small portion of Lockwood watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

MANAGEMENT AREA 57

Theme

Developed Recreation

Management Area Description:

Management Area 57 consists of three separate land units comprising 10,754 total acres. These units comprise the existing Santa Ynez, Blue Point, and Arroyo Seco recreation complexes and are situated as follows:

57a, Santa Ynez Recreation Area, six miles north of Santa Barbara along the Santa Ynez River from the vicinity of Paradise Canyon to Gibraltar Reservoir (Santa Barbara RD)

57b, Blue Point Recreation Area, six miles north of Piru between Lake Piru and Agua Blanca Creek (Ojai RD); and,

57c, Arroyo Seco Recreation Area, twelve miles southwest of Greenfield at Arroyo Seco (Monterey RD).

The predominant vegetation type is a mixture of chaparral, hardwood forest, grassland, and riparian.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides for intensive management of highly developed recreation sites and complexes to accommodate heavy public demand. Management emphasis is on providing for high density use in developed sites and adjacent general forest areas. General forest opportunities emphasize water oriented day-use activities such as fishing, swimming and water play, hiking and equestrian use, and viewing scenery. Fisheries are emphasized to enhance the resident and anadromous fishery and increase natural productivity for recreational use.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for protection and enhancement of cultural properties and places a priority on a complete inventory of cultural resources. Distinctive landscapes are maintained at a natural appearing level; the remaining landscapes are essentially maintained at a slightly modifie d level. Visual impacts characterized as major disturbances are rehabilitated. Wildlife habitat provides for maintenance of viable native populations. Habitat improvement projects which increase opportunities to fish and view wildlife are encouraged. Grazing opportunities are maintained where not in conflict with recreation values. Prescribed burning or other vegetation manipulation methods may be used to maint ain a mixed vegetation age class that will protect soil and water resources from wildfires, severe erosion and flooding. Watershed improvement projects may be implemented. Recreation opportunities may be enhance d through land acquisition and mineral withdrawals.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Inventory all cultural resources.

Evaluate the significance and condition of all inventoried cultural properties.

Emphasize a proactive program of protection including interpretive and educational contacts with Forest users and other physical protection measures.

Gives priority for enhancement to site specific and area specific opportunities for interpretation.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 32, 33, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46)

Construct new facilities and/or reconstruct or modify existing facilities as identified in approved area plans and/or as needed to accommodate public demand. Sites are constructed to an experience level 4 standard.

Priority is given to construction of day-use facilities.

Develop an interpretive and information plan for the area.

Construct an entry station to provide visitor information and regulate use during heavy use periods where needed. Construct or operate in coordination with local government agencies as appropriate.

Develop and utilize nature trails, guided walks, interpretive programs, brochures, displays and signing as appropriate.

Provide vista points to increase opportunities for viewing scenery where appropriate.

Operate and maintain sites to meet full standard requirements according to design level and season of use.

Establish a reservation system during heavy-use season where needed and practical.

Prohibit livestock in developed sites not designed for this use. Provide facilities for loading, unloading and containment of recreational livestock in sites with significant equestrian demand.

Administer private sector sites at full standard level to ensure permit compliance.

Maintain facilities at Condition Class 1. Facilities are rehabilitated which cannot be maintained at condition class 1 through routine maintenance. Give priority to designated fee sites and those receiving heaviest use.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Provide maximum opportunities for public access and use of the streamside recreation environment.

Camping is permitted only in designated facilities.

Prohibit all discharge of firearms.

Promote the use of public transportation to the area.

Construct or maintain a trail system, trail head facilities, and day-use parking adequate to enhance public use of on-site attractions and to provide connector links with adjacent area

opportunities as identified in approved area plans and/or as needed to accommodate public demand. Construct and maintain trails to level 4 or 5 standard.

Provide for bicycle and equestrian use where sufficient demand is present.

Provide loop trails and/or connecting trails where necessary to enhance hiking and equestrian opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 6)

Maintain a natural appearing landscape to modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

Areas viewed from Sensitivity Level 1 travelways, use areas and water bodies are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Recreation activities remain visually subordinate (i.e. meet partial retention) to the established character in foreground zones.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts. Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Fish & Wildlife (management practices 10, 11)

Provide habitat management to at least maintain viable populations of native fish & wildlife species and retain existing opportunities for hunting, fishing and viewing of fish & wildlife. Utilize existing forestwide standards.

Manage stream segments containing anadromous fisheries to provide 90% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for steelhead trout.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16)

Permit livestock grazing to the extent it does not conflict with recreation values.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions. Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered:

- area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%;
- soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4;
- and ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation.

Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Withdrawals (management practice 26)

Continue existing withdrawal to mineral entry within the recreation area until a future review and assessment provides additional direction.

Study the suitabililty of expanding the existing withdrawal to include the entire recreation area.

Land Acquisition (management practice 27)

Acquire private lands where needed for enhancing public access opportunities or use of the area; for recreation facility construction. Lands are acquired on a willing seller-willing buyer basis.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access.

Primary access roads are maintained to a level 4 standard.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits. This management area is within Upper and Lower Santa Ynez River, Lower Piru Creek and Arroyo Seco River watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

MANAGEMENT AREA 61

Theme

Recreation, Visual Resources, and Wildlife

Management Area Description:

Management Area 61 consists of two units comprised of 43,622 total acres. These units are situated as follows:

61a, eight miles north of Lake Cachuma between Lookout Mountain and Cachuma Mountain (Santa Lucia RD); and,

61b, six miles west of Frazier Park between Apache Saddle and upper Cuddy Valley (Mount Pinos RD).

A portion of this area is located within the scenic corridor of Highway 154.

The predominant vegetation types in 61a are chaparral and conifer forest with large areas of grassland and inclusions of hardwood forest. The predominant vegetation type in 61b is pinyon-juniper and conifer forest with inclusions of hardwood forest, grassland, and chaparral. Critical habitat for the California Condor exists within the area. There is a potential for oil and gas discovery on approximately 25% of the area.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides for moderate to high density use in developed sites and adjacent general forest areas. Developed recreation sites may be constructed to meet public needs. General forest opportunities emphasize day use activities such as hiking, equestrian use and viewing scenery, with additional emphasis on increasing opportunities for non-motorized, dispersed winter sports

activities such as cross-country skiing and snowplay in the Mount Pinos/Mount Abel area. Overall wildlife emphasis is on development and maintenance of a multistory canopy of trees of all size classes with well distributed small openings.

Landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Visual impacts characterized as major disturbances are rehabilitated. Timber management supports the recreation, visual and wildlife emphasis by providing for development and maintenance of multistory canopy composed of trees of all size classes with well distributed small openings. Thinning is emphasized in overstocked areas. Trees larger than 30 inches will be retained so long as the stand is not jeopardized. Management activities are to be emphasized on areas under 60% slope and with suitable trail or road access.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation, visu al and wildlife emphasis. Management of cultural resources emphasizes protection and enhancement of cultural properties and a sample-based, post-fire inventory program. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives. Exploration and development of energy resources are accommadated consistent with management area direction.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Give priority to enhancement through area- specific opportunities for interpretation.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46)

Developed facilities may be constructed or expanded when annual use of sites providing similar opportunities within the area approaches full capacity. Sites are constructed/reconstructed to a development scale 3 standard.

