

Appendix D. Past, Ongoing, and Reasonably Foreseeable Actions

Introduction

This appendix lists past, ongoing, and reasonably foreseeable projects on National Forest or other lands. The table of actions has four sections: Forest Service Past Actions, Forest Service Ongoing Actions, Forest Service Reasonably Foreseeable Actions, and Reasonably Foreseeable Actions - Adjacent Lands under Other Ownerships.

In the Chapter 3 Resource Sections of this FEIS, the analysis of cumulative effects referred to guidance provided in a Memorandum from the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Chairman Connaughton (dated June 24, 2005) on "**Past Actions in Cumulative Effects Analyses**" in project NEPA analysis. This guidance addresses the extent to which Federal agencies are required to analyze environmental effects of past actions. In general, the memo states that review of past actions is required if the review "informs agency decision making regarding the proposed action." Agencies are not required to list or analyze the effects of individual past actions "unless such information is necessary to describe the cumulative effects of all past actions combined." This appendix together with the Chapter 3 cumulative effects sections meet this guidance.

FS Past Actions

Relevant past actions are taken into consideration in the existing condition (affected environment) sections of the affected resources of Chapter 3—fish, soil and water, recreation, and wildlife. Examples are: past vegetation management projects such as timber sales, road closure and restoration, mining reclamation, wildlife habitat enhancement, etc.

Project	Date	Acres/Miles	Management Area (MA)	Description	Considered in Cumulative Effects on:			
					Fish	Soil & Water	Recreation	Wild-life
Cost Share Agreement with Valley County, IDPR, BNF and PNF for snowmobile trail grooming	Ongoing	240 miles	Forest-wide	Grooming of designated snowmobile trails occurs throughout the Boise and Payette NF under a cost-share agreement			X	
Past Road Construction and Management			1 through 13	Best assessed using the current Forest GIS data in the "travel_route" coverage in the Payette NF GIS data library and the associated INFRA database. These contain the most up-to-date information on both roads and trails. Also includes information on unauthorized roads the Forest has inventoried.	X	X	X	X

APPENDIX D. PAST, ONGOING & REASONABLY FORESEEABLE ACTIONS

Project	Date	Acres/Miles	Management Area (MA)	Description	Considered in Cumulative Effects on:			
					Fish	Soil & Water	Recreation	Wild-life
Past Trail Construction and Management			1 through 13	Same as Past Road Construction and Management, above	X	X	X	X
Price Valley Snowmobile Parking Lot	2005	1/2 acre	3	A small level parking area cleared and surfaced in gravel, and toilet and kiosk, west of Price Valley Guard Station along NFS Road 50102. Provides winter sports parking to accommodate increased use and provide relief to overcrowded parking areas.	X		X	X
Willow Basket #141 Trail Relocation	2003	½ mile	5	Relocated ½ mile of Willow Basket #141 Trail to eliminate environmental and safety concerns.	X	X		X
Brundage Mountain Land Exchange	2006	388 acres Federal; 350 acres private	6	This alternative is an exchange of Federal lands totaling approximately 388.35 acres and non-Federal lands totaling approximately 349.49 acres. Following the exchange the PNF will manage these non-Federal lands in accordance with the Forest Plan.	X	X	X	X

FS Ongoing Actions

Project	Date	Acres/Miles	MA	Description	Considered in Cumulative Effects on:			
					Fish	Soil & Water	Recreation	Wild-life
Bear Tornado Recovery Project 6	2006-2007	1.3 miles	2	Salvage recovery effort of the Bear Tornado Blowdown area to recover timber resources and reduce risk of wildfire and bark beetles associated with tornado damaged forests. There is 1.3 miles of road decommissioning associated with the project (FR 51807).	X	X		X
Brownlee/Seid Creek Improvement Thin	2005		3	Thin 425 acres of understory timber to improve forested stand health and reduce risk of wildfires. Manage roads to reduce stream sediment.	X			X
Brundage Mountain Resort and Snow Cat Skiing	Ongoing	3,260 acres; 17,685 acres	5, 6, 7	Brundage Mountain operates on 3,260 acres of National Forest System lands and is eight miles northwest of McCall. About half the acres are lift served. It is primarily a winter recreation resort, offering groomed runs and snow cat skiing, although mountain biking is popular at Brundage in the	X	X	X	X

