

Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impacts

Idaho Power Company Line 328 Project

Boise National Forest
Cascade and Emmett Ranger Districts
Valley and Gem Counties, Idaho



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USDA-Forest Service

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IDAHO POWER COMPANY LINE 328 PROJECT

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INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Idaho Power Company Line 328 Project has been prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., 40 CFR 1500-1508) and the *Boise National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan* (Forest Plan) as amended in 2010 (USDA 2003; USDA 2010).

Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power) is currently authorized to use National Forest System (NFS) lands for the purpose of operating and maintaining a 69-kilovolt transmission power line (Line 328) under the terms and conditions of a special-use permit.

Originally constructed in 1943, Line 328 traveled from Emmett, Idaho, to Stibnite, Idaho, to provide electricity for mining operations (Figure 1). The portion of the line from Yellow Pine to Stibnite has since been removed. The current purpose of Line 328 is to provide electrical service to the Warm Lake and Yellow Pine areas.

Line 328 includes a right-of-way (ROW) corridor 70 feet wide (i.e., 35 feet on either side of the centerline), and was accessed in the past using various NFS and County roads, as well as numerous short, unauthorized roads and overland access routes established when Line 328 was originally constructed.

This power line corridor has been identified through the land and resource management planning process as a designated utility corridor on the Forest; refer to Forest Plan, Appendix I. These designations constitute a long-term allocation of National Forest System land.

PURPOSE AND NEED

Idaho Power has requested that the Forest Service amend the current permit to authorize use of currently unauthorized roads and overland access routes needed for the maintenance of Line 328 and its associated structures. The need to access structures and perform repair and maintenance on Line 328 has become critical, and limited access is affecting Idaho Power's ability to provide safe, reliable service to their customers through routine maintenance of Line 328.

Support structures associated with Line 328, many of which have been in use since 1943, have gradually deteriorated because of age, exposure to the elements, and other factors. Many of the structures, including wooden poles, cross arms, and X braces, are rotting, splitting, leaning, or showing other signs of damage, which seriously compromises their integrity. Access to Line 328 has changed over the years as well. Many of the unauthorized roads used in the past are now impassable due to vegetation growth, rockfall, cut bank or fill slope failure, and/or wet areas or

stream crossings. Access to several authorized roads and other unauthorized roads has been blocked or eliminated for a variety of reasons. In addition, while the current special-use permit allows operation and maintenance of the power line, it does not address access across the entire length of Line 328 or its structures on NFS lands administered by the Boise National Forest.

The current special-use permit will expire December 31, 2013. Rather than amend the permit through this action, and then complete additional NEPA review to renew the permit when it expires, the Responsible Official has chosen to renew the permit as part of this action.

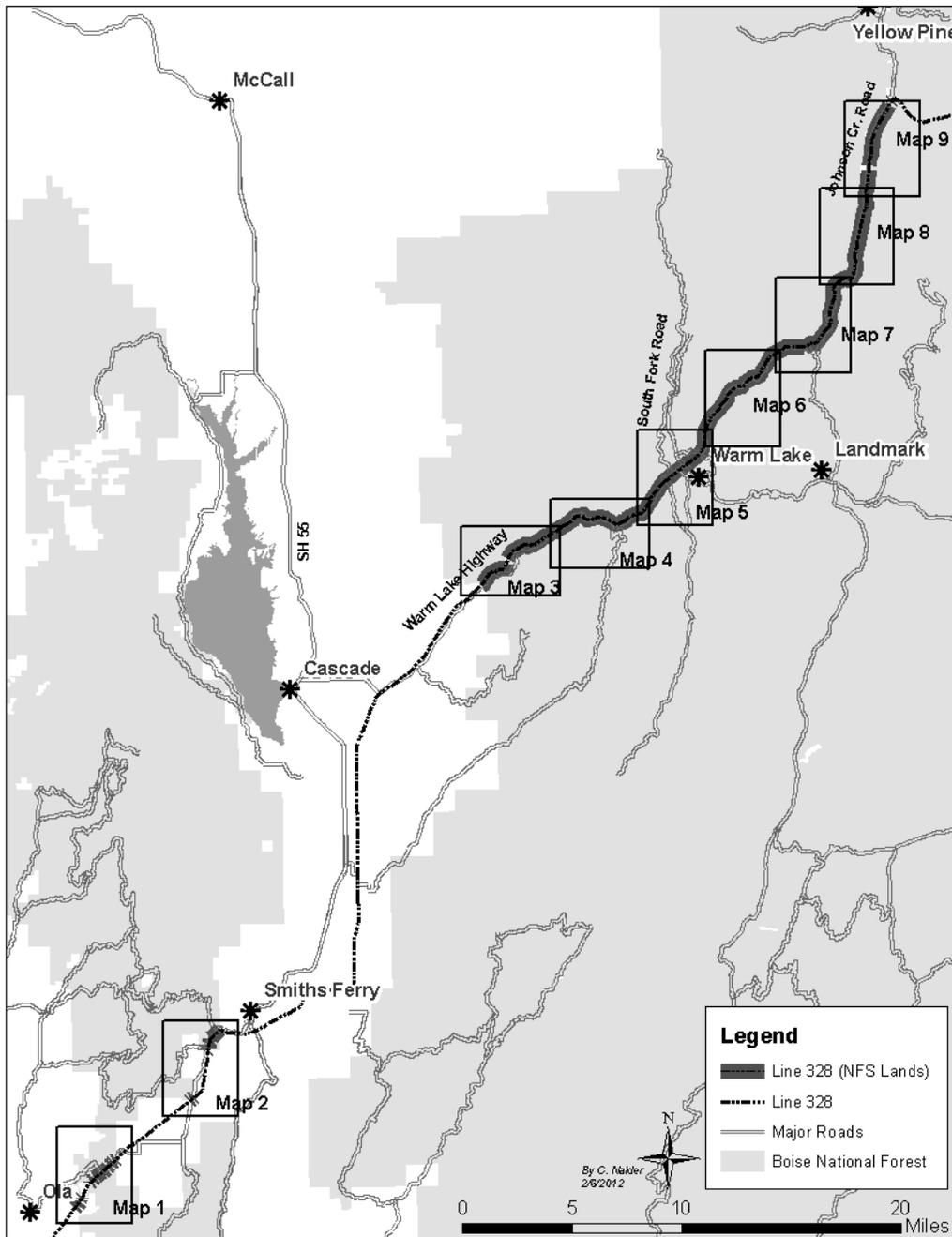


Figure 1-1. Project Vicinity Map (refer to Appendix A for detailed Maps)

RELATIONSHIP TO THE FOREST PLAN

Forest Plan Lands and Special-Uses Goals to Strive Toward During Plan Implementation

LSGO04—Proposed special uses of National Forest System lands—such as hydroelectric development, communication sites, water developments, and utility corridors—are considered that meet public needs, are consistent with direction for other National Forest resources, and cannot be accommodated off the National Forest.

LSGO05—Special-use authorizations are issued for uses that

- a) serve the public,
- b) promote public health and safety,
- c) protect the environment, and/or
- d) are legally mandated.

In addition to the Forest Plan Lands and Special-Uses Goals identified above, the following guidelines are pertinent to this proposal:

LSGU08—Priority for modifying existing authorizations should consider the current and potential negative effects on human health and safety and resource values that may be affected.

LSGU15—Access to authorized improvements for maintenance needs should be addressed as part of Special Use authorizations. Where appropriate access is not addressed in existing authorizations, the authorization should be amended to include it.

DECISIONS

Pursuant to the delegation by the Secretary of Agriculture at 7 CFR 2.60 and Chief of the Forest Service at FSM 2704.3, I have been delegated the authority to make this decision.

I have reviewed the analysis presented in the EA for the Idaho Power Company Line 328 Project, considered the comments received on the EA during the 30 day notice and comment period, and discussed the project's anticipated effects with both the Interdisciplinary Team and Forest Staff. As a result I have decided to implement **Alternative B, the Proposed Action**. My decision will authorize a special use permit for the operation and maintenance of a 69kv powerline, use and maintenance of 7 miles of existing roads, the designation and use of 19 miles of unauthorized roads, identification and use of 4 miles of overland routes, the relocation of 1,060 feet of powerline, design features, and a project specific, non-significant Forest Plan amendment.

Specifically, I am making the following eight decisions:

DECISION #1: Should the special-use permit for Idaho Power Company Line 328 be renewed for another 20-year term?

My decision will authorize a special use permit (SUP) be issued to Idaho Power for a 20 year term. Issuance of this SUP for this term is consistent with guidance in Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 2709.11, Chapter 10, Exhibit 2. The power line has been in use for over 70 years and will remain in use for the foreseeable future.

My decision will permit Idaho Power to inspect, maintain, repair, and/or replace existing power line structures, including poles, X braces, cross arms, down guys, insulators, and conductors. Idaho Power will be permitted to maintain the power line corridor (70 feet wide, with 35 feet on either side of the centerline) by clearing vegetation with hand labor. Felled vegetation will be limbed, bucked, and retained on-site.

DECISION #2: Should Idaho Power be permitted to open, perform maintenance on, and use 6 miles within 11 authorized road segments that are currently in a state of storage?

My decision will authorize Idaho Power to open and perform maintenance on NFS roads 420, 420A, 497E, 497K, 644Z, 644Z2, 644Z3, 644E, 644AB, 644B and 467P. Maintenance on these roads include clearing vegetation, rocks, and/or fallen trees, as well as installing hardened stream crossings and repairing cut and fill slope failures in the existing road prism as necessary.

These roads will remain on the road system but be changed to maintenance level 2 roads available for administrative use only (i.e., closed to public use).

Unauthorized motor vehicle use on NFS roads 420, 420A, 497E, and 497K will continue to be prevented via the existing gates¹. Idaho Power will be required to install gates on NFS roads 644Z, 644Z2, 644Z3, and 644E to prevent unauthorized motor vehicle use. Idaho Power will be required to install earthen berms and/or barrier rocks as needed to prevent unauthorized travel around the gates. Idaho Power will also be required to install gates on NFS roads 644AB and 644B to prevent unauthorized motor vehicle use, where these roads intersect with NFS road 644L and NFS road 644 respectively.

DECISION #3: Should the Forest Service designate 19 miles within 115 segments of existing unauthorized roads as system roads and add them to the Forest transportation system, and should Idaho Power be permitted to open, perform maintenance on, and use these roads?

My decision will convert the existing 115 segments of unauthorized roads to maintenance level 2 roads for administrative use only and add them to the Forest transportation system. Idaho Power will be permitted to open, perform maintenance on, and use these roads for access to permitted facilities. Maintenance includes clearing vegetation, rocks, and/or fallen trees, as well as installing hardened stream crossings and repairing cut and fill slope failures, as necessary, to allow for a 10- to 12-foot-wide road surface. Idaho Power will be required to install gates across the travelways and add additional barriers as needed to prevent unauthorized motor vehicle use.

¹ Maintenance responsibility for existing gates is assigned commensurate with use. If these routes are being opened for Idaho Power's use than they would bear all the maintenance responsibility during that period that all of the use is by Idaho Power. If at a later date, the road would need to be used for a non-Idaho Power project, adjustments would need to be made on the commensurate share responsibility during that period of other project use.

One crossing on an unnamed perennial non-fish bearing tributary to Curtis Creek, which accesses structures 328-02-107 and 108 will be reconstructed as a hardened ford using aggregate. No improvement will occur on one crossing on Trout Creek, which accesses structures 328-04-54 and 55. This crossing is a naturally armored crossing.

DECISION #4: Should the existing NFS road 467P (1.02 miles) and the 0.75-mile unauthorized road (between Road 427 and Road 474) near the Warm Lake substation be designated as maintenance level 2 roads open to public use and added to the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM)?

My decision will open a 1.02-mile segment of NFS road 467P, currently a maintenance level 1 road. In addition to meeting access needs for Idaho Power, this road will be designated for public motor vehicle use and managed as a maintenance level 2 road under my decision.

My decision will also designate 0.75-mile of unauthorized road between NFS road 427 and NFS road 474 near the Warm Lake substation as an authorized road. Similar to the previous situation, in addition to meeting access needs for Idaho Power, this road will be open to public motorized use and managed as a maintenance level 2 road².

Because both of these roads will be open to public motorized use, the Cascade District MVUM map will be updated in 2014 to reflect this decision.

DECISION #5: Where vegetation and terrain allow, should the Forest Service designate 4 miles within 68 segments of overland access routes? And should Idaho Power be permitted to “walk” motorized equipment cross-country within the confines of the overland access routes to the power line corridor and/or structures?

My decision will identify 68 segments of overland access routes totaling 4 miles. Idaho Power will be permitted to “walk” or slowly drive motorized equipment cross-country within the confines of these overland access routes to the power line corridor and/or structures to perform maintenance and repair of the powerline.

DECISION #6: Should a portion of the overhead power line be relocated between Structures 101 and 103 near Whitehorse Rapids?

My Decision will authorize a portion of the overhead power line to be relocated between Structures 101 and 103 near Whitehorse Rapids. Relocation will necessitate installing a second supporting structure near Structure 101 and clearing approximately 1,060 feet of vegetation within the power line corridor. Refer to Figure 10 in Attachment A.

DECISION #7: Should a project-specific non-significant amendment of the Forest Plan be prepared to allow adding existing unauthorized roads to the transportation system in Management Prescription Category (MPC) 3.2 for the purposes of maintaining the power line and its structures only?

Based on the analysis summarized in Chapter 3 of the EA, my decision will not comply with the common MPC 3.2 Forest Plan standard which prohibits road construction (Forest Plan standards 1921, 2012 and 2115). Since the Forest Plan Glossary defines new road construction as an, “Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road

² Maintenance responsibility on these roads is assigned commensurate with use.

miles,” converting existing unauthorized roads to authorized NFS roads in MPC 3.2 would fail to comply with the standard.

My decision will include a Forest Plan amendment to waive application of this MPC 3.2 standard to allow adding existing unauthorized roads to the transportation system in MPC 3.2 for the purposes of maintenance of the power line corridor and its structures only. As documented in Attachment B of this Decision, I have determined that this would be a project-specific non-significant Forest Plan amendment.

DECISION #8: What design features, mitigation measures, and/or monitoring should be applied to the project?

My decision includes a number of design features incorporated to minimize or avoid effects on a variety of resources including cultural resources, noxious weeds, wildlife, water quality, and fisheries. Refer to *Attachment A* of this document for a complete list of the design features associated with my decision.

RATIONALE FOR THE DECISION

Following is the rationale for my decision. It reflects how each of the eight decision points identified above responds to the project purpose and need.

DECISION #1:

Should the special-use permit for Idaho Power Company Line 328 be renewed for another 20-year term?

This power line has been in use for over 70 years. The primary purpose of Line 328 is to provide electrical service to the Warm Lake and Yellow Pine areas. My decision will allow electrical service to continue, providing Idaho Power with the access authorization needed to completely urgently needed maintenance on this line, as well as to address maintenance needs in the future.

Maintaining this electrical service is important to meeting Forest Plan goals LSGO05 and LSGO06. Continuing to provide a power source to areas served by Line 328 is important to fulfilling the Agency’s commitments to serve the public and is critical to public health and safety.

DECISIONS #2, 3 and 5

Should Idaho Power be permitted to open, perform maintenance on, and use 6 miles within 11 authorized road segments that are currently in a state of storage?

