



ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION OVERVIEW

Both the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations and the BLM resource management planning regulations require the formulation of alternatives. Each alternative represents a complete and reasonable plan to guide future management of public land and resources. One alternative must represent no action. This means a continuation of present levels or systems of resource use. The other alternatives are to provide a range of choices from those favoring resource protection to those favoring resource production.

The basic goal in formulating RMP alternatives is to identify various combinations of public land uses and resource management practices that respond to the planning issues. Alternatives for the resolution of most planning issues, including, for example, oil and gas leasing on the Rocky Mountain Front, were formulated by placing varying degrees of emphasis on resource protection (e.g. threatened and endangered species habitat) or resource production (e.g. minimizing restrictions on oil and gas leasing and development). **All alternatives must prevent unnecessary and undue degradation, maintain resource productivity, and permit a sustained yield of resources.**

Alternatives for the resolution of the land ownership adjustment issue do not lend themselves to protection or production emphases, but instead were formulated by applying the interdisciplinary criteria for land retention and disposal as identified in the Draft State Director Guidance for Resource

Management Planning. These criteria were derived from applicable laws, regulations, and BLM policy statements. In this case, two alternatives were formulated, no action (i.e. no criteria were applied) and the proposed action.

In summary, issues dictated the way in which alternatives were formulated. Lands, resources, and programs administered by the BLM are proposed for changes in management based on the preferred means of resolving all issues. Those lands, resources, and programs not affected by the resolution of any issue will be managed in the future essentially as they are at present. Future changes will be permitted based on case-by-case analyses and in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

ALTERNATIVES ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED STUDY

The following alternatives were considered as possible methods of resolving specific issues in the Headwaters Resource Area, but were eliminated from detailed study due to technical, legal, and/or other constraints.

No Grazing

The elimination of livestock grazing from all public land in the resource area was considered as a possible method of resolving the grazing allotment and riparian habitat management issue. Based on interdisciplinary discussions during the criteria development step of the planning process, the no grazing alternative was eliminated from detailed study for the following reasons:

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1. Resource conditions, including range vegetation, watershed, and wildlife habitat, do not warrant a resource areawide prohibition of livestock grazing.

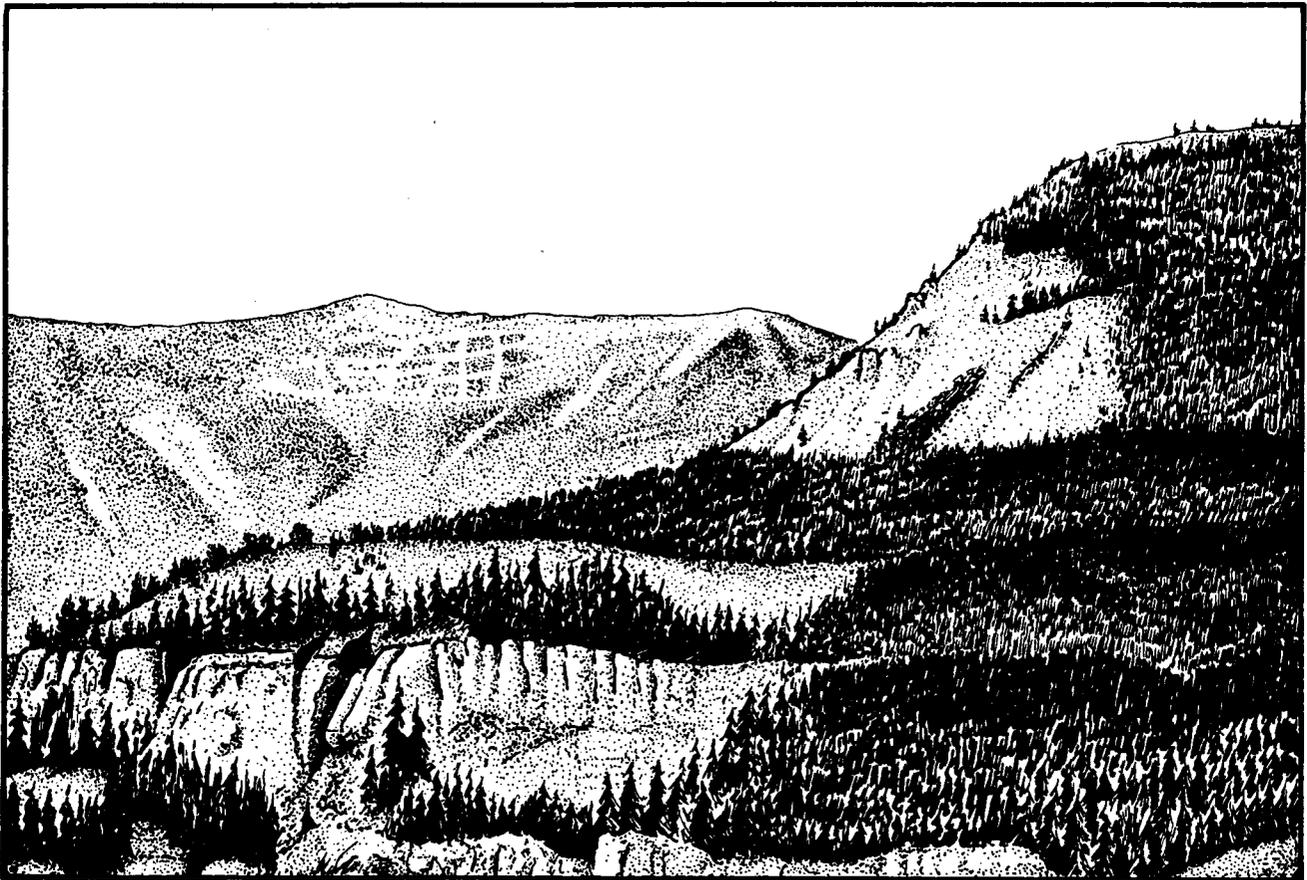
2. Public comments received during the issue identification and criteria development steps indicate a general acceptance of livestock grazing on public land, provided that such grazing is properly managed.