APPENDIX D. PAST, ONGOING AND REASONABLY
FORESEEABLE ACTIONS

Project	Date	Acres/Miles	MA	Description	Considered in Cumulative Effects on:			
					Fish	Soil & Water	Recreation	Wild-life
				summer. Guided snow cat skiing, under a Special Use Permit encompassing 17,685 acres, occurs north of the developed ski area on Sargeant's Mountain, Granite Mountain, and Slab Butte. Brundage Mountain is working under a newly approved development plan which improves all aspects of the resort, including additional ski runs, additional ski lifts, and improving infrastructure. Improvements under this plan began in 2003. Summer operations include mountain biking, concerts, weddings, and other special events, plus general maintenance of facilities and infrastructure.				
Burgdorf Road Management and Abandoned Mine Reclamation	2005	see narrative	10, 11	Project responds to recommendations from roads analysis by decommissioning unclassified roads, designating ATV routes, and reclaiming abandoned mine sites. Road management consists of the following: 21.4 miles of unauthorized road and 4.8 miles of NFS road decommissioned; 0.3 miles of unauthorized road to NFS road; 10.9 miles of unauthorized road and 2.6 miles of NFS road to ATV trail.	X	X	X	X
Cost Share Road Management	Ongoing		Forest-wide	The Forest has several roads under cost share road management with other owners. Under these agreements use and maintenance of the road may be shared by both of the parties. Future management of these roads, including access management, requires negotiation with all entities involved in the cost share agreement.	X	X		X
Firewood Gathering – Forest-wide	Ongoing		Forest-wide	Additional access for firewood gathering, above that allowed under the Travel Plan, would be permitted by each Ranger District as areas are identified where firewood harvest would meet Forest objectives.	X	X		X
FRTA Easements (Ongoing) – Forest-wide	Ongoing		Forest-wide	The Forest Service is in the process of assessing the merits of the conveyance of several FRTA easements for roads to local counties.	X		X	X
Land Exchanges	Ongoing		Forest-wide		X			X

APPENDIX D. PAST, ONGOING & REASONABLY FORESEEABLE ACTIONS

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Lick Creek Vegetation Management Project	2005		2, 3	Project will reduce fuels, manage forest vegetation, enhance Northern Idaho ground squirrel habitat, manage roads.	X	X		X
Little Ski Hill Operation			6 and private land	The Little Ski Hill offers both downhill and cross country skiing on a parcel of National Forest land on the east side of Highway 55. Typically they groom 10 miles of cross country ski trails each season on both private and National Forest land. Due to change in land ownership of the private ground, the Little Hill is now grooming Nordic trails on the National Forest in Bear Basin under their Special Use Permit.	X		X	X
Lucky Ben Access Project	2005		11	Install a bridge to replace an existing ford over Steamboat Creek; construct a new access road to private property; obliterate the existing access road.	X	X		X
Meadows Slope Wildland Fire Protection Project	Through 2010	10.6 miles decommission	5, 6, 7	Create fuelbreak of 6500 acres, while managing roads using thinning, prescribed fire, and timber harvest to reduce risk of uncharacteristic, undesirable fire. Also planting and natural regeneration, administratively closing, decommissioning, or improving roads.	X	X		X
Mistletoe and Pre-commercial thinning	Ongoing		Forest-wide					X
Noxious weed control	Ongoing		Forest-wide		X			X
Range, Minerals, and Special Uses	Ongoing		Forest-wide	The Forest makes multiple decisions on an annual basis concerning roads and trails needed by range permittees, mining entities, and other permitted users for access to the Forest. These projects and permits typically involve small areas, and the access is generally only granted to the requesting permittee, not the general public.	X	X		X
Road Maintenance (including Level 1 System Roads)	Ongoing		Forest-wide	The Forest receives an allocation annually to carry out maintenance on NFS roads; includes intermittent maintenance of Level 1 (closed system) roads	X	X		X
Tamarack Nordic Ski Trail	Ongoing		MA 3	Outfitter and guide special use permit authorizes grooming for Nordic skiing on the summit ridge of West Mountain. No ground disturbance or cutting of trees.				X

APPENDIX D. PAST, ONGOING AND REASONABLY
FORESEEABLE ACTIONS

Project	Date	Acres/Miles	MA	Description	Considered in Cumulative Effects on:			
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Trails, Recreation, and Administrative Site Operation and Maintenance	Ongoing		Forest-wide		X	X		X
Upper Mud Fuels Reduction	2006		3	Move conifer stands from Condition Classes 2 and 3 towards Condition Classes 1 and 2 by commercial thinning, and reduce the risk of uncharacteristic or undesirable wildfire. Assess the existing road system and carry out watershed improvement projects. 0.8 miles of unauthorized decommissioned; 0.5 miles unauthorized road to NFS road.	X	X		X
Upper Weiser Fire Regime/Condition Class Project	2005		3	Treat fuels on 750 acres of forest to reduce fuel loading and reduce risk of catastrophic wildfire; road closures and 9.6 miles of unauthorized road decommissioning.	X			X
Wildland Fire Suppression Activities	Ongoing		Forest-wide	Activities may include ground disturbance, vegetation removal, water dipping, temporary campsites, and other activities as needed to control wildland fire.	X	X		X