Should the Forest Service designate 19 miles within 115 segments of existing unauthorized roads as system roads and add them to the Forest transportation system, and should Idaho Power be permitted to open, perform maintenance on, and use these roads?

Where vegetation and terrain allow, should the Forest Service designate 4 miles within 68 segments of overland access routes? And should Idaho Power be permitted to “walk” motorized equipment cross-country within the confines of the overland access routes to the power line corridor and/or structures?

The current special-use permit to Idaho Power allows for the operation and maintenance of the power line, however, it does not authorize the necessary access across the entire length of Line 328 needed to maintain the full extent of the line. As disclosed above, support structures associated with Line 328, many of which have been in use since 1943, have gradually deteriorated because of age, exposure to the elements, and other factors. Many of the structures, including wooden poles, cross arms, and X braces, are rotting, splitting, leaning, or showing other signs of damage, which seriously compromises their integrity. Many of the existing routes (i.e. unauthorized roads) used to install this powerline in 1943 were never authorized for use to perform ongoing maintenance and repair. In many cases, these routes are now impassable due to vegetation growth, rockfall, cut bank or fill slope failure, and/or wet areas or stream crossings. In addition, access to several authorized roads and other unauthorized roads important to meeting access needs to perform required maintenance have been blocked or eliminated for a variety of reasons.

Where vegetation and terrain allow, my decision also identified 68 segments of overland access routes totaling 4 miles. These overland access routes will be located in a manner to limit disturbance to vegetation, and no earth movement would be permitted, with the possible exception of removing and reinstalling cross-ditches.

Thus, consistent with Forest Plan guideline LSGU08 and LSGU15, my decision authorizes the appropriate and necessary access as identified in Decisions #2, 3 and 5 to replace, repair and maintain Line 328. As identified under Decision Point #1, maintaining this line is essential to minimizing negative effects to human health and safety that rely upon a reliable power source.

DECISION #4:

Should the existing NFS road 467P (1.02 miles) and the 0.75-mile unauthorized road (between Road 427 and Road 474) near the Warm Lake substation both be designated as maintenance level 2 roads open to public use and added to the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM)?

Designating the 1.02 mile segment of NFS road 467P as open to public motorized use is necessary to not only meet access needs for the proponent, but also to address public access needs and resource issues due to changes made along NFS Road 467. The 467 route is an important and popular motorized vehicle route from Warm Lake to Johnson Creek. In the early 2000s a log stringer bridge across Trout Creek was removed due to safety concerns. In the 2011 Johnson Creek Watershed Improvement Project Decision Notice the bridge was planned to be replaced. However, due to the high cost of the bridge replacement and the preference to eliminate a stream crossing to further reduce resource concerns, I decided to alternatively designate 467P road as open to the public. Selecting this alternative route eliminates the need for the stream crossing, reduces resource effects to this sensitive area and reduces cost to the government. The 2013 South Fork Salmon River Subbasin TAP completed in support of this project, documents this alternative route to meet long term management and access needs.

Designating the 0.75 miles of unauthorized road between NFS road 427 and NFS road 474 near the Warm Lake substation serves to provide both access to the proponent for maintenance and repair of the power line, as well as to address a public safety needs for motorized access in this area. The unauthorized route between 474 and 427 to be designated under my decision parallels Warm Lake Highway. Authorizing this road would provide for an alternative route for both highway and non-highway legal vehicles to make the loop around 427 and 474 without traveling on Warm Lake Highway. Use of this route would avoid or minimize existing congestion and safety issues along the Warm Lake Highway resulting from this traffic.

DECISION #6:

Should a portion of the overhead power line be relocated between Structures 101 and 103 near Whitehorse Rapids?

My Decision will authorize a portion of the overhead power line to be relocated between Structures 101 and 103 near Whitehorse Rapids. Relocation would necessitate installing a second supporting structure near Structure 101 and clearing approximately 1,060 feet of vegetation within the power line corridor.

My decision would result in structure 328-02-102, which is in an area identified as extremely high risk to landslides, being abandoned and a new structure being constructed west of Structure 328-04-101 in an area that is not at risk of landslides (EA, Section 3.4.3.3.2). As disclosed in section 3.3.3 of the EA, my decision to realign 1,060 feet of the power line and ROW that currently exists within the RCA to another location within the RCA would have negligible negative impacts to RCA functions and processes. This realignment will eliminate the need to authorize and rebuild an existing unauthorized road in the RCA that crosses a hillslope with an 80% slope located on a highly erosive landtype that has been identified as extremely high risk to landslides to allow access for maintenance of the powerline in this location. Thus, this realignment would measurably reduce both short and long-term risks of potential habitat degradation in Johnson Creek from sediment that could result from landslides or the inability to effectively mitigate effects of an access road in an important area to listed ESA fish species (EA, Section 3.3).

My decision to realign this portion of the current powerline ROW will result in a portion of the permitted ROW falling outside of the designated utility corridor as defined in Appendix I of the Forest Plan in this specific location. Consistent with Forest Plan standard LSST09, I made the decision to reroute this small portion of the Line 328 ROW outside of the existing designated utility corridor because I determined it would be unreasonable to do otherwise in light of the potential risks of resource damage identified above, while at the same time providing the necessary access to the powerline to perform maintenance important to meeting long term public health and safety needs associated with this power source.

DECISION #7:

Should a project-specific non-significant amendment of the Forest Plan be prepared to allow adding existing unauthorized roads to the transportation system in Management Prescription Category (MPC) 3.2 for the purposes of maintaining the power line and its structures only?

As identified under Decision Points #1 and #2, maintaining electrical service to the Yellow Pine and Warm Lake areas through Line 328 is important to fulfilling the Agency's commitments to serve the public and is critical to public health and safety. To meet this public need requires the proponent to have adequate access to the powerline to maintain it in good working order, including in areas that overlap MCP 3.2.

Because the Forest Plan defines "new road construction"³ to include the designation of unauthorized roads as authorized, maintenance level 2 roads for administrative use only, and thus would not comply with Forest Plan standards 1921, 2012 and 2115. As a result, implementation of this project requires a project specific amendment of the Forest Plan in

³ The Forest Plan defines "new road construction" as an "Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles" (Forest Plan Glossary, page 32). Thus, while no new roads will actually be physically constructed, the decision to change existing unauthorized routes to an authorized National Forest System road is considered "road construction" per standards 1921, 2012 and 2115.

order for the project to be consistent with the Forest Plan. This amendment waives the requirement for application of these standards for this project, specifically for the 50 segments totaling 9.3 miles of unauthorized road that will be authorized and designated as Level 2 roads for administrative access in MPC 3.2 .

The MPC 3.2 road standard to be waived was included in the plan to avoid or minimize impacts of management activities implementing the Forest Plan on watershed restoration and ESA fisheries resources. As stated in the concurrence letter from the US-FWS (January 18, 2013):

“Service concurrence that the Project is not likely to adversely affect bull trout or bull trout critical habitat is based on the following rationales.

- 1) No direct impacts to bull trout or bull trout critical habitat will occur because no instream work occurs within occupied or critical habitat.
- 2) Road maintenance, designation, and opening the two routes to the public will not result in increased sediment delivery to streams. Modeling, as described in the Assessment, shows the maintenance that will occur on the roads and unauthorized routes will reduce the sediment delivery to streams channels by 0.24 tons per year in the short- and long-terms. While this is not considered a significant reduction in sediment, it will allow maintenance or slight improvement in watershed conditions. Design features are also included to minimize the risk of chemicals or fuel from equipment entering a stream.
- 3) Project activities would either maintain or have no influence on the Watershed Condition Indicators and associated primary constituent elements of critical habitat, as described in the [Forest Service] Assessment. Analysis shows that treatment within RCAs of the South Fork Salmon River subbasin will have negligible impacts to stream temperature and large woody debris. Although road densities will increase in some subwatersheds, due to the change in status of existing roads from unauthorized to authorized, the miles of roads occurring on the landscape will not change. In addition, the sediment delivery to streams derived from roads will be decreased due to the prescribed road maintenance that will now occur.”

Similar findings were also provided in the NOAA fisheries concurrence letter dated January 11, 2013. Both concurrence letters were based on the Agencies Aquatic and Fisheries Resource analysis summarized in section 3.3 of the EA and the Water and Soil Resources analysis summarized in section 3.4 of the EA. The detailed technical reports for these resources are located in the project record.

DECISION #8:

What design features, mitigation measures, and/or monitoring should be applied to the project?

My decision includes the design features identified in Attachment A to minimize or avoid effects on a variety of resources including cultural resources, noxious weeds, wildlife, water quality, and fisheries. As document in resources analyses in the EA, these features were important to minimizing or avoiding unacceptable affects wildlife species (*EA, Section 3.2*), aquatic and fisheries resources (*EA, Section 3.3*), water and soil resources (*EA, Section 3.4*), botanical resources (*EA, Section 3.5*), cultural resources (*EA, Section 3.6*) or other resources addressed in detail in Chapter 3 of the EA (*EA, Chapter 3, Sections 3.7 through 3.10*).

CONSULTATION, GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY COORDINATION, AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public involvement has been extensive throughout the planning and analysis process leading to this decision. The project has been listed in the Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) since January 1, 2011. The project was introduced to Level 1 representatives of the USFWS and NOAA Fisheries during a field trip conducted on October 13, 2011. It was presented to the Valley County Board of County Commissioners during their regular meeting on January 23, 2012, and to the Gem County Board of County Commissioners on March 12, 2012. The project was discussed with representatives of the Wilderness Society and the Idaho Conservation League (ICL) on February 21, 2012. This project was presented to the Idaho Roadless Commission on April 5, 2012.

The project was presented to the Level 1 Team on April 16, 2012, where a summary of analysis that had been completed and the outcomes of that analysis, was presented. A summary of the key parts of the aquatic analysis were presented and discussed on June 26, 2012, to the Level 1 Team.

A legal notice soliciting public comment on the Proposed Action was published in the *Idaho Statesman* (the newspaper of record) on March 19, 2012, and in the *Emmett Messenger Index* on March 2, 2012, and the *Star News* on March 22, 2012.

In addition, a scoping package describing the Proposed Action was mailed to 73 individuals, groups, or agencies on March 19, 2012, and information regarding the project was posted on the Forest Web site on March 20, 2012. In response to these scoping efforts comments were received from five interested parties who voiced a variety of concerns including potential impacts on rural economies, water quality, structure maintenance, and access. The planning record contains all comments received relative to these scoping efforts and discloses how the Interdisciplinary Team addressed those concerns.

Following these scoping efforts, but prior to completion of the assessment, a legal notice announcing the 30-day opportunity to comment on the project pursuant to 36 CFR 215 was published in *The Idaho Statesman* (the newspaper of record) on December 18, 2012. Copies of the Review EA were mailed on December 13, 2012 to those individuals who had expressed an interest in the project. Appendix C of the EA discloses all written comments received in response to these two 30-day comment periods and provides the Interdisciplinary Team's responses to those comments.

Comments received in response to the EA 30 day notice and comment and/or scoping efforts were considered in alternative development, refinement or addition of design features and resulted in clarification to analyses that are documented in the EA and/or planning record.

Tribal Government

The United States Government has a unique relationship with federally recognized American Indian tribes. Decisions concerning management on Federal lands can affect tribal community well-being. As Federal agencies undertake activities that may affect tribes' rights, property interests or trust resources, care must be taken to implement agency policies, programs and projects in a knowledgeable and sensitive manner respectful of tribes' sovereignty and needs. The intergovernmental consultation process serves as the primary means for the Federal agencies to carry out their tribal trust obligations.

Consultation is not a single event; it is a process that leads to a decision. Consultation can be either a formal process of negotiation, cooperation, and policy-level decisionmaking between tribal governments and the Federal Government, or a more informal process typically involving staff to staff discussions. Consultation can be viewed as an ongoing relationship between an agency and a tribe, characterized by consensus-seeking approaches to reach mutual understanding and resolve issues.

I notified, and as requested, consulted formally or informally with the Nez Perce, Shoshone-Bannock, and Shoshone-Paiute Tribes regarding this Project; refer to the project record for documentation of notifications, meetings, phone calls and field reviews. Consultation through this process served several purposes, including:

- To identify and clarify the issues
- To provide for an exchange of existing information and identify where information is needed
- To identify and serve as a process for conflict resolution
- To discuss and explain the decision
- To fulfill the core of the Federal trust obligation
- If any cultural resources are encountered during implementation of this project, all ground-disturbing activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery would cease until the Forest Archeologist is notified and the Idaho SHPO and potentially affected Indian tribes are consulted.

Two design features were added to specifically address tribal rights and interests identified during consultation and notification efforts. These include:

1. Line 328 structure replacements on historic properties will require additional site-specific consultation with the Idaho SHPO and potentially affected Indian tribes prior to implementation.
2. A qualified archeologist will be required to monitor the implementation of structure replacements on these sites. Design features to protect significant cultural resources are documented in the record of NHPA Section 106 consultation completed for this Project. Design features contained in this record will be reviewed annually to ensure activities proposed each season adhere to these design features (Cultural Resource Report # BS-13-2955).

OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Although a number of concerns were noted during scoping of the Proposed Action, review of the Review EA, and/or during the course of the analysis, no significant issues (i.e. points of unresolved conflict) were identified. The discussion below summarizes my rationale for not selecting Alternative A (No Action).

Alternative A (No Action) - This alternative is required by the National Environmental Policy Act and also serves as an environmental baseline for comparing action alternatives. Under this alternative the existing permit was assumed to be renewed for another 20 years after its expiration on December 31, 2013, and assumed to include the identical terms and conditions found in the current permit, including restricting access to authorized roads only. No new actions would be authorized with this alternative. Idaho Power would continue to operate and maintain the power line as allowed under the terms and conditions of their

existing permit. In contrast to the Proposed Action, access facilitating these maintenance activities would continue to be restricted to existing authorized roads only.

This alternative was not selected because it did not meet the purpose and need of the project. Specifically, it would not be responsive to Idaho Power's amend the current permit to allow access to and maintenance of Line 328 and its associated structures.

In addition to alternatives considered in detail, I also considered other management approaches in response to concerns identified through internal and external scoping efforts. This included one alternative which was considered but eliminated from detailed study:

- Removal of Unauthorized Road Miles to Equal the Road Miles that will be Authorized in the Proposed Action (*EA, Section 2.3.1*)

Refer to Chapter 2, section 2.3.1 of the EA, for a detail discussion concerning this alternative considered but eliminated from detailed study and the rationale for its elimination.

CONSISTENCY WITH NFMA AND OTHER LAWS

NFMA

Forest Plan Consistency

NFMA requires that projects and activities be consistent with the governing Forest Plan (16 USC 1604 (i)). Management direction pertinent to this project proposal is provided in the *Land and Resource Management Plan for the Boise National Forest* (USDA 2003, as amended in 2010). The supporting *Southwest Idaho Ecogroup Land and Resource Management Plans Final Environmental Impact Statement* (USDA 2003), the *Final Environmental Impact Statement Supporting Forest Plan Amendments to Integrate the Boise National Forest Wildlife Conservation Strategy, Phase 1: Forested Biological Community* and their associated Record of Decisions (USDA 2003, 2010) provide interpretations and intent of this direction.