3. The highly fragmented pattern of public land ownership in the resource area would necessitate extensive fence construction, at public expense, if livestock are to be effectively excluded from public land. Such fencing would not only be prohibitively costly, but also would be likely to disrupt established patterns of wildlife movement, and could also affect public access.

In summary, implementation of a no grazing alternative is not considered to be feasible or necessary except in specific, localized situations where livestock use is incompatible with other important management objectives. Such situations have been identified in the plan under the discussion of unleased tracts (Chapter 2) and in Appendix E.

Partial Wilderness Designation for Individual Areas Being Studied for Wilderness

This alternative was considered for each area. However, because of their size, configuration, topographic layout, and resource characteristics, none of the areas were found to have logical partial wilderness alternatives.



Sequential Oil and Gas Leasing and Development in the Rocky Mountain Front

This alternative was considered as a possible means of permitting relatively unrestricted oil and gas exploration and development in the Rocky Mountain Front, while retaining adequate habitat for the protection of threatened and endangered and other important species of wildlife. Under this alternative, the Rocky Mountain Front would have been divided into four oil and gas leasing zones, with leasing and development occurring in alternating zones. For example, during the period 1985 to 1995, leasing and development would occur with minimal restrictions in zones one and three, while zones two and four would be considered unavailable for leasing. During the period 1995 to 2005, the zones would be reversed. This alternative was eliminated from detailed study because the intermingled private, state, and federal subsurface ownership in each zone does not permit the establishment of secure lease denial areas. In addition, the delineation of such zones in the absence of adequate geologic data is likely to result in severe technical problems affecting oil and gas exploration and reservoir drainage.

ACEC Designations in the Rocky Mountain Front

This alternative was considered for public land in the vicinity of Blind Horse Creek, Ear Mountain, Chute Mountain, and Deep Creek/Battle Creek. All these areas appear to meet the criteria of relevance and importance established for the identification of potential Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

However, the particular resources of primary concern along the Rocky Mountain Front, i.e. scenic values, wildlife habitat, unique geologic features, primitive recreation opportunities, and natural ecosystems, are considered to be of national significance. Therefore, the special designation of Outstanding Natural Area, which requires the Director's approval, was chosen as more appropriate for consideration in a special designation alternative. Management would be similar under either designation.



Jurisdictional Land Transfers to the Forest Service

This alternative was considered for BLM-administered land contiguous to national forests. It was eliminated from detailed study in this RMP because it would unnecessarily duplicate other jurisdictional transfer studies currently being conducted by both agencies.

Maximum Unconstrained Alternatives

No alternatives that proposed maximum resource areawide production or protection of one resource at the expense of other resources were considered because this would violate the BLM's legal mandate to manage public land on a multiple use, sustained yield basis.

DELINEATION OF MANAGEMENT UNITS

The Headwaters Resource Area has been divided into thirty-six management units. These management units are displayed on the Management Units map in the back pocket. Each management unit is described in Appendix A.