FS Reasonably Foreseeable Actions

Project	Date	Acres/Miles	MA	Description	Considered in Cumulative Effects on:			
					Fish	Soil & Water	Recreation	Wild-life
Crooked River Fuels Management Project	2007		2	Conduct vegetation and fuels management activities, reduce fire risk to private lands, promote and restore large-tree dominated forest structure for white-headed woodpeckers and flammulated owls, restore northern Idaho ground squirrel habitat, manage roads.	X	X		X
East Fork Lost Creek NIDGS Habitat Improvement Project	2008	3.1 miles	3	Improve northern Idaho ground squirrel habitat, including commercial thinning 603 acres, pre-commercial thinning 155 acres, brush disposal and prescribed burning 758 acres, obliterating 3.1	X			X

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Project	Date	Acres/Miles	MA	Description	Considered in Cumulative Effects on:			
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				miles and relocation of 0.6 miles of road.				
Goose Lake Road Day Lighting and Visibility Improvement – MA 6 (2007)	2007		6	Remove some trees within a 75 foot strip on either side of the Goose Lake Road between Highway 55 and Brundage Mountain Ski Area to improve sun reaching the road in winter and improve visibility on some corners.	X	X		X
Lower East Fork Fuels Reduction Project	2008		3	Manage forest vegetation to reduce hazardous fuel risk, and risk to ecosystem components. Proposal in development.				X
McClaran Access Road – Special Use	2007		6	Special use authorization for continued use and maintenance of existing access road to private property.	X	X		X
Summit Gulch Vegetation Management	2007	1,200 acres	3	Manage vegetation to promote the development of suitable habitat for the NIDGS, move forest vegetation conditions toward desired conditions in the Forest Plan, reduce wildlife and watershed related road impacts	X			X
Upper Elevation Groomed Route Improvement	2007		6	Remove ± 51 trees along the groomed snowmobile trail immediately north of the Upper Elevation Parking Lot to improve snowfall reaching the trail and improve groomer operation.	X			X
Warm Springs Fuels Reduction	2007	2,375 acres	3	Move areas from condition classes 2 and 3 towards condition class 1. Treat 1,500 acres prescribed burning and 750 acres commercial thin, 105 acres non-commercial thin. Obliterate roads.	X			X
Yellow Pine and Eiguren Hazardous Fuels Reduction	2007	4.9 miles decommission	12, 13	Create and maintain fuel break of reduced wildfire risk and fire severity/intensity on NFS lands around Yellow Pine, Eiguren Ranch, and private property using commercial timber harvest, understory treatment, and prescribed burning. Decommission 4.9 miles of unauthorized road.	X	X		X

Reasonably Foreseeable Action - Adjacent Lands under Other Ownerships

Project	Date	Acres/Miles	MA	Description	Considered in Cumulative Effects on:			
					Fish	Soil & Water	Recreation	Wild-life
Boise National Forest Travel Planning	2007		2	Boise National Forest is initiating the second phase of Travel Management Planning for the Forest.	X			X
Growth of Valley County	Ongoing			Population growth in Valley County is occurring bringing in a growth in recreational users and demand	X		X	
State Of Idaho/Tamarack	2007		3, 11, 12, 13	Project would trade lands out of MA 3 to acquire lands in MAs 11, 12, and 13	X		X	
Rapid River Trailhead Facility	2006		4	Nez Perce National Forest recreation project upstream of the Rapid River fish hatchery to construct parking area of about ¾ acre, and reconstruct 600 feet of road, both gravel surfaced. Reconstructed road and half of the parking lot would lie in an RCA.	X			X
Tamarack Activities	2007+	5,000	3	Tamarack Resort has numerous project proposals in including: restriction of over-snow motorized use on 5,000 acres of land adjacent to the PNF; addition of several trails, groomed over-snow routes, land purchases, and a backcountry skiing operation.	X		X	X
Idaho State Lands	Ongoing			Timber sales and road building on lands adjoining the PNF.	X			X
Former Boise Cascade land development	Ongoing			Potential development including roads, houses, and recreation facilities	X			X

* For details regarding specific actions that have affected baseline conditions for habitat of fishes listed under the ESA see biological assessments in the project record for seven river basins, section 7 watersheds. Those assessments describe effects of each action by sub-basin, or analysis area.

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FORESEEABLE ACTIONS