Chapter III of the Forest Plan describes management direction to guide Forest personnel to achieve desired outcomes and conditions for both land stewardship and public service. This direction is presented in two sections: (1) Forest-wide Management Direction, and (2) Management Area Description and Direction. The Forest-wide management direction provides general direction for all Forest resources and the foundation for more specific direction at the management area level. The management area description and direction describes these areas in detail, highlights resource areas of importance or concern, and prescribes specific management direction to address these concerns. Activities within the various management areas are further directed by management prescription categories (MPCs). MPCs are broad categories of management prescriptions that indicate the general management emphasis prescribed for a given area.

As described above, implementation of my decision requires a project specific amendment of the Forest Plan in order for the project to be consistent with the Forest Plan. This amendment waives the requirement for application of Forest Plan standards 1921, 2012 and 2115 for this project, specifically for the 50 segments totaling 9.3 miles of unauthorized road that will be authorized⁴

⁴ The Forest Plan defines "new road construction" as an "Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles" (Forest Plan Glossary, page 32). Thus, while no new roads will actually be physically constructed, the decision to change existing unauthorized routes to an authorized National Forest System road is considered "road construction" per standards 1921, 2012 and 2115.

and designated as Level 2 roads for administrative access in MPC 3.2. I have evaluated the features of my decision against the Forest Plan goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines for consistency with the Forest Plan. As disclosed in the EA (Chapters 1, 2, and 3) and summarized in this document, my decision with the non-significant plan amendment discussed above, will be consistent with direction in the Forest Plan as amended in 2010.

Diversity

The National Forest Management Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to specify “guidelines for land management plans developed to achieve the goals of the Program which provide for diversity of plant and animal communities based on the suitability and capability of the specific land area in order to meet overall multiple-use objectives.” 16 U.S.C. § 1604(g)(3)(B).

In making a determination of compliance with the NFMA, I considered existing or reasonably foreseeable conservation measures, including consistency with the Idaho State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (IDFG 2005). In accordance with the theme of ecosystem management, I placed reasonable reliance upon assessments of (1) species with habitat needs that are roughly the same; (2) a group of species generally thought to perform the same or similar ecosystem functions; and/or (3) the continued integrity and function of ecosystem(s) in which a species is found (EA, section 3.1.1.1, 3.2. 3.5 and 3.7; Nutt et al. 2010a).

I find that this decision satisfies the diversity requirements of the NFMA and its implementing regulations because it will implement the 2010 Forest Plan strategy which was designed to provide an amount and distribution of vegetation and associated habitat adequate to support the continued persistence of vertebrate wildlife species in the planning area (USDA Forest Service 2010c [ROD] and USDA Forest Service 2010b [FEIS]). I have based my determination on the findings in the EA and all of the evidence contained in the record.

Timber Management

NFMAs requirements for timber management are not applicable to this project because no timber harvest activity is proposed.

Road Management

Standards of roadway construction: Roads constructed on NFS lands shall be designed to standards appropriate for the intended uses, considering safety, cost of transportation, and impacts on land and resources (16 USC 1608(c))—Unauthorized roads to converted to authorized roads on NFS lands under this decision (i.e., Alternative B) have been designed to standards appropriate for the intended uses, considering safety, cost of transportation, and impacts on land and resources (see EA Chapter 3, technical reports available in the Project Record and the Travel Analysis Process (TAP) analysis documents supporting this project [USDA Forest Service 2013a and b]).

OTHER LAWS

As summarized below, my decision is consistent with Federal, State, and local laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

Clean Air Act: My decision does not include any burning activities. Vehicle emissions resulting from maintenance activities will not have a measurable effect on air quality in the surrounding airshed, nor will my decision noticeably affect air quality in the vicinity of any sensitive areas, population centers, or in any Class I Areas. Thus, emission levels resulting from my decision will be below EPA established standards.

Clean Water Act: The Clean Water Act (CWA) is a federal statute that requires States and tribes to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters (33U.S.C. 466 et seq., Title I, Section 101). The watershed/soils and fisheries analysis discloses the potential effects of the activities proposed on water quality indicators. Based on the analysis disclosed in this document and the project record, my decision would comply with the CWA. This project includes design features to ensure management activities maintain or improve watershed conditions. These features, including best management practices (BMPs), are designed to maintain or improve soil, water, riparian, and aquatic resources, including beneficial uses. Cumulatively, this direction would ensure continued compliance with the CWA. (*EA, Section 3.4*).

Endangered Species Act: The ESA creates an affirmative obligation "...that all Federal departments and agencies shall seek to conserve endangered and threatened (and proposed) species" of fish, wildlife, and plants. This obligation is further clarified in a National Interagency Memorandum of Agreement (dated August 30, 2000), which states our shared mission to "... enhance conservation of imperiled species while delivering appropriate goods and services provided by the lands and resources."

The EA discloses that my decision may affect but would not likely adversely affect the northern Idaho ground squirrel, Canada lynx (*EA Section 3.2, Table 3-3*), bull trout and bull trout critical habitat, Chinook salmon and Chinook salmon critical habitat and essential habitat, and steelhead and steelhead critical habitat (*EA Section 3.3.3.2, Table 3-16*). As summarized in Section 3.5 the EA, there is no potential habitat for Spalding's catchfly or Ute ladies'-tresses in the Project area. Therefore, there is a no effect determination for these species from the proposed activities. The planning record documents that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with these determinations on January 18, 2013, and NOAA Fisheries concurred on January 11, 2013.

The distinct population segment (DPS) of the North American wolverine occurring in the contiguous United States has been proposed for listing as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (FR Vol. 8, No.23, Feb. 4, 2013, pp 7864-7890). USFWS published the proposed rule on February 4, 2013. The primary threat to wolverine is habitat and range loss due to climate warming. Secondary threats include harvest (intended and incidental) and demographic stochasticity and loss of genetic diversity due to small effective population sizes. In light of the proposed listing, conferencing occurred with US-FWS in March 2013. On March 29, 2013 US-FWS provided a letter of concurrence as to the effects of this project on the wolverine and its habitat. Based on the outcome of the analysis summarized in the EA and results of conferencing, it was determined that implementation of my decision *would not likely to jeopardize North American wolverine*.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act/Executive Order 13186: The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) protects all migratory birds and their parts (including eggs, nests, and feathers) from "take". Take is defined in the MBTA to include by any means or in any manner, any attempt at hunting, pursuing, wounding, killing, possessing, or transporting any migratory bird, nest, egg, or part thereof. A migratory bird is any species or family of birds that live, reproduce, or migrate within or across international borders at some point during their annual life cycle. Under the MBTA, taking, killing, or possessing migratory birds is unlawful. The original intent was to put an end to the commercial trade in birds and their feathers that had wreaked havoc on the populations of many native bird species. On January 10, 2001, President William Clinton signed Executive Order (EO) 13186, Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, directing executive departments and agencies to take certain actions to further implement the MBTA. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act affords additional protection to all bald (*Haliaeetus*

leucocephalus) and golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos canadensis*)

The Forest Service and USFWS have entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to promote the conservation of migratory birds as a direct response to EO 13186 (USDA Forest Service and USFWS 2008). One of the steps outlined for the Forest Service is applicable to this analysis, “Within the NEPA process, evaluate the effects of agency actions on migratory birds, focusing first on species of management concern along with their priority habitats and key risk factors.” The Forest Service additionally agreed, to the extent practicable, to evaluate and balance benefits against adverse effects, pursue opportunities to restore or enhance migratory bird habitat, and consider approaches for minimizing take that is incidental to otherwise lawful activities.

Implementation of my decision will comply with the MBTA but may result in an “unintentional take” of individuals during proposed activities. However the project complies with the USFWS Director’s Order No. 131 related to the applicability of the MBTA to Federal agencies and requirements for permits for “take”. In addition, this project complies with EO 13186 because the analysis meets agency obligations as defined under the 2008, MOU between the Forest Service and USFWS designed to complement EO 13186. If new requirements or direction result from subsequent interagency MOUs pursuant to EO 13186, this project will be reevaluated to ensure that it is consistent (refer to Wildlife Technical Report and BA available in the Project Record).

National Historic Preservation Act: My decision will not have any direct or indirect effects on cultural resources if design features to protect these sites are implemented over the course of the 20 year special use permit. At a minimum, if cultural resources are encountered during implementation of this project, all ground-disturbing activities would cease until the Forest Archeologist is notified and the Idaho SHPO and potentially affected Indian tribes are consulted.

Structure replacements on historic properties will require additional site specific consultation with the Idaho SHPO and potentially affected Indian tribes prior to implementation. Furthermore, a qualified archeologist would be required to monitor the implementation of structure replacements on these sites. The Forest Service anticipates that the Idaho SHPO and potentially affected tribes will concur with the Agency’s No Adverse Effect determination for this project. On February 22, 2013, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with the Forest’s no adverse effect determination (*EA, Section 3.6*).

Idaho Stream Alteration Act: My decision will adhere to the requirements of the Idaho Stream Alteration Act and the 404 permit processes of the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Refer to section 3.4.3.1, subsection *Clean Water Act Compliance*.

Idaho Roadless Rule: My decision will be consistent with the Idaho Roadless Rule. Four different management themes occur within the analysis area: Primitive, Backcountry/Restoration, Special Area, and General Forest. No existing authorized or unauthorized roads, overland access routes, or sections of the power line corridor occur within the Primitive or Special Area themes, nor does my decision propose any activities within either of these themes.

Maintenance (e.g., cutting of trees) would be allowed on 0.12 miles of the power line corridor, roughly 1.0 acre, in the Backcountry/Restoration theme. Felled trees would be lopped and retained on site. However, 36 CFR §294.24(c)(1)(vii) states that the cutting, sale, or removal of timber is permissible in the Backcountry/Restoration theme where incidental to the implementation of a management activity not otherwise prohibited. Since the trees would be cut

to prevent damage to the overhead power line, this action would be consistent with the Idaho Roadless Rule.

Approximately 0.12 miles of existing unauthorized roads in the Backcountry/Restoration theme and another 0.2 miles in the General Forest theme would be added to the Forest's transportation system, road management objectives assigned, and road maintenance activities permitted. The administrative action of adding 0.32 miles of existing roads to the transportation system is not prohibited by the Idaho Roadless Rule, nor is performing maintenance (e.g., clearing brush, blading the road surfaces) on authorized roads. In addition, 36 CFR §294.23(e) states that maintenance of temporary and forest roads is permissible in Idaho Roadless Areas, and 36 CFR §294.21 defines road maintenance as the ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to retain or restore the road to the approved road management objective.

Roughly 0.06 miles of overland access routes would be designated in the Backcountry/Restoration theme. Overland access routes would be situated to limit disturbance of vegetation and no earth movement would be involved, with the possible exception of removing and reinstalling cross-ditches. The Idaho Roadless Rule (36 CFR §294.26(c)) states that nothing in this subpart shall be construed as affecting the use of motorized equipment and mechanical transport in Idaho Roadless Areas.

None of the existing authorized roads that would be opened under my decision to provide access to the power line occur within any IRA nor would the 1,060 feet of power line realignment occur within any IRA.

This Project was introduced to the Idaho Roadless Commission on April 5, 2012, and discussed in depth on June 28, 2012, where the Commission concluded the Project would be consistent with the Idaho Roadless Rule (Commission Meeting Notes, April 5, 2012 and Commission Meeting Notes, June 28–29, 2012, both available in the project record).

Idaho Forest Practices Act: My decision does not propose any activities constrained or prohibited by the Idaho Forest Practices Act.

Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management) and 11990 (Protection of Wetlands): My decision will not have any measurable impacts on wetland values, floodplains, or flood hazard. The goals of Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 will be met (*EA, Section 3.4.3.5*).

Executive Order 13443 (Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation): On August 16, 2007, President George Bush signed an executive order directing appropriate Federal agencies to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat (FR Vol. 72, No. 160, August 20, 2007). The project area provides habitat for several game species including deer, elk, black bear, mountain lion, wolf, and forest grouse. However, my decision will not have any substantial effect on habitat for these species nor will it measurably affect hunting opportunities (*EA, Section 3.2, Table 3-3*).

Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice): Executive Order (EO) 12898 (59 FR 7629, 1994) directs federal agencies to identify and address, as appropriate, any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low income populations. Based upon the analysis disclosed in the EA and supporting analysis in the project record, my decision will not have disproportionately high and adverse human health,

including social and economic effects, on minority or low-income human populations (*EA, Chapter 3, all sections; Project record technical reports*).

Travel Management Rule: My decision is a continuation of the Cascade Ranger District's route designation efforts to comply with the Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212, Subpart B, Designation of Roads, Trails, and Areas for Motor Vehicle Use). Refer to the project record TAP (USDA 2013).

Consultation with Tribal Governments (E.O. 13175): This order established a requirement for regular and meaningful consultation between federal and tribal government officials on federal policies that have tribal implications. Three federally recognized Native American tribes have expressed interest in activities proposed on the Boise National Forest; the Nez Perce, Shoshone-Paiute, and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. As described in earlier in this decision, regular notification and, as requested consultation, with potentially affected tribes has occurred throughout the planning process to date. The tribal notification and/or consultation processes did not result in the identification of any effects to tribal interests or rights specifically associated with the project. Refer to project record documentation for tribal notification and consultation documentation.

Best Available Science: The conclusions summarized in the EA are based on a review of the project's record that reflects consideration of relevant scientific information and responsible opposing views where raised by internal or external sources and the acknowledgement of incomplete or unavailable information, scientific uncertainty, and/or risk where pertinent to the decisions being made.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

I have reviewed the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for significance (40 CFR 1508.27) and have determined that this decision is not a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment, either individually or cumulatively. Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to Section 102 (2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 is not required. This determination is based on the following factors as outlined in 40 CFR 1508.27.

1. The selected alternative will be limited in geographic application [40 CFR 1508.27(a)].

Activities associated with my decision will be confined to the 36.8 miles of powerline corridor and associated access routes described in the EA and will be limited to those actions disclosed in that document and its appendices. Further, with adoption of the non-significant amendment of the Forest Plan associated with my decision (Attachment B), this action will be consistent with the management area prescriptions, desired future conditions, and Forest Plan standards and guidelines applicable to this project (*EA, Chapter 3*).

2. My decision will not result in any significant beneficial or adverse effects [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(1)].

The analysis documented in Chapter 3 of the EA did not identify any individually or cumulatively significant adverse impacts resulting from implementation of Alternative B (*EA, Chapter 3*).

3. The selected alternative will not result in substantive effects on public health or safety [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)].

The analysis documented in Chapter 3 of the EA did not identify any substantive effects on public health or safety. In fact, the implementing this decision will help ensure the electrical energy source to Yellow Pine and the Warm Lake area residences is maintained. Maintaining this power source is critical to the public health and safety of residents of these areas, as well of visitors to this area. In addition, maintenance of the powerline and structures in good operational condition is important to meeting public health and safety of forest users in and around the powerline corridor. Refer to decision rationale above.

4. My decision will not result in any significant effects on any unique characteristics of the geographic area, historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3)].

The analysis documented in the EA discloses that Alternative B will not result in any major effects on cultural or historic resources (*EA, Section 3.7*), wetlands (*EA, Section 3.8.5*), roadless resources (*EA, Section 3.4*), or wild and scenic rivers (*EA, Section 3.1.1.2*). There are no park lands or prime farmlands in the project area.

5. The selected alternative will not result in any effects that are likely to be highly controversial [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)].