Provide interpretive and orientation services primarily in the form of brochures, maps and signs.

Adjust developed site capacity as needed to ensure cost efficient operation. Annual site use levels generally fall within 20 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Operate and maintain sites to at least moderate public health and safety standards. Give operation and maintenance priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Prohibit recreational livestock in developed sites not designed for this use.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards through routine general maintenance.

Administer private sector sites to foster permit compliance.

Winter Sports (Mount Pinos/Mount Abel) (management practices 32, 33, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46)

Coordinate and cooperate with state and local agencies and appropriate organizations to improve access, provide for timely snow removal from access roads and parking areas, and enhance opportunities for participation in winter sports activities.

Maintain and improve cooperative agreements to provide adequate law enforcement, search and rescue and public safety services.

Enhance and increase winter sports opportunities by consideration of adequate parking, cross-country ski trails, trail route signing, track-setting and grooming, winter camping opportunities, public mass transit and visitor services as appropriate to meet public demand.

Provide for dissemination of current information on snow conditions, traffic patterns, area use and public safety as needed.

Promote private sector activities which enhance National Forest winter sports opportunities and provide needed public services.

Downhill skiing developments are not considered viable operations on Los Padres and will not normally be considered.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Prepare a Mountain Area Recreation Complex Plan to integrate year round recreation opportunities for Mount Pinos/Mount Abel. Plan is prepared and implemented within five years of approval of the Forest Plan.

Maintain the existing trail system, trailhead facilities, staging areas, and wilderness entry points as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities. Trail maintenance/construction standards: ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3; SPM - level 2 or 3; RN - level 3.

Signing is maintained as needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Take advantage of opportunities for visitor interpretation of unique visual, geologic and botanical features.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing to modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off.

Areas viewed from sensitivity level 1 travelways, use areas, and water bodies are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map).

Electronic facilities at Mount Abel are managed, as a minimum, to meet partial retention when viewed from Cuddy Valley Road.

Recreation facilities remain visually subordinate to the established character (i.e. meets partial retention) in foreground zones along sensitivity level 1 travel routes.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts. Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality. Management activities when conducted are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability. ~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30-year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge. Areas treated specifically for wildlife should be re-entered at an average of 10-year intervals.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5-year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of ten snags per thirty acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the area which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

CONIFERS: Where hardwoods are mixed in with conifers, a viable composition (at least 50% of existing) is retained in hardwood production as determined by an approved silvicultural prescription.

An average of 15 snags per 5 acre block are retained in treated compartments. Distribution can range from random to clumped.

An average of 10 or more down logs of suitable size are retained per 5 acre block in treated compartments.

Natural shrub islands should be retained where feasible.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practice 38)

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Timber (management practices 19, 21, 47)

Management of forested stands will be based on silvicultural prescriptions designed to support the management emphasis on recreation resources. Provide size class and species diversity with emphasis on larger sizes.

Integrated pest management will be a primary consideration in development of silvicultural prescriptions.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads. Access roads are maintained to standards identified in an approved Mountain Area Recreation Complex Plan.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife. Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits. This management area is within Lower Santa Ynez River, Sisquoc River, Buena Vista Lake, Badlands, Lockwood and Frazier Park

watersheds. For burned acreage targets, preventability indices and initial attack objectives see Appendix E.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Minerals (management practices 48,49,50,51)

Integrate the exploration and development of energy resources with the use and protection of other resource values. Oil and gas lease actions are documented through the NEPA process after considering the Guidelines for Recommending Action on Oil and Gas Lease Applications (Appendix J) to determine where leasing is acceptable and what stipulations and advisory notices are appropriate.

All areas disturbed during exploration including roads and pads are managed as temporary disturbances and are restored to a near natural condition at the end of use.

Roads are designed to be consistent with ROS classes where practical. The range of recreation experiences will be protected by appropriate mitigation (e.g. in semi-primitive non-motorized areas roads will be closed to public motorized vehicles.)

MANAGEMENT AREA 63

Theme

Recreation and Visual Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 63 consists of two separate land units comprising 19,959 total acres. These units are situated as follows:

63a, six miles north of Santa Barbara between Gibraltar Reservoir and Alder Creek (Santa Barbara RD); and,

63b, three miles north of Ojai between Wheeler Springs and the Rose Valley vicinity (Ojai RD) including the scenic corridor of Highway 33.

The predominant vegetation type is chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest, conifer forest, and grassland. The area contains habitat of the Least Bell's Vireo and the California Condor, both T & E species.

Desired Condition

Recreation provides for moderate to high density use in developed sites and adjacent general forest areas. Developed recreation sites may be constructed to meet public needs. General forest opportunities emphasize day use activities such as hiking, equestrian use and viewing scenery. Landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Visual resource improvement includes the rehabilitation of visual impacts characterized as major disturbances, as well as the enactment of practices that increase the natural diversity of the landscape along Highway 33. Enhancement of the habitat of the Least Bell's Vireo is also emphasized. Activities within essential habitat will comply with guidelines in Least Bell's Vireo Habitat Management Plan.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the recreation and visual emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory, enhancement,

and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Wildlife habitat enhancement occurs primarily in areas with user access and on slopes less than 60%; priority is given to roaded ROS classes followed by areas within a mile of trails or fuelbreak access. Areas outside these zones or with greater slopes may be treated when necessary in conjunction with other activities. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Fuelbreaks may be constructed where cost efficient and needed to support the management emphasis or fire management objectives.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Protection is emphasized where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Give priority to enhancement through area-specific opportunities for interpretation.

Developed Recreation Sites (management practices 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46)

Developed facilities may be constructed or expanded when annual use of sites providing similar opportunities within the area approaches full capacity. Sites are constructed/reconstructed to a development scale 3 standard.

Provide interpretive and orientation services primarily in the form of brochures, maps and signs.

Adjust developed site capacity as needed to ensure cost efficient operation. Annual site use levels generally fall within 20 to 40% of theoretical capacity.

Operate and maintain sites to at least moderate public health and safety standards. Give operation and maintenance priority to designated fee sites.

Implement the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal policy and other self-service programs where practical.

Prohibit recreational livestock in developed sites not designed for this use.

Provide for site rehabilitation when facilities essential to the development scale of the site, or needed to implement a fee system, cannot be maintained to at least minimum health and safety standards through routine general maintenance.

Administer private sector sites to foster permit compliance.

General Forest Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 44, 46)

Maintain the existing trail system, trailhead facilities, staging areas, and wilderness entry points as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities. Trail maintenance/construction standards: ROS class: SPNM - level 2 or 3; SPM - level 2 or 3; RN - level 3. Signing is maintained as needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5b, 5c, 5d, 6, 7)

Maintain a natural appearing to modified landscape.