Management unit boundaries separate areas which, because of different issues, resource values, and/or management opportunities or constraints, require different management guidance. The boundaries are not absolutely fixed, and may be adjusted in the future on the basis of additional information gained during the formulation of activity plans.

Each management unit has one set of management guidelines for each alternative, although for most units, some management guidelines may be identical for two or more alternatives. Management unit guidelines, along with the resource areawide guidance common to all alternatives, define what the total management direction is and how it will be implemented.

In some cases the preferred management guidelines for wilderness study areas that are not recommended for wilderness are inconsistent with the Interim Management Policy for WSAs. The implementation of those guidelines will be deferred until Congress takes action on the wilderness suitability recommendations.

MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES

The following management guidance is applicable to, and thus constitutes a part of, all alternatives considered in detail. It is presented here to avoid repetition.

Soil, Water, and Air Program

General

Soil, water, and air resources will continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as a part of project level planning. Such an evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project and the sensitivity of soil, water, and air resources in the affected area. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to ensure compatibility of projects with soil, water, and air resource management. Appendix C shows an example of general Best Management Practices (BMPs) adopted for forestry activities.

Soils

Soils will be managed to maintain productivity and to minimize erosion.

Water

Water quality will be maintained or improved in accordance with State and Federal standards, including consultation with State agencies on proposed projects that may significantly affect water quality. Management actions on public land within municipal watersheds will be designed to protect water quality and quantity.

Management activities in riparian zones will be designed to maintain or improve riparian habitat condition.

Roads and utility corridors will avoid riparian zones to the extent practicable.

Energy and Minerals Program

Oil and gas leasing in the Sun River Game Range on the Rocky Mountain Front will continue to be denied, in accordance with the Secretary's classification agreement of January 29, 1964, which closed the 10,952 acres of federal minerals within the Sun River Game Range to oil and gas leasing. The agreement is based on a finding by the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the MDFW&P that oil and gas leasing is not compatible with the purposes for which the Sun River Game Range was originally withdrawn.

Oil and gas lease stipulations identified in this plan will apply only to leases processed after RMP approval. Existing leases will run their full term with only those stipulations attached at the time of lease issuance. Leases included in an operating unit or any future unit where production is established will remain unaffected by new stipulations as long as production continues or until leases are terminated.

Oil and Gas Leasing Outside of the Rocky Mountain Front

As a general rule, public land outside of the Rocky Mountain Front is available for oil and gas leasing. In many areas, oil and gas leases will be issued with only standard stipulations attached. In other areas, leases will have special stipulations attached to them at the time of issuance to protect seasonal wildlife habitat and/or other sensitive resource values. In highly sensitive areas, where special stipulations are not sufficient to protect important surface resource values, no surface occupancy stipulations will be attached to the lease. The general areas where standard, special, and no surface occupancy stipulations will be applied are shown on the Management Units map. However, site-specific decisions regarding lease issuance and the attachment of appropriate stipulations will continue to be based on application of the Butte District Oil and Gas Leasing Checklist, and the leasing guidelines contained in the Butte District Oil and Gas Leasing Environmental Assessment. Standard and special stipulations and the Butte District Oil and Gas Leasing checklist are included in Appendix B.

Geothermal Leasing

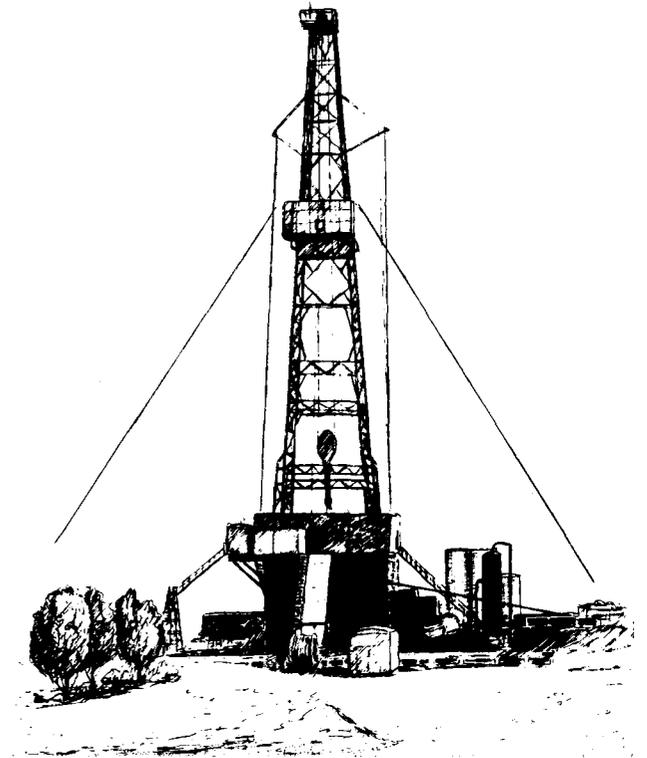
Lease applications will continue to be processed as received. Stipulations will be attached based on interdisciplinary review of each proposal.