Controversy in this context refers to situations where there is substantial dispute as to the size, nature, or effect of the Federal action, rather than opposition to its implementation. The scientific basis for the analysis is contained in the project record and summarized in the EA. Standard analysis techniques and models were used and limitations of those models summarized in the EA where pertinent. Literature supporting the use of these models, as used in this analysis, is contained in the project's planning record and summarized in the EA, Chapter 3. The analysis presented in the EA represents a thorough review and consideration of the best available science applicable to the Forest and this project. Therefore I have concluded that, while there may be opposition to this project, the effects of my decision are not highly controversial.

6. The effects associated with the selected alternative will not result in any highly uncertain, unique, or unknown risks [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)].

The environmental analysis summarized in the EA, resource technical reports, Biological Assessments, and Biological Evaluations, determined that my decision will not involve any highly uncertain or unknown risks. The management activities associated with my decision are typical of those successfully implemented in the past on National Forest lands.

7. My decision does not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor does it represent a decision in principle about a future consideration [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)].

My decision implements direction found in the Boise National Forest Plan as amended in 2010. Implementation of my decision will not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor does it represent a decision in principle about a future consideration.

8. The analysis documented in the EA discloses that my decision will not result in any significant short-term, long-term, or cumulative effects [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)].

Resource disclosures in Chapter 3 of the EA identify that Alternative B will not result in any known significant temporary, short term, long term, or cumulative effects to resources assessed. (*EA, all resource sections, project record resource technical reports.*).

9. *My decision will not adversely affect sites or objects listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, nor will it cause the loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)].*

My decision will not have any adverse effects on historically significant sites as a result of implementation of required design features (*Attachment A of this Decision*). This includes a design feature which stipulates that a qualified archeologist will be required to monitor the implementation of structure replacements on certain sites and requirements to address inadvertent discoveries. On February 22, 2013, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with the Forest's no adverse effect determination (*EA, Section 3.6; Cultural Resource Report BS-13-2955*).

10. *My decision will not adversely affect threatened or endangered species or their habitats [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)].*

The EA discloses that my decision may affect but would not likely adversely affect the northern Idaho ground squirrel, Canada lynx (*EA Section 3.2, Table 3-3*), bull trout and bull trout critical habitat, Chinook salmon and Chinook salmon critical habitat and essential habitat, and steelhead and steelhead critical habitat (*EA Section 3.3.3.2, Table 3-16*). As summarized in Section 3.5 the EA, there is no potential habitat for Spalding's catchfly or Ute ladies'-tresses in the Project area. Therefore, there is a no effect determination for these species from the proposed activities. The planning record documents that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with these determinations on January 18, 2013, and NOAA Fisheries concurred on January 11, 2013.

The distinct population segment (DPS) of the North American wolverine occurring in the contiguous United States has been proposed for listing as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (FR Vol. 8, No.23, Feb. 4, 2013, pp 7864-7890). USFWS published the proposed rule on February 4, 2013. The primary threat to wolverine is habitat and range loss due to climate warming. Secondary threats include harvest (intended and incidental) and demographic stochasticity and loss of genetic diversity due to small effective population sizes. In light of the proposed listing, conferencing occurred with US-FWS in March 2013. On March 29, 2013 US-FWS provided a letter of concurrence as to the effects of this project on the wolverine and its habitat. Based on the outcome of the analysis summarized in the EA and results of conferencing, it was determined that implementation of my decision *would not likely to jeopardize North American wolverine*.

11. *My decision is consistent with Federal, State, and local laws and requirements imposed for the protection of the environment [40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)].*

Chapter 1 of the EA (*Section 1.7*) and previous sections of this decision disclose consistency of the selected alternative with applicable laws and regulations relating to federal natural resource management. Chapter 3 of the EA and the project's planning record provide supporting information.

IMPLEMENTATION AND APPEAL RIGHTS

This decision is subject to administrative appeal pursuant to 36 CFR Part 215, only by those individuals and organizations who provided comments or otherwise expressed interest during the 30-day comment period for the Review EA initiated in December of 2012. The appeal must meet the requirements at 36 CFR 215.14.

The Appeal Deciding Officer for 36 CFR 215 appeals is the Regional Forester, Intermountain Region USFS. Appeals filed regular mail or express delivery must be sent to: Appeal Deciding Officer; Intermountain Regional Office; 324 25th Street; Ogden, UT 84401. Incorporation of documents by reference is not allowed. Appeals may also be hand-delivered to the above address between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Mountain Time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Appeals may also be submitted via fax at (801) 625-5277. Electronic appeals must be submitted in a rich text format (.rtf) or Microsoft Word (.doc) format as an email message to: appeals-intermtn-regional-office@fs.fed.us. E-mailed appeals must include the project name in the subject line. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to an electronic message, a verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature is one way to provide verification.

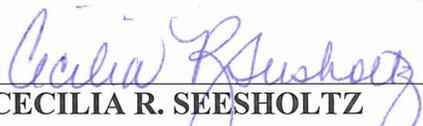
Applicants for or holders of a special use authorization may appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 251.82. Appeals must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR 251.90. The notice of appeal must be filed with the Regional Forester, Intermountain Region USFS at the address, mailing address, email address or via fax number identified above. A copy of the notice of appeal must be filed simultaneously with Boise National Forest Supervisor, Cecilia R. Seesholtz at 1249 South Vinnell Way, Suite 200, Boise, Idaho, 83709.

As identified in 36 CFR 215.1 (b), decisions which affect an authorized use or occupancy of NFS lands are subject to appeal by the holders of such authorizations under either 36 CFR 215 or 36 CFR 251, but not under both parts. The permittees must choose between the 215 or 251 regulations.

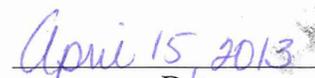
Appeals under 36 CFR 215 or 36 CFR 251, including attachments, must be filed within 45 days from the publication date of the legal notice of this decision in *The Idaho Statesman*, the newspaper of record, Boise, Idaho. Attachments received after the 45-day appeal period will not be considered for appeals filed under 36 CFR 215. Under 36 CFR 251, additional information may be allowed after the 45-day appeal period where consistent with 36 CFR 251.95(c). The publication date of the legal notice in *The Idaho Statesman*, newspaper of record, is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Those wishing to appeal this decision should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

If no appeals are filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of the decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. When 36 CFR 215 appeals are filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15th business day following the date of the last appeal disposition. When 36 CFR 251 appeals are filed, timing of implementation of the decision must be consistent with 36 CFR 251.87, 251.99 and 251.100.

For further information, contact Mark Bingman, Project Leader, Cascade Ranger District, P.O. Box 696, Cascade, Idaho, 83611; or phone (208) 382-7400.