Variety Class A lands managed for retention are not subject to trade-off. Areas viewed from sensitivity level 1 travelways, use areas and water bodies are managed to meet retention or partial retention (see VQO map). Recreation facilities remain visually subordinate to the established character (i.e. meets partial retention) in foreground zones along Sensitivity Level 1 travel routes.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts. Activities include the rehabilitation of Visual Condition 5 and 6 lands (where technically feasible) to meet the VQOs.

Enhance lands of common or minimal scenic quality. Management activities when conducted are designed to obtain the desired landscape character.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Manage existing habitat to increase diversity and fish and wildlife habitat capability. ~~Increase big game habitat capability by 25% or more by the end of prescribed rotation cycles.~~

ALL HABITAT TYPES: ~~Maintain an age class mosaic representing all major age classes by achieving an average of 20% early succession, 45% intermediate succession and 10% late succession by the end of the rotation cycle.~~

Retain islands of usable cover on up to 60% of the area and maintain usable forage areas on at least 40% of the total area.

Reseeding of areas requiring rehabilitation shall be done using a mix of grasses, forbs and legumes. Native or naturalized species are emphasized.

Increase water sources where needed by wildlife to provide an average of one water source per square mile on at least 90% of the area.

CHAPARRAL: ~~Use prescribed burning or other vegetation management methods on a 30 year rotation in treated areas to achieve the age class mosaic objective. Where practicable, treatment should result in irregular shapes and spotty patterns to maximize edge.~~

~~No more than 70% of the vegetative cover of treated area should be removed during any 5 year period.~~

OAK GRASSLAND: Retain oak canopy cover at least at current inventory levels unless treatment is required to treat insects or disease.

HARDWOOD FOREST: Thin dense stands of hardwoods as determined by a silvicultural prescription to stimulate more rapid growth for mast production taking into account the need to retain clumps of mature oaks (0.1 to 2 acres each) for gray squirrel use.

Retain an average of 10 snags per 30 acres; where fewer snags exist, retain all snags within the area which are not an insect, disease or safety problem.

Manage essential habitat of Least Bell's Vireo to help perpetuate and where possible enhance the survival of the species. Follow standards in Least Bell's Vireo Habitat Management Plan.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Manage stream segments containing anadromous fisheries to provide 90% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for steelhead trout.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases, the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Increase grazing by using transitory range and increased forage resulting from other resource projects.

Structures may be constructed to take advantage of increased forage resulting from other resource projects and to more evenly utilize natural forage if shown to be cost efficient.

Watershed (management practice 38)

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Transportation (management practice 31)

Maintain public access roads. Roads to developed sites shall be maintained to a level appropriate for the ROS class served: SPM - level 2; RN - level 3. Roads providing primary access to general Forest opportunities are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Design and locate public roads or motorized trails to minimize impacts on wildlife. Density of roads or motorized trails is limited to an average of one mile per square mile of area per major watershed.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits. This management area is within Upper Santa Ynez River, Matilija Reservoir, Ventura River, and Upper Sespe Creek watersheds.

Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-efficient and required to meet fire management objectives.

Management Area 64

Theme

Wilderness Preservation and Management

Management Area Description:

Management Area 64 consists of all designated and recommended Wilderness Areas. Designated Wildernesses include the Ventana, Santa Lucia, Machesna, San Rafael and the Dick Smith. The recommended Further Planning Areas, Garcia (Component 1 adjusted), La Brea (Component 1),

Matilija (exclusive of non-manageable portion), and the Sespe-Frazier (Components 1,2 and portions of 4). Designated and recommended Wildernesses comprise 666,798 total acres.

Portions of this area are located within the scenic corridors of Highways 1 and 33. There is a potential for oil and gas on approximately 15% of Further Planning Areas recommended for Wilderness. These areas contain critical habitat of the California Condor. Known oil and gas potential is located in the upper Sespe Creek drainage basin.

Desired Condition

The area is managed to preserve Wilderness values and to provide for activities authorized in the Wilderness Act of 1964 and other enabling legislation.

Management of cultural resources emphasizes sample-based inventory and evaluation of cultural properties with protection focused on critical areas. Recreation provides for opportunities which require a Wilderness environment, including maximum solitude, self-reliance and challenge while traveling on primitive trails. Landscapes will essentially possess the visual characteristics of a natural condition. Visual impacts characterized as greater than minor disturbances are rehabilitated. Wildlife habitat provides for maintenance of viable native populations and for recovery efforts for Threatened and Endangered species. Existing grazing opportunities are maintained. Prescribed fire is used to reduce to an acceptable level the risks and consequences of wildfire within Wilderness or escaping from Wilderness.

Areas recommended for Wilderness are managed under applicable provisions of this prescription to preserve Wilderness character pending final designation.

Standards and Guidelines

General (management practices 8, 9)

Prepare implementation direction within two years of designation. Specific area objectives, use capacities and implementation actions are identified.

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Carry out a complete inventory of cultural properties in sensitive areas of Church Creek/Pine Valley, Hurricane Deck/Manzana Creek, Sisquoc River upstream of Manzana Creek, along Sespe Creek, in the vicinity of the Sierra Madre Special Interest Area, and in other areas determined to be sensitive on the basis of further study.

Evaluate the significance and condition of all inventoried cultural properties, including existing improvements. Nominate all eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places.

Emphasize protection of cultural properties in the sensitive areas listed above to reduce the effects of vandalism and natural deterioration.

Provide non-site specific enhancement of cultural resources.

Recreation (management practices 9, 25, 32, 33, 42, 46)

Provide for recreational use where compatible with preventing loss or unacceptable depreciation of Wilderness values. Use is directed or restricted as necessary to protect or restore impaired Wilderness resources.

Permit general Forest camping when not in conflict with protection of Wilderness values. General Forest camping is addressed in implementation plans.

Implement and enforce the pack-in, pack-out litter disposal program.

Limit maximum party size to 25 persons. Maximum may be exceeded in individual cases by District Ranger approval.

Outfitter-guide activities are kept at all times harmonious with Wilderness objectives and with the activities of visitors who do not employ such services. Outfitter-guide operations are included in the overall level of use capacities.

Pack and saddle stock may be limited to through travel on system trails, or encouraged to use alternate entry points, if use conflicts with Wilderness values.

Recreation livestock enclosures may be provided only where needed for protection of Wilderness values. Native materials are used in construction and maintenance. Existing enclosures which are not necessary for resource protection are removed or allowed to deteriorate and are not replaced.

Provide visitor information, education and interpretative services primarily in the form of brochures and maps. Emphasize resource protection, use dispersal, and area use opportunities.

Visitor entry and use restrictions may be implemented. A permit system will be administered to ensure that objectives are met.

Trails may be constructed, reconstructed and maintained for resource protection or to aid in dispersing use. Trails are maintained or constructed to standards appropriate to the Wilderness experience as established in the Implementation Plan. Directional and informational signing is provided only as needed for Wilderness protection and to aid in distributing use.

Bridges may be provided to facilitate stream crossings where significant hazards are present.

Visual Resources (management practices 5a, 6)

Maintain the natural character of the Wilderness landscape. Recreation trails remain visually subordinate in middleground distance zones and are not visually evident in background zones. Other recreation facilities remain visually subordinate in foreground zones and are not evident in middleground or background zones. Other structures are not visually evident. Vegetation management activities possess the visual characteristics of a natural occurrence immediately upon completion of the activity.

Rehabilitate undesirable visual impacts. Existing visual impacts are rehabilitated (where technically feasible) to a natural condition.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11)

Provide habitat management to at least maintain viable populations of native fish & wildlife species and retain existing opportunities for hunting, fishing and viewing of fish & wildlife. Utilize existing forestwide standards.

Support management activities prescribed for enhancement and recovery of Threatened and Endangered species, and for re-introduction of extirpated species. These activities may include use of motorized equipment, aircraft and manmade structures. Follow standards set forth in Recovery Plans and Habitat Management Plans for listed species.

Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate.

Manage stream segments containing anadromous fisheries to provide 90% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for steelhead trout.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provisions of nearby replacement snags.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16)

Implement Allotment Plans to maintain grazing opportunities in areas where such use existed prior to establishment of the Wilderness.

Watershed (management practices 8, 9, 38)

Fire policy objectives for Wilderness are to: Permit lightning caused fires to more nearly play their natural ecological role within Wilderness; Reduce the risk from wildfire, or its consequences, within Wilderness, or escaping from Wilderness. Prescribed fires are used as a tool to reduce unnatural fuel buildups to create conditions whereby lightning fires play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role within Wilderness.

Use prescribed fire when such use will achieve one or more Wilderness fire policy objectives. Use of prescribed fire meets the following criteria: Implementation direction which includes the use of prescribed fire are prepared by an interdisciplinary team with appropriate public involvement and are approved by the Regional Forester; Wilderness fire policy objectives cannot be achieved by using prescribed fire or other fuel treatment measures outside Wilderness; Lightning caused fires must be suppressed to avoid serious threats to life and/or property within Wilderness or natural resources outside of Wilderness.

Project plans for prescribed fire should: be consistent with implementation direction; limit the use of mechanized equipment to the following: fixed and rotary wing aircraft, chainsaws and portable pumps; not allow use of herbicides; incorporate state-of-the-art fuel management methods; and emphasize use of natural control lines over constructed controls lines.

Conduct all fire management activities in a manner compatible with Wilderness management objectives. Preference is given to methods and equipment that least alter the Wilderness landscape, disturb the land surface, or disturb visitor solitude. Fire camps, helispots, and other temporary improvements are located outside the Wilderness boundary whenever feasible. Disturbed areas within Wilderness are rehabilitated to a state as natural as possible.

Land Occupancy (management practices 25, 27)

Remove existing improvements not essential to management of the Wilderness as soon as reasonable and practicable.

Where practical, aircraft wreckage is removed.

Manage land occupancy authorized in the Wilderness designation to reduce impact on Wilderness values.

Emphasize occupancy trespass resolution.

Trespass improvements are removed from Wilderness.

Public Access (management practice 28)

Provide public access to and within Wilderness and increase opportunities for use dispersal through acquisition of easements or other landownership adjustments as appropriate. Implementation is in accordance with implementation direction. Acquisition of private lands or interest therein obtained for access to or enhancement of Wilderness areas is only from donors or owners desiring to sell.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits.

This management Area occurs in all watersheds except the following: Alamo Creek, Santa Barbara Front West and East, Casitas Reservoir, Ventura River, Santa Paula Creek, Timber Canyon, Buena Vista Lake, Lockwood, Badlands and Frazier Park.

Use of mechanized suppression equipment may be permitted when non-mechanized methods will not accomplish established objectives.

Give preference to natural healing processes.

Air Quality

The Class I airsheds of the Ventana and San Rafael Wilderness Areas, (as established by the Wilderness Act of 1964) and any adjacent areas that have or subsequently will become Wilderness, will be managed to meet Class I air quality standards. All other existing Wilderness or Further Planning areas designated as Wilderness will be managed to meet Class II air standards. Class I and II air will be managed to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards established by the Clean Air Act of 1977, as amended.

Minerals (management practice 49)

Valid existing rights will be managed to protect the Wilderness character. Valid existing rights will be identified prior to approval of any surface disturbing activity.

Recommend to Congress that areas formally designated "Known Geological Structures" be made available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy. "Known Geological Structures" are identified by the Bureau of Land Management. Drilling activities are conducted outside Wilderness boundary.

Management Area 65

Theme

Condor and Condor Habitat Protection

Management Area Description:

Management Area 65 consists of two separate land units comprising 54,781 total acres. These units are the two existing legally designated condor sanctuaries: The Sespe Sanctuary situated five miles north of Fillmore, and the Sisquoc Sanctuary situated nineteen miles north of Santa Barbara in the San Rafael Wilderness; both areas within designated critical condor habitat.

The predominant vegetation is chaparral with inclusions of hardwood forest, conifer forest, and grassland.

Desired Condition

The area is managed to provide maximum habitat protection for perpetuation and enhancement of the California Condor. Management of cultural resources provides for sample-based, post-fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Other resource activities are not encouraged.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural properties as appropriate to management of the Sanctuary.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Emphasize protection where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Recreation (management practices 33, 44, 46)

Manage recreation for low intensity non-motorized use within designated corridors. Trails are maintained at level 1 or 2.

Visual Resources (management practice 5a)

Maintain a natural landscape. Condor related activities may vary from the Preservation VQO (to be determined by the Forest Biologist and Landscape Architect). Use of natural materials is maximized in all facilities and structural additions where improvements are permitted.

Wilderness

Where a condor sanctuary is located in an established Wilderness, this prescription applies in addition to Wilderness implementation direction. Where these directions are more restrictive, these directions will prevail.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12, 13, 38)

Provide protection and management for perpetuation and enhancement of the California Condor. Conduct all activities in a manner that gives priority to the needs of the condor. Use guidelines set forth in the Condor Recovery Plan, Condor Habitat Management Plan and the Emergency Field Procedures for Protection of the California Condor.

Provide for patrol of the sanctuaries to prevent unauthorized entry, and additional patrol time for nest watches as needed in cooperation with the Condor Recovery Program.

Enforce all entry and firearms closures within the sanctuaries to protect condors.

Maintain aircraft flights to at least an average of 3,000 feet above terrain except during emergencies as determined by the District Ranger or Forest Supervisor.

Allow only qualified personnel with a valid need to enter the sanctuary on a 150-emergency basis.

Utilized prescribed burning or other appropriate methods to manage the chaparral for protection and enhancement of condor habitat. Use of motorized equipment and aircraft may occur after consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and the Regional Forester.

Prescribed burning and type conversions may be permitted when consistent with protection and enhancement of the condor. Prescribed burning is performed only after consultation with the USFWS and when not in conflict with the condor.

Within 1-1/2 miles of current or historic condor nest sites: No new roads or other developed facilities will be permitted; Existing roads will be open for administration use only; No blasting or other high noise producing activities will be allowed; No surface entry allowed for mineral exploration or development; No motorized activity on any trails.