CECILIA R. SEESHOLTZ
Forest Supervisor
Boise National Forest



Date

ATTACHMENT A

Detail Project Decision Maps and Schematic of Re-route

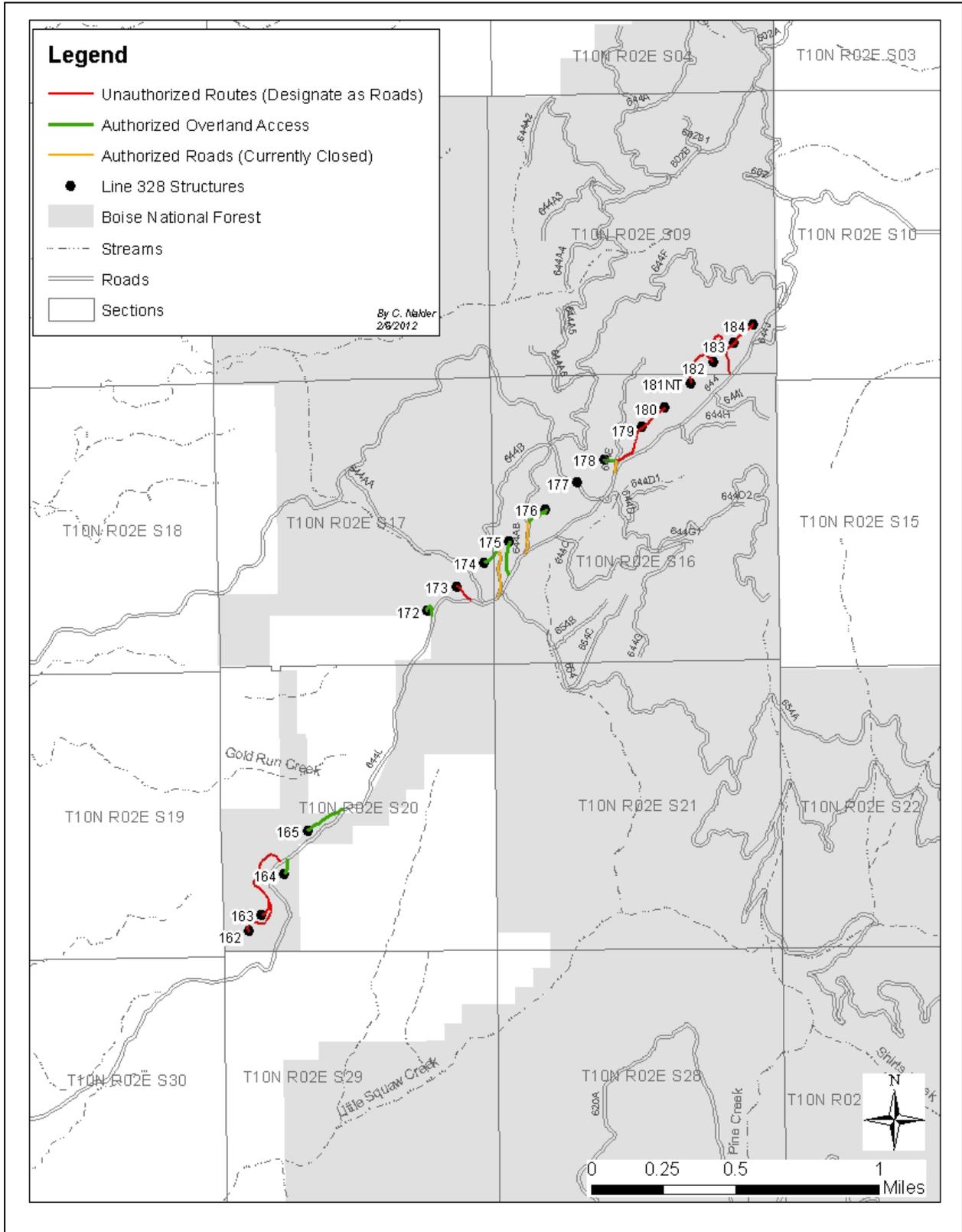


Figure A-1. Ola Summit

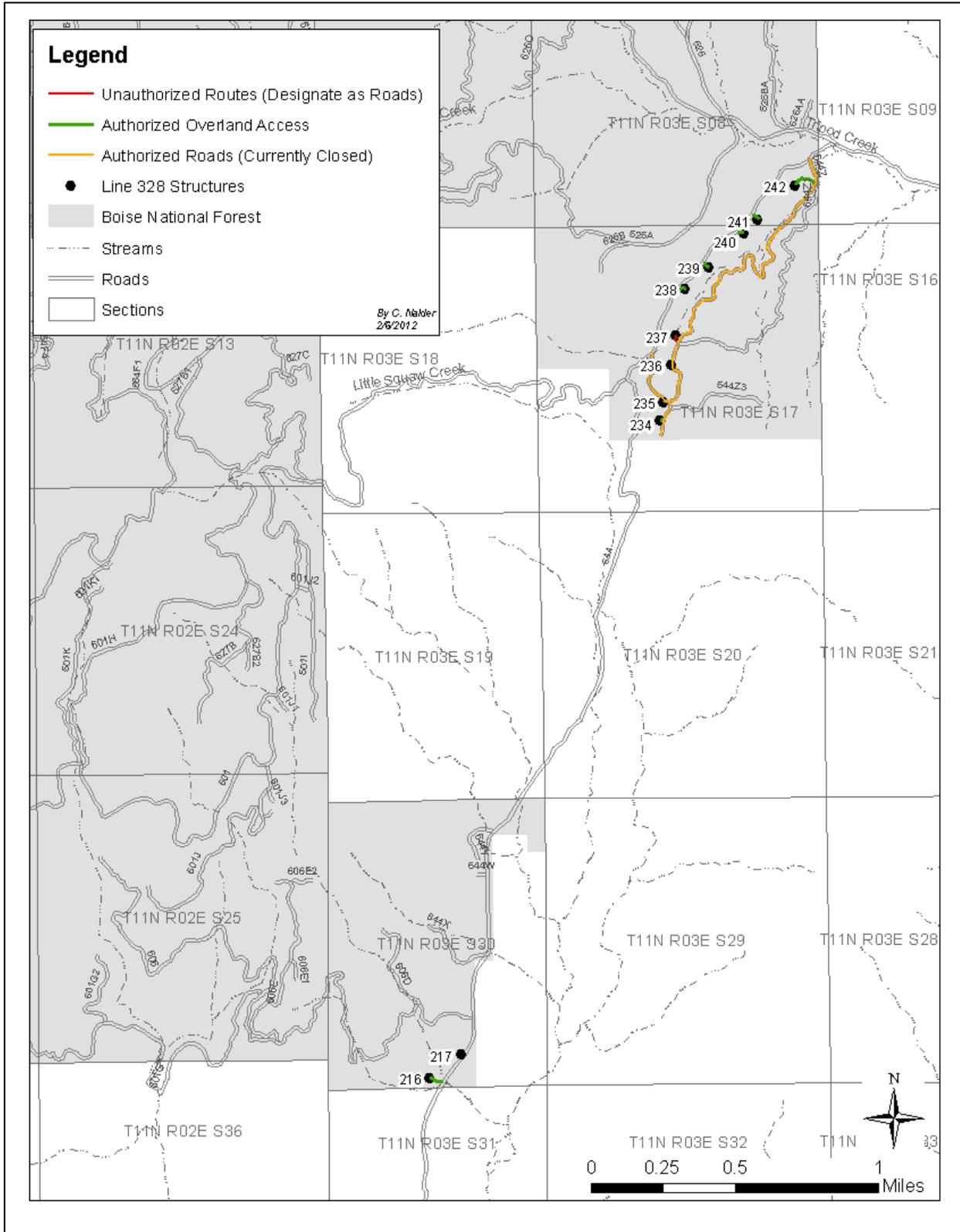


Figure A-2. Tripod Summit

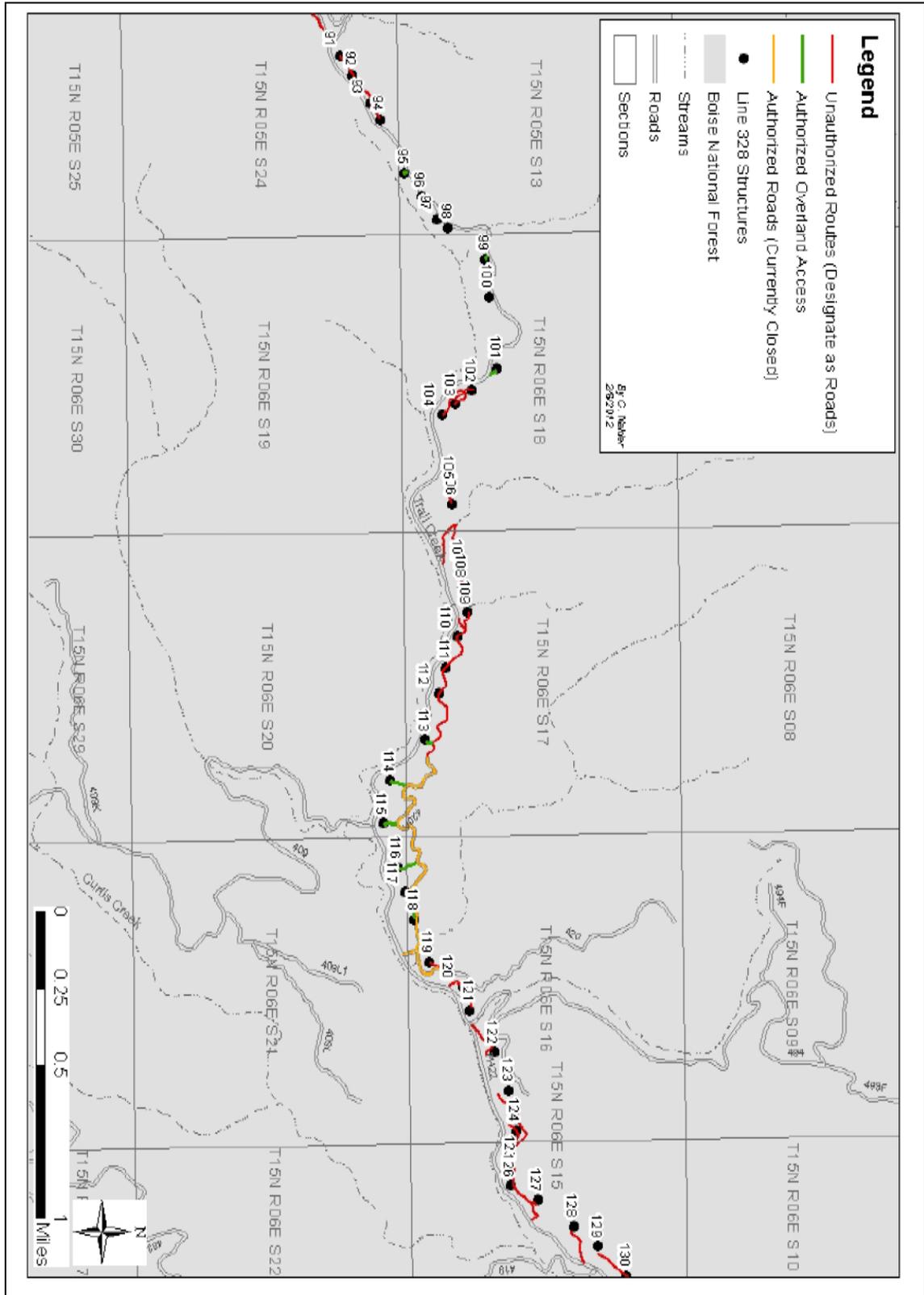


Figure A-4. Trail Creek

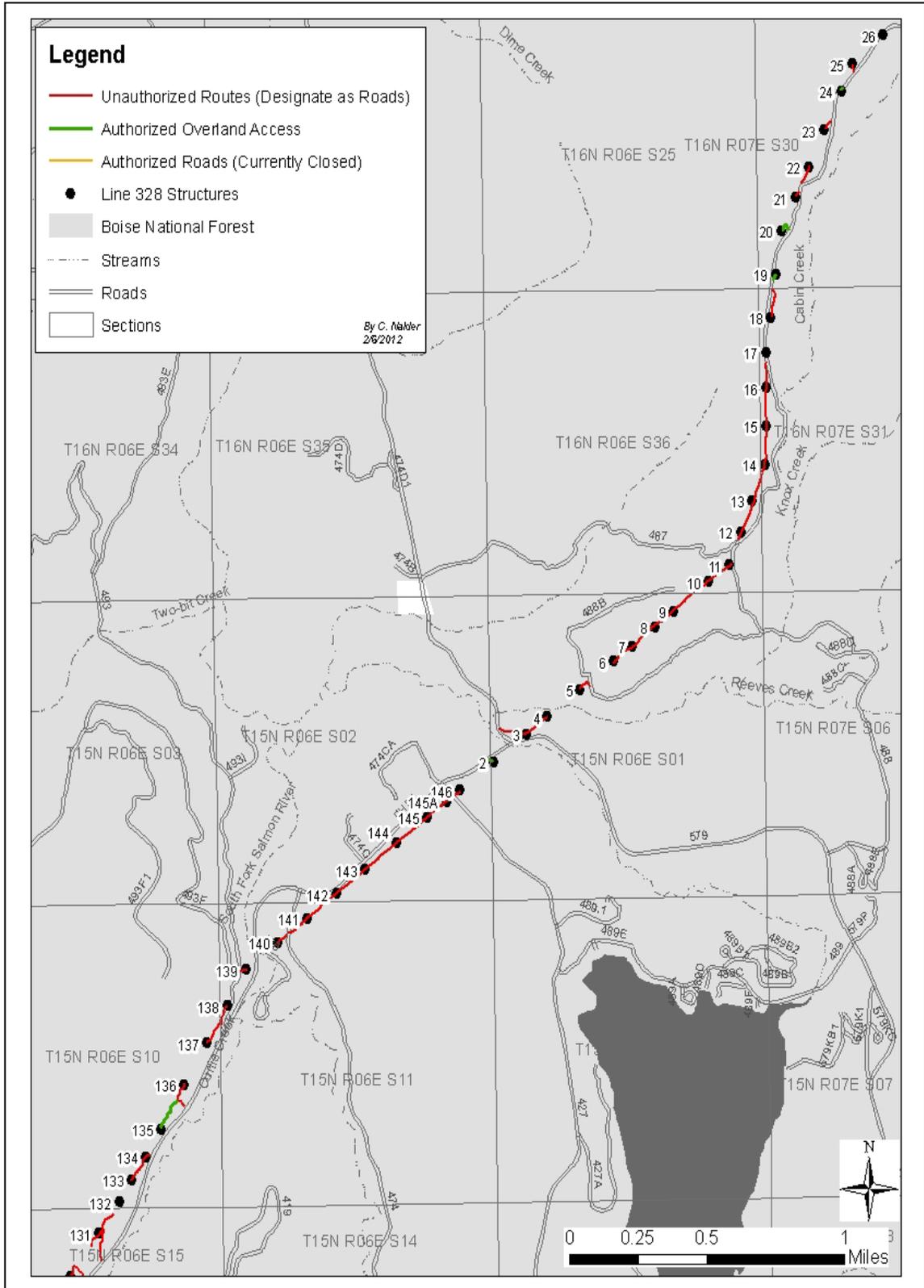


Figure A-5. Warm Lake

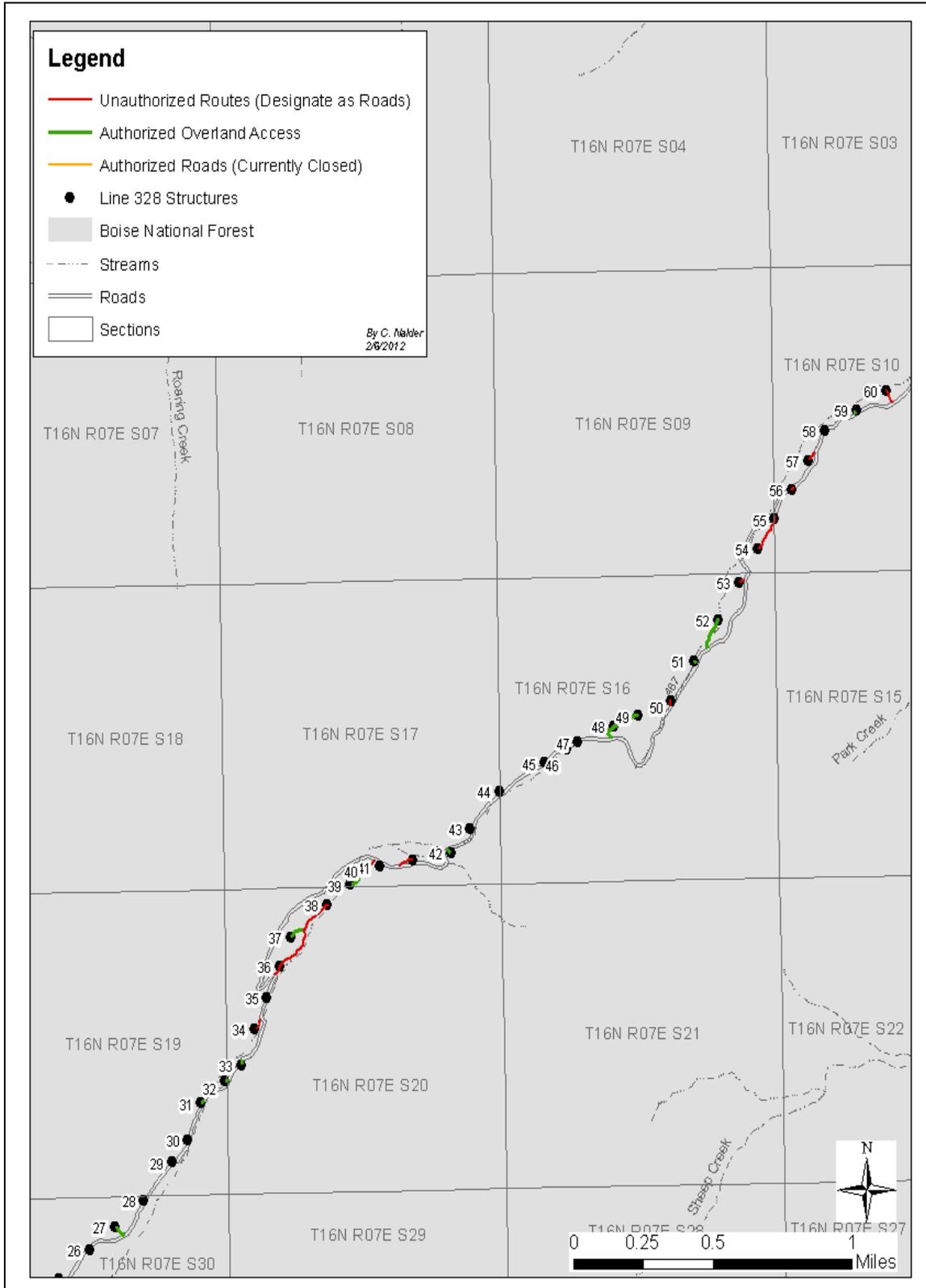


Figure A-6. Cabin Peak

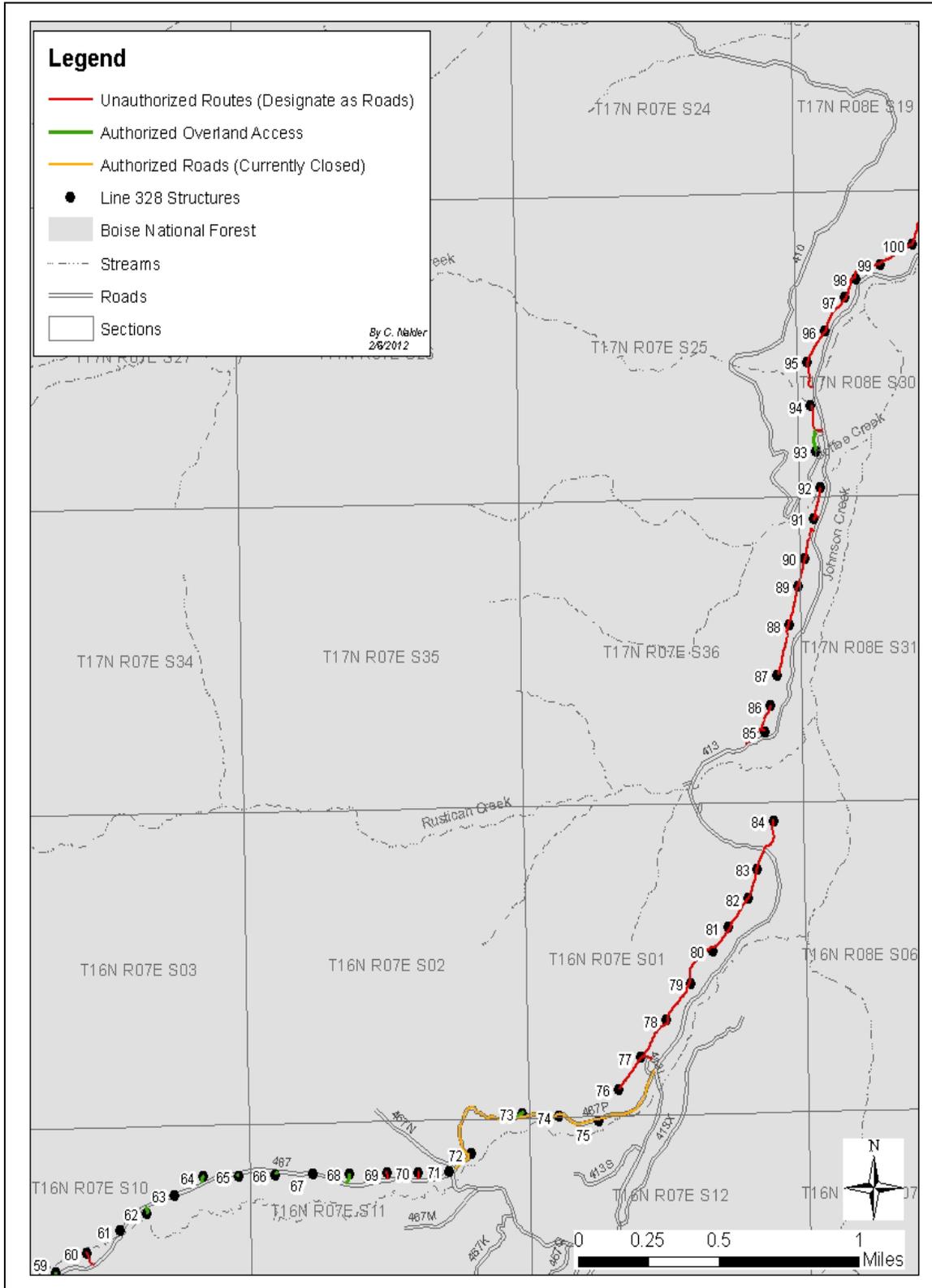


Figure A-7. Trout Creek

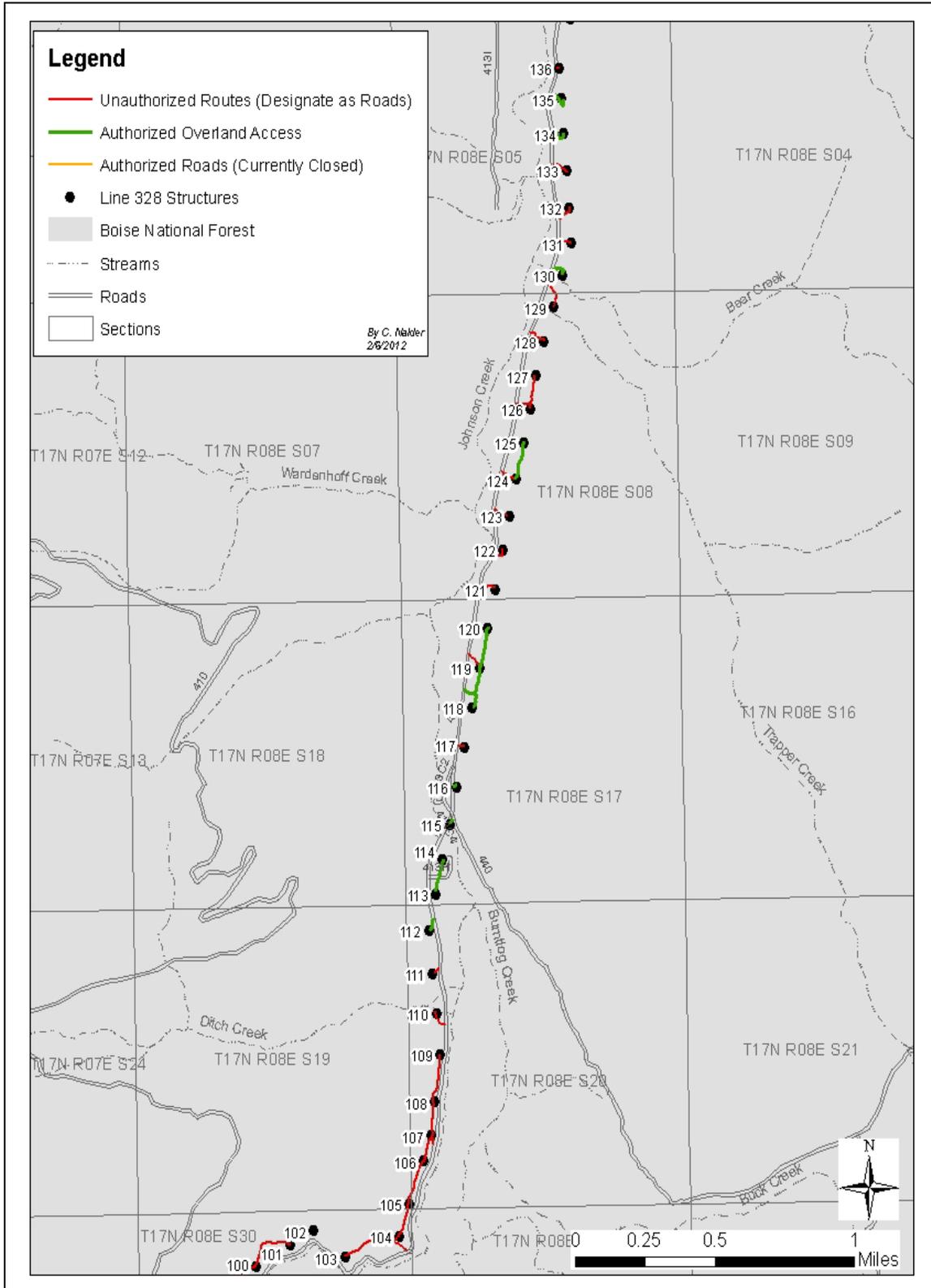


Figure A-8. Johnson Creek

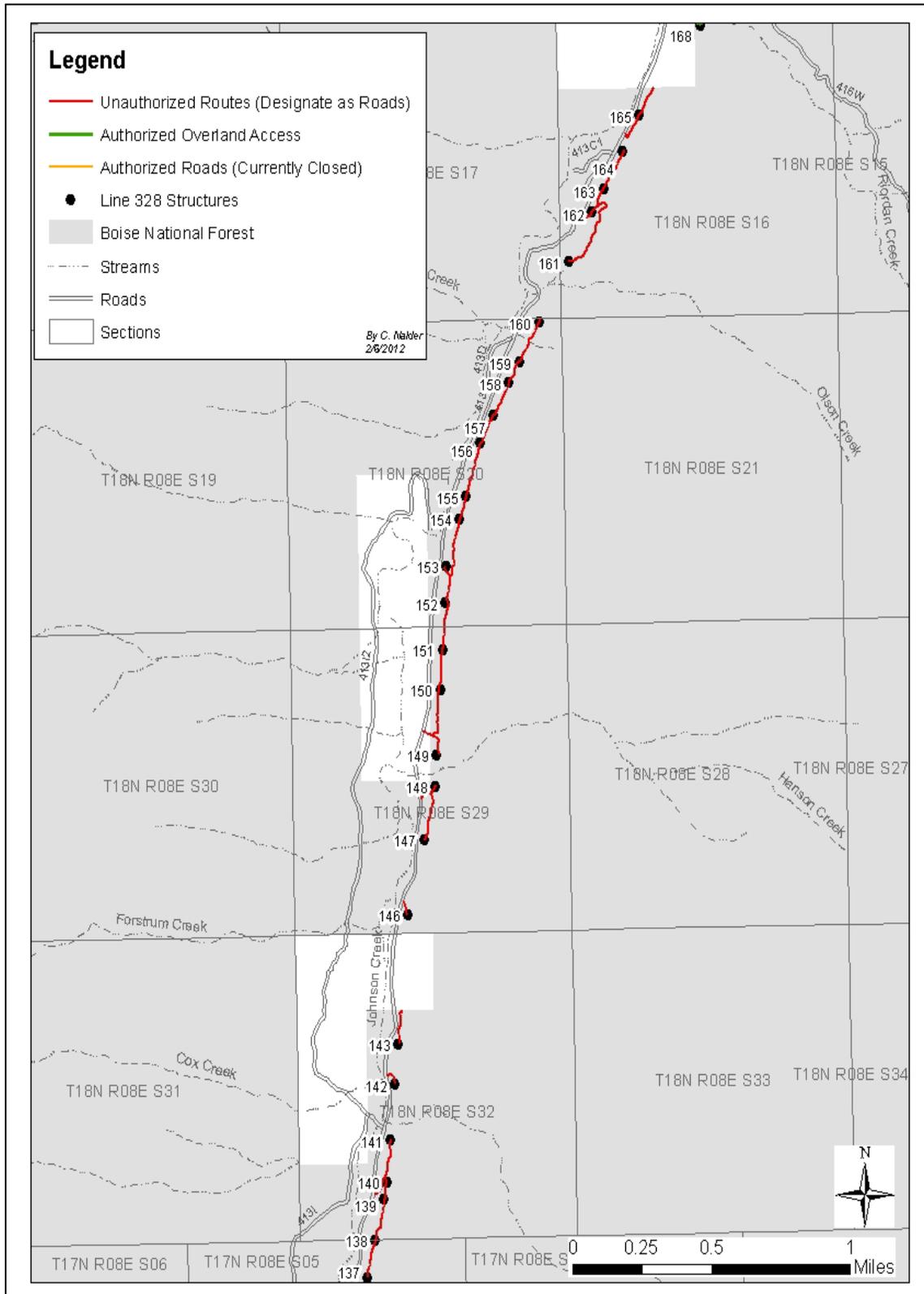


Figure A-9. Yellow Pine

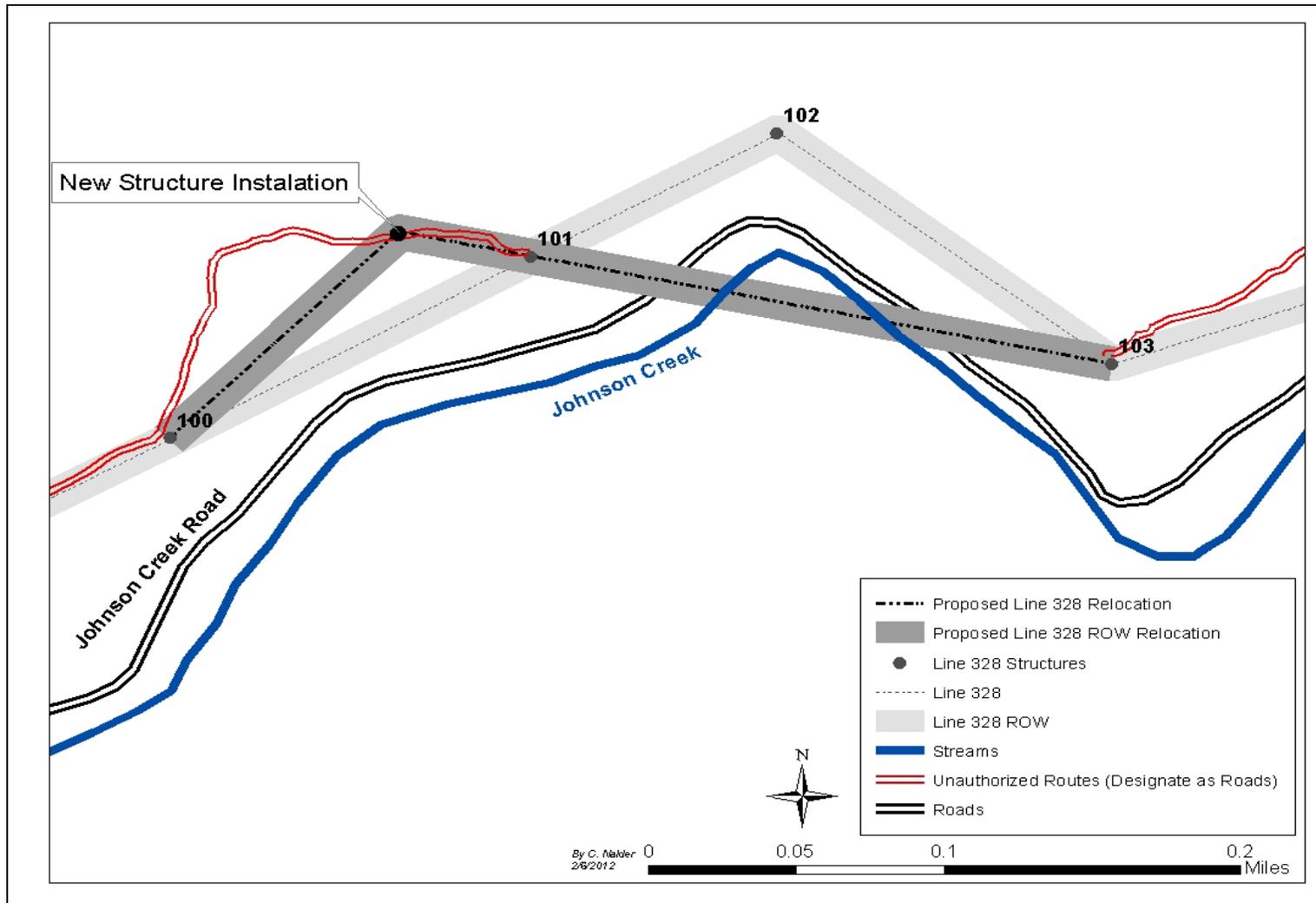


Figure A-10. Line 328 relocation

ATTACHMENT B

Design Features

In addition to Forest Plan standards and guidelines designed to mitigate impacts, the IDT identified other measures that would be applicable to Alternative B. These design features have been incorporated to reduce or prevent undesirable impacts resulting from the proposed management activities.

General

The new special use permit will authorize access, operation, and maintenance of the line. Prior to any implementation, the special use permit requires Idaho Power Company to develop annual or site-specific work plans and submit those to the Forest Service. During review of those plans, the Forest may add additional site-specific requirements beyond what is identified here prior to approval of work. This requirement will give the Forest Service the opportunity to look at and address site-specific details for individual actions to minimize or eliminate undesired environmental consequences.

Cultural Resources

If any cultural resources are encountered during implementation of this project, all ground-disturbing activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery would cease until the Forest Archeologist is notified and the Idaho SHPO and potentially affected Indian tribes are consulted.

Line 328 structure replacements on historic properties will require additional site-specific consultation with the Idaho SHPO and potentially affected Indian tribes prior to implementation. A qualified archeologist will be required to monitor the implementation of structure replacements on these sites. Design features to protect significant cultural resources are documented in the record of NHPA Section 106 consultation completed for this Project. Design features contained in this record will be reviewed annually to ensure activities proposed each season adhere to these design features (Cultural Resource Report # BS-13-2955).

Noxious Weeds/Botany

In consultation with the Cascade Ranger District, Idaho Power would develop a Noxious Weed Abatement Plan. At a minimum, the plan would address pressure washing all equipment before use on NFS lands, before moving from a known infested area to a non-infested area within the Forest boundary, and before leaving NFS lands. The Noxious Weed Abatement Plan will ensure actions are in compliance with Forest Plan direction for this project.

For any seeding/planting of disturbed areas, the species used should be selected or reviewed by the Forest or District Botanist to ensure that additional undesirable species are not introduced into the project area and the seed mix is certified weed seed free. The use of native seeds/plant material, if available, is highly preferable. Short-lived native cultivars can be used to supplement native seed supplies. Ground-disturbance activities, such as equipment use and construction, should be reduced to the greatest degree possible.