Within 1/2 mile of current or historic roost sites, nest sites, or bathing pools: Locate or relocate trails so they are not detrimental to condors; Trails are to be used by foot or horse travel only except as specifically prescribed for recovery activities.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15)

Feral range stock may be allowed within the sanctuary as long as no public safety or resource damage problems are created by such use. Should such problems arise, problem animals will be trapped or otherwise removed in a manner not in conflict with the condor.

Timber (management practice 19)

Harvesting of forest products or other silvicultural work is not permitted except for enhancement of condor habitat.

Special Uses (management practice 25)

No special use permits will be issued unless required for protection of the condor.

Withdrawals (management practice 27)

No new surface entry or disturbance for oil and gas development or mineral exploration is permitted.

Recommend withdrawal of the entire sanctuary from leasable and locatable entry.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits. This management Area is within Lower Sespe Creek, Lower Piru Creek, Hopper Canyon and Sisquoc River watersheds.

Provide fire suppression in a manner that will not jeopardize any condors. Include Forest Biologist or other identified condor biologist as resource consultant to Dispatch or Fire Boss to help insure protection of the condor. Utilize direction in Appendix B of "Emergency Field Procedures to Protect the California Condor."

Management Area 66

Theme

Protection and management of candidate and proposed Research Natural Areas

Management Area Description:

Management Area 66 consists of six separate land units comprising 7,745 total acres. Two candidate areas totaling 2300 acres are also identified. These units are situated as follows:

66a, "Cone Peak RNA", three miles east of Lopez Point between Cone Peak and Lime Kiln Creek (Monterey RD) within the Highway 1 scenic corridor: (2955 acres)

66b, "Wagon Caves RNA", nine miles northeast of Lopez Point on lower Rattlesnake Creek (Monterey RD); (150 acres)

66c, "Black Butte RNA", three miles northeast of San Luis Obispo in the vicinity of Mt. Lowe (Santa Lucia RD); (540 acres)

66d, "American Canyon RNA", nine miles east of Santa Margarita Lake at Pine Mountain (Santa Lucia RD); (1500 acres)

66e "San Emigdio Mesa RNA", fifteen miles west of Frazier Park near Mount Abel (Mount Pinos RD); (1200 acres)

66f, "Ventana Cone RNA", seven miles northwest of Big Sur (Monterey RD); (1400 acres)

66g, "Candidate San Rafael Mountain RNA", twelve miles northeast of Lake Cachuma (Santa Lucia RD); (1300 acres)

66h, "Candidate Big Pine Mountain", twelve miles north of Gibralter Reservoir (Santa Barbara RD); (1000 acres).

American Canyon RNA is within critical habitat of the California Condor.

Desired Condition

The area is managed for non-destructive, non-manipulative research and study. Cultural resources management emphasizes complete inventory and evaluation of properties with a high priority placed on enhancement through research and study. Other uses are secondary to scientific use. RNA's may be located within designated Wilderness. Landscapes will essentially possess the visual characteristics of a natural condition.

Standards and Guidelines

General

Evaluate suitability of Candidate Research Natural Areas.

Prepare an Establishment Report and Management Plan by 1990.

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 4)

Management of cultural resources emphasizes complete inventory and evaluation with a high priority placed on enhancement through research and study.

Recreation (management practices 33, 44, 46)

Recreational use should not be encouraged. Where it is not practical to eliminate recreational use, only primitive or semi-primitive non-motorized use will be permitted.

New recreational improvements are not permitted.

Trails to and through RNA's are not permitted if they promote or do not detract from scientific use. Trails are maintained at level 1 or 2.

Visual Resources (management practice 5a)

Maintain a natural landscape.

Wilderness Management (management practice 9)

Where an RNA is located within an established Wilderness, Wilderness implementation direction applies.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11)

Wildlife improvements may be permitted if needed for sensitive or Threatened and Endangered species, or if they would not significantly alter the botanical community for which the RNA was established.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15)

Grazing opportunities will not be expanded and may be eliminated as identified in the RNA management plan.

Timber (management practice 19)

Neither timber harvest nor reforestation are permitted.

Special Uses (management practice 25)

No special use permits will be granted unless they aid in scientific study.

Withdrawals (management practice 26)

RNA's will be recommended for withdrawal from mineral entry.

A "no surface occupancy" stipulation will be included in any recommendation for mineral leases.

Transportation

Roads will not be constructed in RNA's.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 38)

Suppression methods will be selected to minimize impacting RNA values.

Prescribed burning is permitted only to perpetuate ecosystems.

Management Area 67

Theme

Botanic Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 67 consists of six separate land units comprising approximately 2460 acres. These lands units, Botanical Areas, are situated as follows:

67a, "Alder Creek Botanical Area", three miles southeast of Cape San Martin (Monterey RD), (75 acres)

67b, "Lion Den Botanical Area", five miles southeast of Cape San Martin (Monterey RD), (85 acres)

67c, "Southern Redwood Botanical Area", seven miles southeast of Cape San Martin (Monterey RD), (10 acres)

67d, "Dry Lakes Ridge Botanical Area", seven miles north of Ojai (Ojai RD), (450 acres)

67e "Mount Pinos Summit Botanical Area", eleven miles west of Frazier Park (Mount Pinos RD), (510 acres) and

67f, "Cuesta Ridge Botanical Area", six miles north of San Luis Obispo (Santa Lucia RD), (1330 acres).

Upon approval of the Los Padres National Forest Land and Resources Management Plan, the Alder Creek, Lion Den, Southern Redwood, Dry Lakes Ridge, Mount Pinos Summit, and Cuesta Ridge Botanical Areas are classified as Special Interest Areas pursuant to Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 294.1(a) and authority vested in the Regional Forester by the Chief of the Forest Service.

These Botanical Areas contain plant communities which are significant because of their occurrence, habitat, or rarity. Critical habitat for the California Condor exists on Mount Pinos summit.

Desired Condition

The area is managed to preserve the protection of unique botanic resources for public and scientific use. Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the botanic emphasis. Management of the cultural resources emphasizes protection and enhancement of cultural values on Mount Pinos and sample based, post fire inventory in other areas. Recreation provides day use opportunities to enhance area use. Landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Other resource activities are not encouraged.

Standards and Guidelines

General

Prepare a management plan that will detail management practices related to vegetation, insect and disease, wildlife and area physical improvements by 1990.

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Do sample inventory of cultural properties, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Emphasize protection where monitoring indicates significant problems; protect cultural values specific to Mount Pinos from changes which alter the present natural or natural-appearing landscape.

Enhance cultural values on Mount Pinos through interpretive facilities as appropriate.

Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 40, 42, 44, 46)

Provide facilities appropriate for day use only. Facilities are constructed in a way that does not detract from the botanic resource.

Appropriate trails and interpretive faculties may be constructed and maintained.

Visual Resources (management practice 5b)

Maintain a natural appearing landscape. Electronic facilities at Mount Pinos will be managed as a minimum to meet retention when viewed from Cuddy Valley Road.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Wildlife projects which will not adversely affect the unique botanic resource are permitted.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Grazing is permitted if it enhances or has little effect on the botanic resource.