Wildlife

The District Wildlife Biologist would be notified of any occupied nests or dens that may be associated with listed, sensitive, or management indicator species (MIS). If necessary to maintain key features of nesting or denning habitat or to avoid disruption of nesting or denning activities, prescribed activities would be delayed until such time that the activity would not be disruptive.

If an active goshawk nest is detected within the analysis area during implementation of the project, use a 650 foot no vegetation treatment or activity buffer around the active nest tree from March 1st to August 15th. The Wildlife Biologist may alter the actual size and shape of the buffer around the nest if conditions (e.g. topography) warrant modifications.

Soils / Water

Seeding, straw mulch, and fertilizer would be applied to all disturbed areas, including road cut and fill slopes and road surfaces. Straw would be applied at a rate of 1 tons (2,000 pounds) per acre on all disturbed areas. Finished straw mulch application shall provide a uniform ground cover. The seed mix and all straw would be certified weed/weed seed-free. Fertilizer would be applied at 1,000 pounds per acre on all disturbed areas. An organic delayed-release fertilizer, such as Biosol™, should be used. The seed mixture and application rates are shown in Table-1. Any changes to these recommended mixtures and rates must be approved by the Forest Service before application.

Table-1. Recommended seed mixture and application rate

Seed Species	Variety	Pounds/Acre
Mountain Brome	Bromar	6
Bluebunch Wheatgrass	Secar	6
Streambank Wheatgrass	Sodar	6
Sheep Fescue	Covar	2
Sundial Lupine		4
Western Yarrow (White)		0.2
Total		24.2

Water bars and/or rolling dips would be installed on all unauthorized roads added to the Forest transportation system, and as needed on existing authorized roads, to meet the standards shown in Table-2.

Table-2. Drainage feature spacing for the Proposed Action

Road Grade (%)	Water Bar/Rolling Dip Interval (feet)
<2	100
2%–5	75
5%–10	50
>10	30

During road maintenance activities, side casting any soils from road surface or cut slopes onto the fill slope would be avoided. The spoils from water bars/rolling dips would be placed on the downslope side of the road surface to prevent soil movement into the channels created by the water bars/rolling dips. Maintenance on access roads would be prohibited during wet periods without the prior written consent from the Forest Service.

Where appropriate, additional BMPs would be implemented as identified in National Best Management Practices for Water Quality Management on National Forest System Lands Volume 1: National Core BMP Guide (USDA Forest Service 2012).

To meet Forest Plan Standard SWST10: Felled trees would be left intact in the RCA, but slash would be placed at the toe of the fill to provide a slash filter windrow to mitigate sediment delivery to streams.

To meet Forest Plan Standard SWST11: All refueling of equipment would occur outside of the RCA.

Vegetation

Clearing of vegetation from access road prisms would be completed using hand tools and not heavy equipment. Trees and tall brush would be cut at ground level with root wads left in place. Low-growing brush, grasses, and forbs would be left in place. Cut material would be placed at the toe of access road fill slopes to act as a filter windrow. Road surfaces and ditch lines would be kept free of created slash.