Special Uses (management practice 25)

Special use permits will not be allowed unless the proposed use is clearly compatible with the objectives of the Botanic Area.

Withdrawals (management practice 26)

Recommend withdrawal of Botanic Areas within the Coastal Zone from commercial leasable and locatable oil, gas and mineral entry. For other Botanic Areas determine whether a withdrawal is appropriate. When appropriate recommend withdrawal as part of the establishment of the Botanic Area.

A "no surface occupancy" stipulation will be included in any recommendation for mineral leases.

Transportation

New roads or motorized trails will not be constructed in Botanic Areas.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 38)

Suppression methods will be selected to minimize impacts on Botanic Area values.

Prescribed burning is permitted only to perpetuate ecosystems.

Minerals (management practice 49)

Deny any mineral lease application for lands which are within the Coastal Influence Zone and are acquired lands with Weeks Act status.

Management Area 68

Theme

Geologic Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 68 is the Quatal Canyon Geologic Special Interest Area, a single 2,536 acre locality situated eighteen miles west of Frazier Park (Mount Pinos RD).

Upon approval of the Los Padres National Forest Land and Resources Management Plan, Quatal Canyon Geologic Area is classified as a Special Interest Area pursuant to Title 36, Code of

Federal Regulations, Section 294.1(a) and authority vested in the Regional Forester by the Chief of the Forest Service.

Desired Condition

The area is managed to preserve the present character of the landscape for scenic and educational purposes.

Other resource activities are managed to be consistent with the geologic emphasis. Management of cultural resources provides for sample based, post fire inventory and evaluation with protection done as appropriate. Recreation provides a primarily semi-primitive non-motorized experience. Facilities may be constructed to enhance area use. Landscapes are essentially maintained at a natural appearing level. Other resource activities are not encouraged.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Do sample inventory of cultural properties, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Evaluate the significance and condition of a sample of inventoried cultural properties.

Emphasize protection where monitoring indicates significant problems.

Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 40, 42, 44, 46)

Facilities may be provided to support day use opportunities. Appropriate facilities may include observation, interpretive and information sites and rest area. Parking is provided outside Management Area. Construction standards: RN - development scale 3; SPNM - development scale 2.

Develop interpretive and information plan for the area.

Develop and utilize self-guided nature trails, brochures, displays, signing, etc. as appropriate.

Construct and maintain a trail system for public use and enjoyment of the area. Maintenance and construction standards: level 3. Signing is provided as needed for user convenience and to promote resource interpretation, enjoyment and protection.

Visual Resources (management practice 5b)

Maintain a natural appearing landscape. Recreation facilities remain visually subordinate to the established character (i.e. meets partial retention).

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Wildlife projects which will not adversely affect the geologic resource are permitted.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16)

Maintain overall existing grazing opportunities on natural rangelands by continuing to implement grazing strategies "B" or "C" as identified in individual allotment plans.

Forage improvement projects specifically for range will not be emphasized. However, projects will be allowed if initiated and conducted by permittee and not in conflict with other resources or if supportive of long term watershed and fire management plans and objectives. In these cases the actual grazing strategy may be "D".

Withdrawals (management practice 26)

Geologic Areas will be recommended for withdrawal from mineral entry.

A "no surface occupancy" stipulation will be included in any recommendation for mineral leases.

Transportation (management practice 31)

New roads or motorized trails will not be constructed in Geologic Areas.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits. This Management Area is within Badlands watershed.

Management Area 69

Theme

Cultural Resources

Management Area Description:

Management Area 69 is the Sierra Madre Cultural Resource Area, a single 5,772 acre locality situated seven miles south of New Cuyama.

The predominant vegetation types are chaparral and grassland with inclusions of hardwood forest, conifer forest, and pinyon-juniper. The area also lies within essential condor habitat.

Desired Condition

The area is managed to protect and enhance significant cultural values. Management of cultural resources emphasizes protection and research related to rock art sites and complete inventory of cultural properties. Appropriate research and study is encouraged. The area is also managed to help in the recovery of the California Condor.

Other resource activities are maintained at current levels when not in conflict with the cultural resource emphasis.

Standards and Guidelines

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3, 4)

Complete the inventory of cultural properties.

Evaluate the significance and condition of all cultural properties not previously evaluated.

Emphasize protection of cultural properties through physical protection measures including continuing the policy of non-motorized access for recreation and construction of fences to protect cultural properties from grazing.

Enhance cultural resources through interpretive signing at entry points along trails and roads. Promote scientific use.

Recreation (management practices 32, 33, 43, 44, 46)

Routes are not designated for OHV use.

Developed site recreation improvements are not permitted.

Maintain the existing trail system, trailhead facilities, staging areas and Wilderness entry points as needed to meet public demand in conformance with ROS class capacities. Trails receiving at least moderate use are maintained to a level 2 standard. Trails with significant equestrian use are maintained to a level 3 standard. All other trails are maintained to level 1 standard. Signing is maintained as needed for identification of major trailhead locations and for resource protection and user safety.

Trail construction may occur when needed to maintain appropriate ROS class experiences, or to provide loop trails or connecting links with adjacent opportunities.

Visual Resources (management practices 5a, 5b)

Maintain a natural appearing landscape. Recreation facilities remain visually subordinate to the established character (i.e. meets partial retention).

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Wildlife projects which will not adversely affect cultural resources are permitted.

Provide for protection and enhancement of area as essential condor habitat. Follow direction set forth in the Condor Recovery Plan and Condor Habitat Management Plan.

In identified condor roosting or nesting areas retain all existing large (24 inches or greater diameter) snag trees, which are not a public safety hazard, and provide silvicultural prescriptions to ensure provision of nearby replacement snags.

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15, 16, 17)

Adjust allotment plan objectives to maintain existing grazing opportunities consistent with the cultural resources emphasis.

Watershed (management practices 30, 38)

Implement watershed improvement projects to maintain and enhance stability and restore degraded watershed conditions. Areas to be disturbed or previously disturbed are evaluated to determine need for rehabilitation as soon as practical following watershed disturbance. The following factors are considered: area disturbed is on slopes greater than 30%; soils have an erosion hazard index greater than 4; and ecological needs of existing vegetation.

In chaparral use prescribed burning or other appropriate methods on a 30-year rotation. Treatments are emphasized on slopes less than 60%.

Withdrawals (management practice 26)

Request withdrawal from mineral entry.

A "no surface occupancy" stipulation will be included in any recommendation for mineral leases.

Transportation

New roads or motorized trails will not be constructed.

Maintain administrative access roads. Roads are maintained to at least a level 2 standard.

Fire (management practices 34, 35, 36, 37, 39)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable numbers or loss limits. This Management Area is within Sisquoc River and Lower Cuyama River watershed.
Examine proposed fuelbreaks for appropriateness. Construct and maintain those fuelbreaks shown to be cost-effective and required to meet fire management objectives.

Management Area 70

Theme

Wild & Scenic River Management

Management Area Description:

Management Area 70 consists of three separate land units comprising 20,648 total acres, all situated within designated or recommended Wilderness Areas (Management Area 64). The three separate land units are recommended for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System with a "wild" river classification. The recommended wild river segments are situated as follows:

70a, within the Ventana Wilderness; Big Sur River from the lower portions of both the north and south forks to the Forest boundary for (14.4 miles) (Monterey RD);

70b, within the San Rafael Wilderness; Sisquoc River from the source to the Wilderness boundary (31 miles) (Santa Lucia RD); and,

70c, within the recommended Sespe-Frazier Wilderness; Sespe Creek from Trout Creek to Devil's Gate (28.5 miles) (Ojai RD).

Critical habitat for the California Condo exists within the area.

Desired Condition

Wild and Scenic River management on Los Padres occurs within the larger setting provided by Wilderness Area management (Management Area 64). Management Area 70 provides direction which applies in addition to direction established for Management Area 64. Complete management guidelines and standards for Wild and Scenic Rivers are contained in Management Area Prescriptions 64 and 70 taken together. A fisheries emphasis is focused on enhancement of the resident and anadromous fishery to optimize natural productivity of local streams.

Standards and Guidelines

<u>General</u>

Prepare a River Management Implementation Plan within two years of designation.

Specific area objectives, use capacities and implementation actions are identified.

<u>Wilderness Management</u> (management practice 9)

This prescription applies in addition to Wilderness direction. In case of conflict between Wilderness direction and provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the more restrictive provisions shall apply.

<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> (management practices 10, 11, 12)

Any projects which may destroy or modify critical condor habitat shall undergo consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to approval.
Manage stream segments containing resident species only to provide 80% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for rainbow trout or other identified emphasis species as appropriate. Follow direction set forth in State of California Wild Trout Stream Management Plan for Sespe Creek.
Manage stream segments containing anadromous fisheries to provide 90% or more of identified potential habitat capability based on habitat capability models developed for steelhead trout.

Management Area 71

Theme

Potential Wild & Scenic River Candidates

Management Area Description:

This Management Area direction is in addition to the Forest-wide management direction and the direction given for the Management Areas through which the river segment passes (i.e. Wilderness Area Prescription 64 applies to all river segments in Wilderness).

Desired Condition

All listed rivers will be managed as "Wild", to the extent feasible, pending an eligibility determination. Each river or river segment found to be eligible will be managed under its appropriate classification (Wild, Scenic or Recreation) pending a determination of suitability. Streams found to be suitable will be managed using this direction pending Congressional action.

Streams which are not eligible, not suitable or which are not recommended by the President and approved by Congress for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, will be managed under the direction for the Management Areas(s) through which the river passes. Any listed river will be evaluated sooner than scheduled if an activity is proposed that would adversely affect its natural river values.

"Wild" River Management Standards and Guidelines

<u>General</u>

Stream segments that are considered potentially Wild will be left to the forces of nature. Exceptions include work to protect soil, water and wildlife habitat (including the use of prescribed fire) and to maintain overlooks and vistas.

<u>Cultural Resources</u> (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Carry out a sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Emphasize protection of cultural properties within sensitive areas to reduce vandalism and natural deterioration.

Evaluate the significance of inventoried cultural properties.

<u>Recreation</u> (management practices 41, 43, 44, 46)

Manage the stream corridor to achieve the recreation objectives of the Management Areas through which it passes.

Recreation developments are limited to simple convenience facilities (i.e. stoves, tables and primitive toilets). New structures are not allowed. Existing recreation uses may continue pending completion of suitability studies and/or Congressional action.

Limit off highway vehicle activities to existing designated roads and rails. If a river is designated Wild by Congress, such routes will be evaluated to determine need and suitability.

Visual Resources (management practices 5, 6)

Manage the stream corridor to generally achieve a Visual Management Objective of Preservation. Existing low standard roads or structures will be managed to maintain the naturally appearing, essentially primitive character of the river area. Where access to private lands or mineral rights is required, such activities must be conducted in a manner that will minimize visual impairments.

Changes resulting from human influence will be kept as naturally appearing as possible.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 38)

Manage fish and wildlife habitat in a manner consistent with the Management Areas through which the stream corridor passes and consistent with forest-wide riparian area direction. Low impact structures associated with fisheries enhancement and riparian area protection are allowed.

Maintain fisheries habitat for viable populations of native fish species.

Prevent destruction or adverse modification of habitat essential to Sensitive and T & E species.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15)

Limit grazing to current levels as identified in individual grazing allotment plans. Forage improvement projects are not appropriate. Areas outside existing allotments will not be made available for grazing. Low impact structures necessary for riparian area protection are allowed.

Watershed (management practices 23, 24)

Meet or exceed State water quality standards for aesthetics, propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to habitat of the stream, and primary contact recreation, except where exceeded by naturally occurring conditions.

Protect the present character of streams by not allowing stream impoundments or any alterations to natural stream course pending a determination of suitability for Wild and Scenic River status. Existing in-stream structures may be maintained. To the extent of Forest Service authority, no development of hydroelectric power facilities will be permitted.

Resource management practices are limited to those which are necessary for protection, conservation, rehabilitation or enhancement of river area resources. Flow measurement devices are permitted provided that the area remains natural in appearance.

Landownership (management practices 25, 27, 28)

For designated Wild and Scenic Rivers, acquire private lands or interests therein from owners who desire to sell, where desirable to enhance opportunities for public use, or to protect resource values such as water quality.

New power transmission lines, gas lines, water lines, etc. are discouraged. Where no reasonable alternative exists, additional or new facilities should be restricted to existing rights-of-way. Where new rights-of-way are indicated, the scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values must be evaluated in the selection of the site.

Transportation (management practices 25, 31, 32)

Trail maintenance will conform to the standards and guidelines of the Management Areas through which the corridor passes.

The area is generally inaccessible except by trail. New roads will not be built.

Timber (management practices 19, 20, 21, 22)

Cutting of trees is not permitted except in association with a primitive recreation experience (i.e. clearing for trails and protection of users) or for resource protection (i.e. fire suppression, insect and disease control).

Fire (management practice 35, 36, 37, 38)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets (for the Management Areas through which the corridor passes) to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable loss limits. (See Appendix E.)

Use prescribed fire when such use will achieve one or more Wild River management objectives.

The use of tractors in support of fire suppression or prescribed burning requires the prior approval of the Forest Supervisor.

Minerals (management practices 48, 49, 50, 51)

Existing, valid mining claims will be managed consistent with mining law and subject to 36 CFR 228. Valid claims must be operated in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance and visual impairment. Reasonable access is permitted.

Oil and gas leasing may be permitted when consistent with the Management Area through which the stream corridor passes but with a provision for no surface occupancy.

No sand and gravel or other common variety materials may be removed from the stream channel.

"Scenic" River Management Standards and Guidelines

General

Manage stream so that changes resulting from human influence are unobstructive.

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Carry out a sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Emphasize protection of cultural properties within sensitive areas to reduce vandalism and natural deterioration.

Evaluate the significance of inventoried cultural properties.