Visuals

Visible new ground disturbance on overland access routes may encourage the public to attempt unauthorized off-road motor vehicle use. Therefore, adequate rehabilitation of the disturbed area (including physical barriers such as rocks, logs, or slash and/or visual barriers such as wooden or fiberglass signposts) shall be completed to discourage or limit such unauthorized use.

Watershed/Fisheries

No fuel would be stored within any RCAs and refueling of all equipment would take place **outside** of RCAs as defined below:

- 300 feet for all perennial streams and intermittent fish-bearing streams
- 150 feet for all intermittent non-fish-bearing streams

All equipment would be inspected for fluid leaks prior to entering National Forest System lands. Refueling of hand tools would occur away from streambanks.

Trees felled within RCAs would be left intact.

The ford stream crossing to IPC Structures 328-02-107 and 108 would be hardened prior to use.

Sediment control BMPs would be employed as identified in Volume 1: National Core BMP Guide (USDA Forest Service 2012).

ATTACHMENT C
PROJECT SPECIFIC NON-SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENT
FOR
FOREST PLAN STANDARDS 1921, 2012 and 2115

1.1 Background Information

Idaho Power has requested that the Forest Service amend the current permit to allow access to and maintenance of Line 328 and its associated structures. The need to access structures and perform repair and maintenance on Line 328 has become critical, and limited access is affecting Idaho Power's ability to provide safe, reliable service to their customers through routine maintenance of Line 328.

Support structures associated with Line 328, many of which have been in use since 1943, have gradually deteriorated because of age, exposure to the elements, and other factors. Many of the structures, including wooden poles, cross arms, and X braces, are rotting, splitting, leaning, or showing other signs of damage, which seriously compromises their integrity. Access to Line 328 has changed over the years as well. Many of the unauthorized² roads are now impassable due to vegetation growth, rockfall, cut bank or fill slope failure, and/or wet areas or stream crossings. Access to several authorized roads and other unauthorized roads has been blocked or eliminated for a variety of reasons. In addition, while the current special-use permit allows operation and maintenance of the power line, it does not address access to Line 328 or its structures.

The current special-use permit will expire December 31, 2013. Rather than amend the permit through this action to address the access need only, and then complete additional NEPA review to renew the permit when it expires, the Forest chose to address both the access need and renew the permit as part of this action.

As identified in Chapter 2, Alternative B description, part of the proposed action includes the Forest Service designating 115 segments of unauthorized roads (i.e. 19 miles) as authorized, maintenance level 2 roads for administrative use only. These roads would be added to the Forest Transportation system to facilitate access and administrative needs of the Idaho Power Permit. However, because these segments would not be open to public motorized use, the Cascade District Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) would not change. Of the 115 segments/19 miles, 36 segments/2.9 miles fall within MPC 3.2 in Management Areas 19, 20 and 21.

Idaho Power would be permitted to open, perform maintenance on, and use these roads for access to permitted facilities. Maintenance would include clearing of vegetation, rocks, and/or fallen trees, as well as installation of hardened stream crossings and repair of cut and fill slope failures, as necessary, to allow for a 10- to 12-foot-wide road surface. Unauthorized motor vehicle use would be prevented by installing gates across the travelway and additional physical barriers.

1.2 Project Specific Forest Plan Amendment

Forest Plan standards are binding limitations placed on management actions. Standards are typically action restrictions designed to prevent degradation of resource conditions, or exceeding a threshold of unacceptable effects, so that conditions can be maintained or restored over time. However, exceptions are made in some cases to allow temporary or short term degrading effects in order to achieve long term goals. Standards must be within the authority and ability of the Forest Service to enforce. A project or

action that varies from a relevant standard may not be authorized unless the Forest Plan is amended to modify, remove, or waive application of the standard (*Forest Plan, page III-3*).

As disclosed in Chapter 2 of the EA, implementation of Alternative B would require a site-specific non-significant amendment (FSM 1926.51) of the Forest Plan to allow for unauthorized roads needed for access to be designated as authorized level 2 maintenance roads for administrative use only. Specifically, a forest plan amendment is needed to waive application of the following Management Prescription Category (MPC) standard in MPC 3.2 that limits road construction.

MPC 3.2 Road Standard:

Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed:

- a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or
- b) To respond to statute or treaty, or
- c) To support aquatic, terrestrial, and watershed restoration activities, or
- d) To address immediate-response situations where, if the action is not taken, unacceptable impacts to hydrologic, aquatic, riparian, or terrestrial resources, or health and safety, would result.

This common MPC standard occurs in Management Areas (MAs) where MPC 3.2 occurs. In the case, this standard falls within MAs 19 (standard 1921), 20 (standard 2012) and 21 (standard 2115) that overlap the project area.

1.2.1 Project Specific Forest Plan Amendment

Based on the Forest Plan definition of “new road construction”¹, the designation of unauthorized roads as authorized, maintenance level 2 roads for administrative use only, would not comply with Forest Plan standards 1921, 2012 and 2115. As a result, I have determined that implementation of this project will require a project specific amendment of the Forest Plan in order for the project to be consistent with the Forest Plan. This amendment will waive the requirement for application of these standards for this project, specifically for the 50 segments totaling 9.3 miles of unauthorized road that will be authorized⁵ and designated as Level 2 roads for administrative access in MPC 3.2 (*refer to attachment 1*) to allow Idaho Power to maintain this power line.

Waiving application of this standard through this project specific amendment only applies to this project and these roads will not be open to public motorized use, and thus no change the Cascade Ranger District MVUM map would occur (*EA, section 2.4.2*).

1.3 Policy and Analysis

Under the National Forest Management Act [NFMA, 16 USC 1604(f)(4)], forest plans may “*be amended in any manner whatsoever after final adoption and after public notice, and, if such amendment would result in a significant change in such plan, be in accordance with subsections (e) and (f) of this section and public involvement comparable to that required by subsection (d) of this section.*”

⁵ The Forest Plan defines “new road construction” as an “Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles” (Forest Plan Glossary, page 32). Thus, while no new roads will actually be physically constructed, the decision to change existing unauthorized routes to an authorized National Forest System road is considered “road construction” per standards 1921, 2012 and 2115.

As required in the 2012 National Forest Land Management Planning Rule implementing the NFMA:

- *“Projects and activities authorized after approval of a plan, plan amendment, or plan revision must be consistent with the plan as provided in paragraph (d) of this section” (36 CFR 219.15(b)).*
- *“When a proposed project or activity would not be consistent with the applicable plan components, the responsible official shall take one of the following steps, subject to valid existing rights:*
 - (1) Modify the proposed project or activity to make it consistent with the applicable plan components;*
 - (2) Reject the proposal or terminate the project or activity;*
 - (3) Amend the plan so that the project or activity will be consistent with the plan as amended; or*
 - (4) Amend the plan contemporaneously with the approval of the project or activity so that the project or activity will be consistent with the plan as amended. This amendment may be limited to apply only to the project or activity.” (36 CFR 219.15(c))*

As identified above, the Forest Plan will be amended for this project specific activity. This plan amendment will waive the requirement for application of standards 1921, 2012 and 2115 to this project. Waiving application of this standard through this project specific amendment will apply only for the duration of the 20-year term of the new Special Use Permit. Thus, when this SUP is up for renewal in 20-years, consistency with standards 1921, 2012 and 2115 will be required, or if not consistent, a new project specific amendment with supporting rationale will be necessary.

As allowed at 36 CFR 219.17(a)(3), the effective date of this project specific amendment will be on the date the project may be implemented in accordance with administrative review regulations at 36 CFR 215.

Finally, as allowed at 36 CFR 219.17(b)(2), *“...with respect to plans approved or revised under a prior planning regulation, including the transition provisions of the reinstated 2000 rule (36 CFR part 219, published at 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, revised as of July 1, 2010), plan amendments may be initiated under the provisions of the prior planning regulation for 3 years after May 9, 2012, and may be completed and approved under those provisions...”*

As allowed at 36 CFR 219.17(b)(2), the Forest Plan amendment has been completed consistent with transition provisions of the reinstated 2000 rule (referred to as the “prior planning regulations”).

Under the transition provisions of the prior planning regulations, appropriate public notification is required for an amendment that is not significant. As required at 36 CFR 219.16, public notification of this non-significant amendment was made during the 30-day notice and comment period for the review EA released in December 2012, consistent with the requirements at 36 CFR 215.

Under the transition provisions of the prior planning regulations, the determination of the proposed change being significant or not significant is based on the two factors in Forest Service Manual 1926.52 -- Changes to Land Management Plan That are Significant:

1. Changes that would significantly alter the long-term relationship between levels of multiple-use goods and services originally projected (see section 219.10(e) of the planning regulations in effect before November 9, 2000 (see 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, revised as of July 1, 2000)).
2. Changes that may have an important effect on the entire land management plan or affect land and resources throughout a large portion of the planning area during the planning period.

To determine whether the proposed change to the forest plan has an important effect on the entire land management plan or affect land and resources throughout a large portion of the planning area during the

planning period, I considered timing of the amendment and the location and size of the area affected by the amendment, and whether or not the change affects other direction in the forest plan.

1.3.1 Timing

I have considered the timing of the amendment relative to the course of the forest plan period. Both the age of the underlying document and the duration of the amendment are relevant considerations. The decision to revise the Boise National Forest Plan was issued in July 2003 and implementation began in September 2003. For the current planning period, this amendment is in the second decade, late into the planning period.

This project specific amendment will waive application of the common MPC 3.2 standard (i.e. Standards 1921, 2012 and 2115) for this project only, for the duration of the 20 year permit period. Should this permit be authorized again at the end of this 20 year period, the project must be consistent with standards in the Forest Plan in affect at that time, or if it is not consistent, a new forest plan amendment would be required.

I do not consider the remaining time of the planning period affected by the amendment nor the 20 year period of the permit to be an important effect to the entire forest plan.

1.3.2 Location and Size

This power line was built in 1943 and includes a 70 foot right of way (ROW) and travels across approximately 19 miles/312 acres of NFS lands (Figure B-1). Of the 19 miles of proposed access routes to be changed from unauthorized to authorized, 12 miles fall within the existing 70 foot ROW. The remaining 7 miles occur outside the ROW and represent about 17 more acres. Thus, the total extent of the acres affected by the amendment is approximately 329 acres (EA, Chapter 2, Table 2-7). This is approximately 0.01% of the 2.2 million acres of the total planning area. I do not consider this percentage to be a large portion of the planning area.

The power line and supporting structures addressed in this proposed action fall within a designated utility corridor under the Forest Plan, except for the 1060 foot portion of the proposed reroute at Whitehorse Rapids (Figure B-2). For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that the 1060 foot reroute is commensurate in areas as the abandoned portion. This reroute falls within MPC 3.2.

1.3.3 Goals, Objectives, and Outputs

I considered whether the change alters the long-term relationship between the level of goods and services in the overall planning area by considering effects of the change on the goals, objectives, and outputs of the forest plan. My analysis includes the overall forest plan and the various multiple-use resources, services and outputs that may be affected by the proposed amendment. Based on the analysis, I do not find that the amendment would change goals, objectives, or outputs of the forest plan to any extent that the long-term relationship between the level of goods and services would be altered.

The following are examples of particular focus relative to this amendment:

Figure B-1: Project Vicinity Map

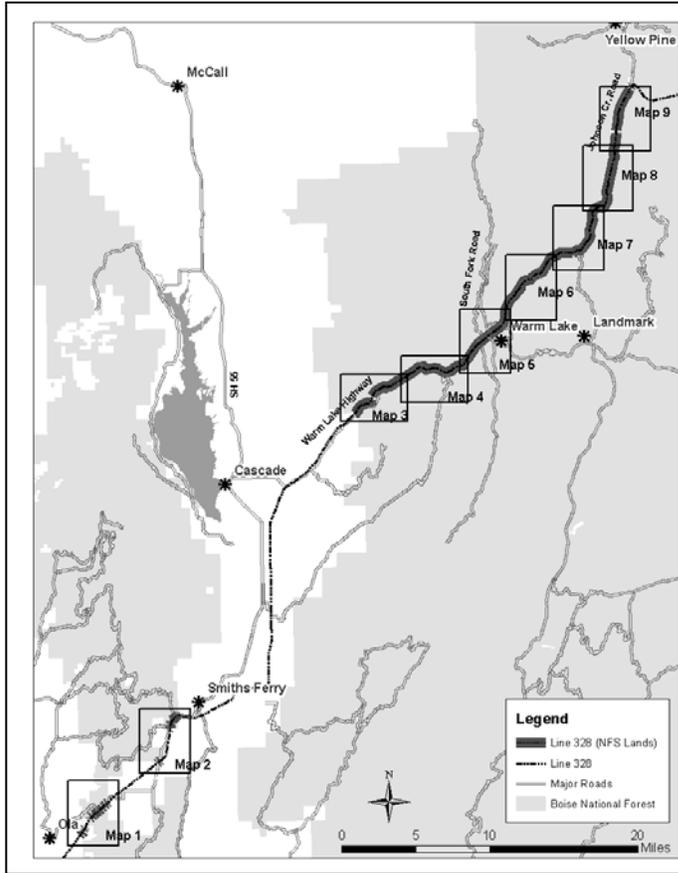
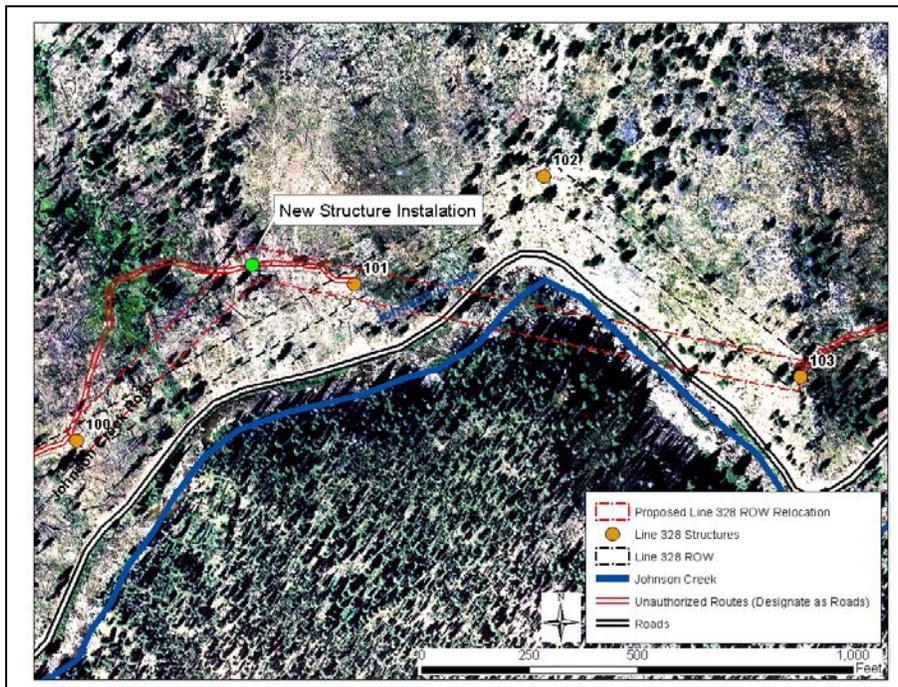


Figure B-2. Aerial image of Idaho Power Company line 328 re-alignment



Examples of Forest Plan Lands and Special-Uses Goals and Objectives pertinent to the amendment include:

LSGO04—Proposed special uses of National Forest System lands—such as hydroelectric development, communication sites, water developments, and utility corridors—are considered that meet public needs, are consistent with direction for other National Forest resources, and cannot be accommodated off the National Forest.