Recreation (management practices 41, 43, 44, 46)

Manage the stream corridor to achieve the recreation objectives of the Management Areas through which it passes.

Moderate sized campgrounds, visitor information centers, administrative headquarters are allowed if structures are screened from the river. Any such developments are limited to relatively short segments of the river.

Off highway vehicle activities are permitted on designated roads and trails.

Visual Resources (management practices 5, 6)

Manage the stream corridor to generally achieve a Visual Management Objective of "Retention". Facilities that support Scenic River designation, such as campgrounds, are allowed. Such facilities will be designed to generally meet a Visual Management Objective of "partial retention". Where access to private lands or mineral rights is required, such activities must be conducted in a manner that will minimize visual impairments.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 38)

Manage fish and wildlife habitat in a manner consistent with the Management Areas through which the stream corridor passes and consistent with forest-wide riparian area direction.

Maintain fisheries habitat for viable populations.

Prevent destruction or adverse modification of habitat essential to Sensitive and T & E species.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 38)

Structures associated with fisheries enhancement, riparian area protection, or wildlife habitat improvement that do not have an adverse effect on river values are allowed if consistent with the Management direction for the Management Area through which the stream corridor passes.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15)

Manage grazing consistent with individual grazing plans. Forage improvement activities are generally limited to those that provide for resource protection or reduce conflict with recreation or wildlife use.

Areas outside existing grazing allotments are not available for grazing.

Watershed (management practices 23, 24)

All water supply dams and diversions and flood control structures are prohibited. To the extent of Forest Service authority, no development of hydroelectric power facilities is permitted.

Maintain water quality at or above established State water quality standards.

Protect present character of the streams by not allowing stream impoundments or any alterations to natural stream course pending a determination of suitability for Wild and Scenic River status and Congressional action. Existing in-stream structures may be maintained.

Resource management practices are limited to those which are necessary for protection, conservation, rehabilitation or enhancement of the river area resources. Such features as trail bridges, fences, water bars and drainage ditches, flow measurement devices and minor structures or management practices are permitted. Structures that would have an adverse effect on river values are not allowed.

Landownership (management practices 25, 27, 28)

For designated Wild and Scenic Rivers, acquire private lands or interests therein from owners who desire to sell, where desirable to enhance opportunities for public use, or to protect resource values such as water quality.

New power transmission lines, gas lines, water lines, etc. are discouraged. Where no reasonable alternative exists, additional or new facilities should be restricted to existing rights-of-way. Where new rights-of-way are indicated the scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values must be evaluated in the selection of the site.

Transportation (management practices 25, 31, 32)

Road and trail maintenance will conform to the standards and guidelines of the Management Areas through which the stream corridor passes.

Occasional road access is permitted. Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. Short stretches of inconspicuous roads are acceptable.

Elsewhere, facilities will conform to the direction for the Management Areas through which the stream corridor passes.

Timber (management practices 19, 20, 21, 22)

Timber management practices may be allowed provided they are compatible with the Management Areas through which the corridor passes and the stream can be maintained in a near natural condition. Emphasis is given to visual quality.

Fire (management practices 35, 36, 37, 38)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets (for the Management Areas through which the corridor passes) to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable loss limits. (See Appendix E.)

Use prescribed fire when such use will achieve one or more Scenic River management objectives.

Minerals (management practices 48, 49, 50, 51)

Existing, valid mining claims are managed consistent with mining law and subject to 36 CFR 228. New mining claims are allowed if consistent with Management Area direction for the area through which the river passes.

All mineral activity must be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance, sedimentation and pollution, and visual impairment.

Oil and gas leasing may be permitted where consistent with Management Area direction for the area through which the stream corridor passes with an added provision for no surface occupancy.

No sand and gravel or common variety minerals may be removed from the stream channel.

"Recreation" River Management Standards and Guidelines

General

Maintain or improve a natural appearing river environment.

Cultural Resources (management practices 1, 2, 3)

Carry out a sample inventory of cultural resources, emphasizing post-wildfire and post-prescribed fire surveys.

Emphasize protection of cultural properties within sensitive areas to reduce vandalism and natural deterioration.

Evaluate the significance of inventoried cultural properties.

Recreation (management practices 41, 43, 44, 46)

A full range of campgrounds and picnic areas may be established in close proximity to the river if compatible with the Management Area through which the stream corridor passes.

A full range of campgrounds and picnic areas may be established in close proximity to the river if compatible with the Management Area through which the stream corridor passes.

Visual Resources (management practices 5, 6)

Manage the stream corridor to achieve the visual management objectives of the Management Area through which it passes.

Fish and Wildlife (management practices 10, 11, 38)

Manage fish and wildlife habitat in a manner consistent with the Management Areas through which the stream corridor passes.

Maintain fisheries habitat for viable populations.

Prevent destruction or adverse modification of habitat essential to Sensitive and T & E species.

Range Resource (management practices 14, 15)

Maintain grazing opportunities as identified in individual grazing plans. Forage improvement projects emphasize reducing resource and recreation use conflicts.

Watershed (management practices 23, 24)

All water supply dams and diversions and flood control structures are prohibited.

Maintain water quality to meet State water quality standards.

Existing in-stream structures may be maintained provided the river maintains a generally natural riverine appearance. Resource management practices may provide for protection, conservation, rehabilitation or enhancement of the river area resources.

To the extent of Forest Service authority, no development of hydroelectric power facilities are permitted.

Landownership (management practices 25, 27, 28)

For designated Wild and Scenic Rivers, acquire private lands or interests therein from owners who desire to sell, where desirable to enhance opportunities for public use or to protect water quality.

Landownership (management practices 25, 27, 28)

New power transmission lines, gas lines, water lines, etc. are discouraged. Where no reasonable alternative exists, additional or new facilities should be on existing rights-of-way. Where new

rights-of-way are indicated, the scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife values must be evaluated in the selection of the site.

Transportation (management practices 25, 31, 32)

Road and trail maintenance will conform to the standards and guidelines of the Management Areas through which the corridor passes.

Easy road access to the river is permitted. New roads may be built if consistent with management direction for the area through which the stream corridor passes.

Additional non-recreational facilities are permitted where called for by management direction for the area through which the stream corridor passes.

Timber (management practices 19, 20, 21, 22)

Timber harvesting is allowed consistent with the Management Area and riparian area direction, provided that restrictions are applied to protect the immediate river environment.

Fire (management practices 35, 36, 37, 38)

Use preventability indices, initial attack objectives and burned acreage targets (for the Management Areas through which the stream corridor passes) to hold unplanned ignitions within tolerable loss limits. (See Appendix E.)

Use prescribed fire when such use will achieve one or more Recreation River management objectives.

Minerals (management practices 48, 49, 50, 51)

Existing, valid mining claims are managed consistent mining law and subject to 36 CFR 228. Valid claims must be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance and visual impairment. Reasonable access is permitted.

Mineral leasing may be allowed if consistent with the Management Area through which the stream corridor passes but must be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance and visual impairment.

No sand and gravel or common variety minerals may be removed from the stream channel.