LSGO05—Special-use authorizations are issued for uses that

- a) serve the public,
- b) promote public health and safety,
- c) protect the environment, and/or
- d) are legally mandated.

LSGO09—Continue working with utilities and others to identify potential areas for additional designated utility and communication facilities.

As discussed earlier, support structures associated with Line 328, many of which have been in use since 1943, have gradually deteriorated because of age, exposure to the elements, and other factors. Many of the structures, including wooden poles, cross arms, and X braces, are rotting, splitting, leaning, or showing other signs of damage, which seriously compromises their integrity. Access to Line 328 has changed over the years as well. Many of the unauthorized² roads are now impassable due to vegetation growth, rockfall, cut bank or fill slope failure, and/or wet areas or stream crossings. Access to several authorized roads and other unauthorized roads has been blocked or eliminated for a variety of reasons. In addition, while the current special-use permit allows operation and maintenance of the power line, it does not address access to Line 328 or its structures.

Providing access to replace, repair and maintain Line 328, consistent with Forest Plan standards and guidelines, is essential to meeting LSGO05 and LSGO06. Maintaining this line is important to meeting commitments to serve the public, is critical to promote public health and safety and is important to mitigating impacts to the environment (i.e. protecting the environment).

Examples of Forest Plan Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate (TEPC) Species Goals and Objectives pertinent to the amendment include:

TEGO01 - Habitat within the respective ranges of species listed under ESA contributes to their survival and recovery.

TEGO04 - Environmental conditions and habitat components support reproductive needs important to sustainable populations of Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate (TEPC) species.

TEGO05 - Well-distributed habitat capable of maintaining self-sustaining, complex interacting groups of TEPC species exists within their respective ranges across the planning unit.

TEGO06 - Habitat capable of maintaining stable or increasing trends in abundance of TEPC species in all recovery units within the planning unit exists.

The MPC 3.2 road standard to be waived was included in the plan to avoid or minimize impacts of management activities implementing the Forest Plan on watershed restoration and ESA fisheries resources. As stated in the concurrence letter from the US-FWS (January 18, 2013):

“Service concurrence that the Project is not likely to adversely affect bull trout or bull trout critical habitat is based on the following rationales.

- 1) No direct impacts to bull trout or bull trout critical habitat will occur because no instream work occurs within occupied or critical habitat.
- 2) Road maintenance, designation, and opening the two routes to the public will not result in increased sediment delivery to streams. Modeling, as described in the Assessment, shows the maintenance that will occur on the roads and unauthorized routes will reduce the sediment delivery to streams channels by 0.24 tons per year in the short- and longterms. While this is not considered a significant reduction in sediment, it will allow maintenance or slight improvement in watershed conditions. Design features are also included to minimize the risk of chemicals or fuel from equipment entering a stream.
- 3) Project activities would either maintain or have no influence on the Watershed Condition Indicators and associated primary constituent elements of critical habitat, as described in the [Forest Service] Assessment. Analysis shows that treatment within RCAs of the South Fork Salmon River subbasin will have negligible impacts to stream temperature and large woody debris. Although road densities will increase in some subwatersheds, due to the change in status of existing roads from unauthorized to authorized, the miles of roads occurring on the landscape will not change. In addition, the sediment delivery to streams derived from roads will be decreased due to the prescribed road maintenance that will now occur.”

Similar findings were also provided in the NOAA fisheries concurrence letter dated January 11, 2013. Both concurrence letters were based on the Agencies Aquatic and Fisheries Resource analysis summarized in section 3.3 of the EA and the Water and Soil Resources analysis summarized in section 3.4 of the EA. The detailed technical reports for these resources are located in the project record.

1.3.4 Overall Forest Plan Direction

I considered how important the change would be to the entire land management plan by considering to what extent the change would affect the rest of the direction in the Forest Plan. The project specific amendment will not change the management prescriptions or desired future conditions for Management Areas 16, 17, 19, 20 and 21, nor will any other management area within the forest planning unit be affected. In addition, amending the Forest Plan as described above will be consistent with the intended resource, social and economic goals, objectives, and outputs portrayed in the Forest Plan, including providing the necessary protections to the aquatic and water resources and not impacting the ability to meet watershed restoration objectives during the planning period. Other goods and services associated with these Management Areas will not be measurably affected (refer to EA, section 1.7.1 (Forest Plan consistency) and resource analyses found in sections 3.1 through 3.10. Also refer to detailed Forest Plan consistency documentation located in the project record. With no other changes to the forest plan other than the waiver of

MPC3.2 for the 50 road segments, I do not consider the change to be substantive relative to the entire forest plan.

1.4 Finding of Non-significance

On the basis of the information and analysis contained in the EA, associated Biological Assessment, concurrence from NOAA and the US Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the determination for ESA listed species, associated planning record, and my evaluation of the amendment under the factors outlined above, it is my determination that adoption of the plan amendment described in Section 1.2 does not constitute a significant amendment of the Forest Plan as amended in 2010.

ATTACHMENT C-1

Individual Road Segments that fall with MPC 3.2 and corresponding Maps identifying their locations.

Table 1: Unauthorized Road Segments in MPC 3.2 to be Designated as Authorized, Level 2 Maintenance, Administrative Use Only

Management Area 19			Management Area 20			Management Area 21		
Rd Segment	Miles Total	Miles RCA	Rd Segment	Miles Total	Miles RCA	Rd Segment	Miles Total	Miles RCA
IPC 16	0.174	0.000	IPC 47	0.023	0.023	IPC 76	0.039	0.039
IPC 16A	0.111	0.000	IPC 49	0.022	0.010			
IPC 17	0.123	0.019	IPC 50	0.131	0.131			
IPC 17B	0.064	0.000	IPC 51	0.013	0.013			
IPC 18	0.165	0.044	IPC 52	0.035	0.035			
IPC 19	0.382	0.277	IPC 53	0.053	0.053			
IPC 20	0.600	0.178	IPC 54	0.027	0.019			
IPC 20A	0.071	0.057	IPC 55	0.028	0.017			
IPC 21	0.048	0.000	IPC 56	0.177	0.000			
IPC 22	0.069	0.018	IPC 57	0.844	0.000			
IPC 23	0.142	0.142	IPC 58	0.114	0.000			
IPC 24	0.162	0.125	IPC 59	0.093	0.000			
IPC 25	0.556	0.130	IPC 59A	0.086	0.000			
IPC 25A	0.024	0.000	IPC 60	0.521	0.027			
IPC 25B	0.122	0.052	IPC 61	0.028	0.028			
IPC 26	0.127	0.000	IPC 61A	0.101	0.101			
IPC 27	0.243	0.043	IPC 62	0.117	0.056			
IPC 28	0.186	0.030	IPC 63	0.874	0.212			
IPC 28A	0.093	0.000	IPC 64	0.457	0.387			
IPC 29	0.119	0.064	IPC 64A	0.193	0.050			
IPC 30	0.100	0.019	IPC 65	0.310	0.310			
IPC 31	0.073	0.053	IPC 66	0.067	0.067			
IPC 31A	0.099	0.002	IPC 67	0.026	0.000			
IPC 32	0.025	0.000						
IPC 33	0.840	0.000						
IPC 44	0.097	0.097						
TOTAL Miles	4.915	1.349	TOTAL Miles	4.340	1.537	TOTAL Miles	0.039	0.039
TOTAL miles in MPC 3.2 = 9.294 miles				Of TOTAL miles, how many in RCAs = 2.925 miles				

Figure 1 of 3: Idaho Power Line 328 Access Roads in MPC 3.2

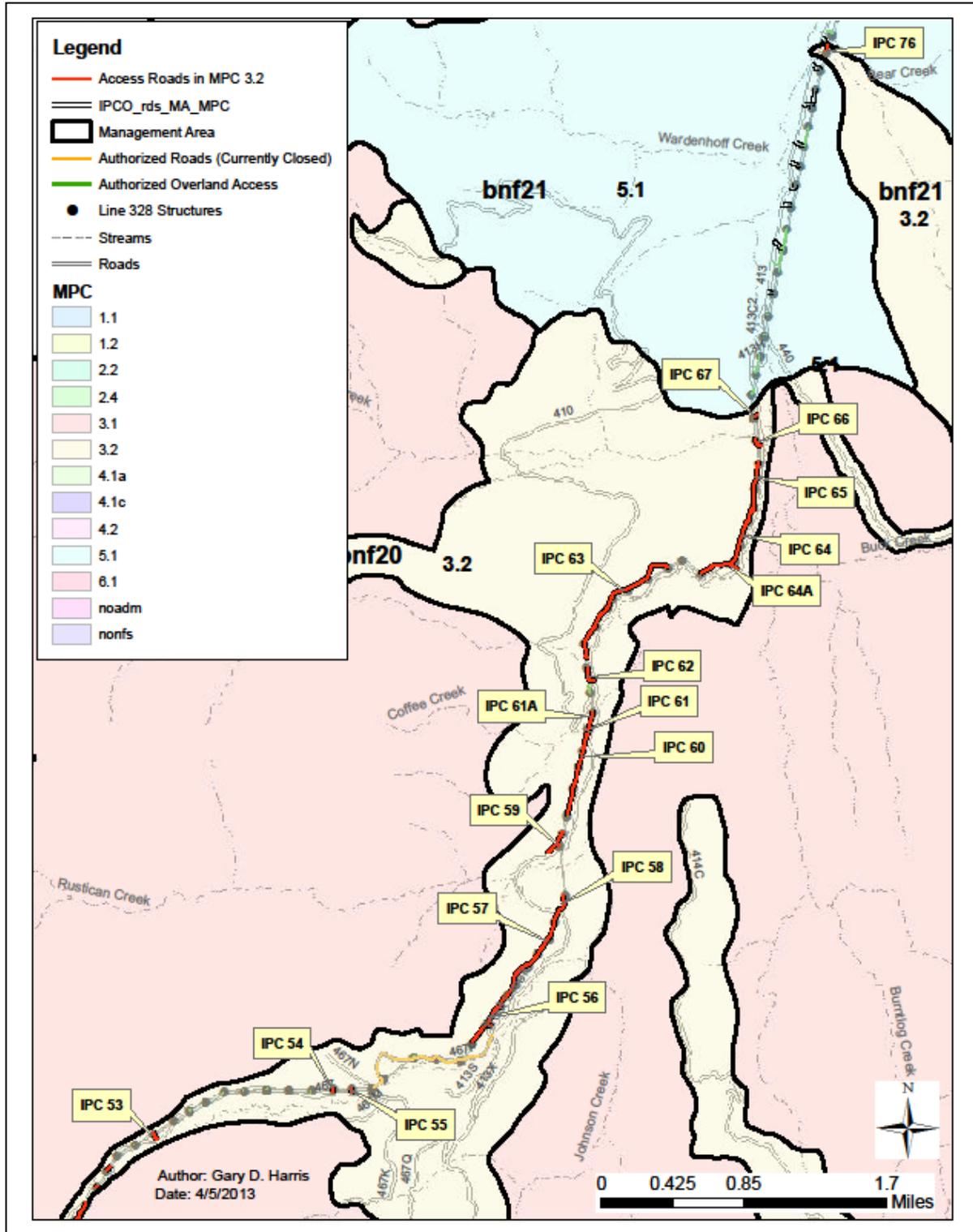


Figure 2 of 3: Idaho Power Line 328 Access Roads in MPC 3.2

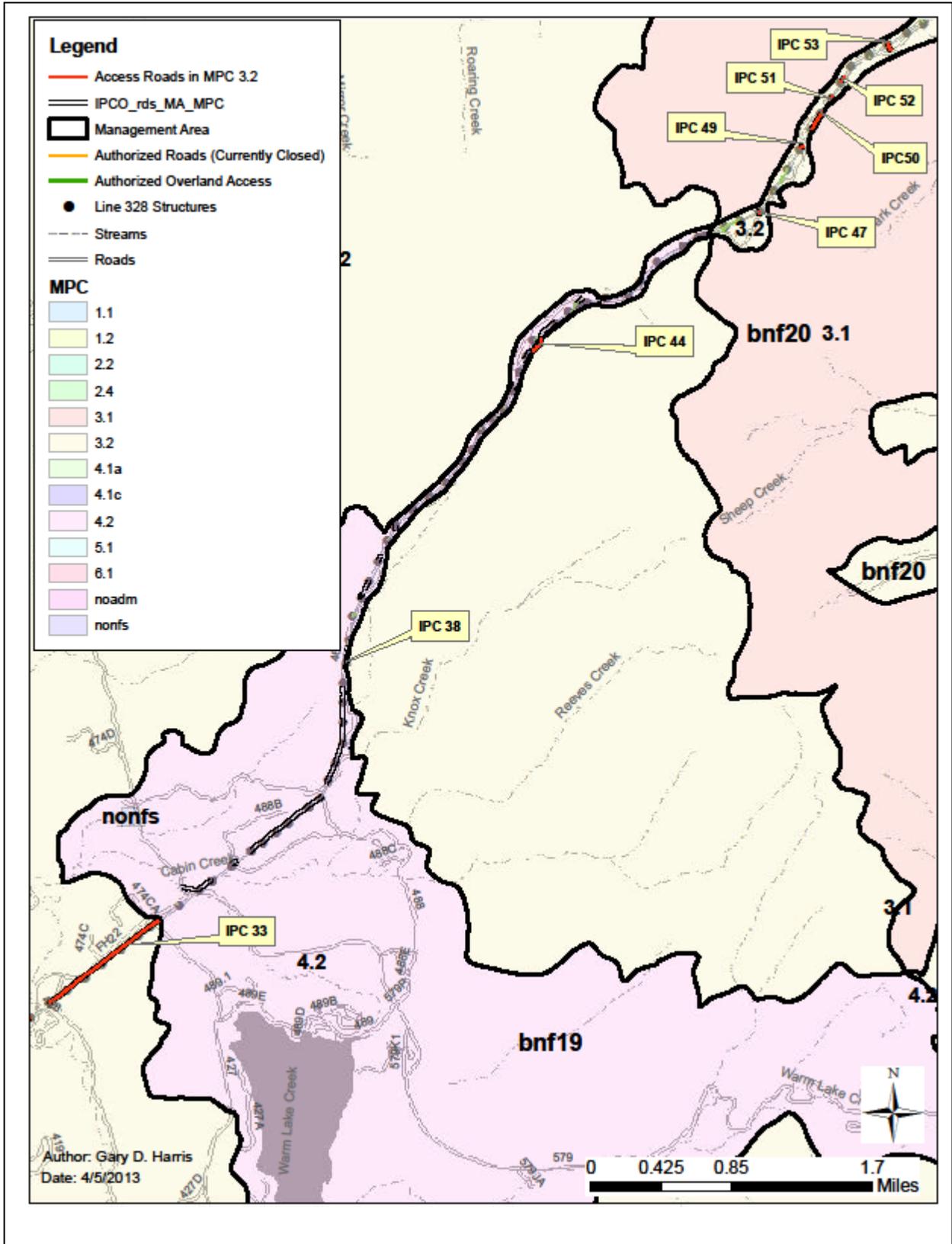


Figure 3 of 3: Idaho Power Line 328 Access Roads in MPC 3.2