Locatable Minerals Outside of the Scratchgravel Hills

All public land is open to mineral entry and development unless previously withdrawn. Mineral exploration and development on public land will be regulated under 43 CFR 3800 to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation of the land. Validity examinations may be requested under the following conditions:

where a mineral patent application has been filed and a field examination is required to verify the validity of the claim(s);

where there is a conflict with a disposal application, and it is deemed in the public interest to do so, or where the statute authorizing the disposal requires clearance of any encumbrance;



where the land is needed for a federal program; or

where a mining claim is located under the guise of the mining law and flagrant unauthorized use of the land or mineral resource is occurring.

Public land will be opened to mineral entry where mineral withdrawals are revoked through the withdrawal review process.

Common Variety Mineral Materials

Applications for the removal of common variety mineral materials, including sand and gravel, will continue to be processed on a case-by-case basis. Stipulations to protect important surface values will be attached based on interdisciplinary review of each proposal.

Lands Program

Land Ownership Adjustments

Draft State Director Guidance for Resource Management Planning in Montana and the Dakotas, published in January 1983, provides criteria for use in categorizing public land for retention or disposal, and for identifying acquisition priorities. Site-specific decisions regarding land ownership adjustments in the resource area will be made based largely on consideration of the following criteria which are derived from State Director Guidance.

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This list is not considered all-inclusive, but represents the major factors to be evaluated. These criteria may be modified in the future to assure consistency with State Director Guidance. The criteria to be used include:

public resource values, including but not limited to:

T&E and sensitive species habitat,
riparian areas,
fisheries,
nesting/breeding habitat for game animals,
key big game seasonal habitat,
developed recreation and recreation access sites,
class A scenery,
municipal watersheds,
energy and mineral potential,
sites eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places,
wilderness and areas being studied for wilderness, and
other statutorily-authorized designations,

accessibility of the land for public uses;

amount of public investments in facilities or improvements and the potential for recovering those investments;

difficulty or cost of administration (manageability);

suitability of the land for management by another federal agency;

significance of the decision in stabilizing business, social and economic conditions, and/or lifestyles;

encumbrances, including but not limited to:
R&PP and small tract leases,
withdrawals, or
other leases or permits

consistency of the decision with cooperative agreements and plans or policies of other agencies; and

suitability and need for change in land ownership or use for purposes including but not limited to: community expansion or economic development, such as industrial, residential, or agricultural (other than grazing) development.

The land ownership adjustment criteria identified above will be considered in land reports and environmental analyses prepared for specific adjustment proposals.

Public land within retention areas (see the Management Units map and Appendix A) generally will remain in public ownership and be managed by the BLM. Transfers to other public agencies will be considered where improved management effi-

ciency would result. Minor adjustments involving sales or exchanges or both may be permitted based on site-specific application of the land ownership adjustment criteria.

Public land within disposal areas generally will be made available for disposal through sales or exchanges or both. **Exchange will be the preferred method of disposal.** Some land may be retained in public ownership based on site-specific application of the land ownership adjustment criteria.

Public land within further study areas has not been prioritized for retention or disposal. Site-specific adjustment decisions will be based on application of the land ownership adjustment criteria.

Land to be acquired by the BLM through exchanges generally must be located in retention areas. In addition, acquisition of such land should:

facilitate access to public land and resources,
maintain or enhance important public values and uses,

maintain or enhance local social and economic values, or

facilitate implementation of other aspects of the Headwaters RMP.

Public land to be sold must meet the disposal criteria identified in State Director Guidance and the following criteria derived from the Federal Land Policy and Management Act:

such land must be difficult and uneconomic to manage as part of the public lands, and must not be suitable for management by another federal department or agency;

such land must have been acquired for a specific purpose and must no longer be required for that or any other federal purpose; or

disposal of such land will serve important public objectives that can only be achieved prudently or feasibly if the land is removed from public ownership, and if these objectives outweigh other public objectives and values that would be served by maintaining such land in federal ownership.

Sale will be used as a method of disposal only when:

it is required to achieve disposal objectives on a timely basis, and where disposal through exchange would cause unacceptable delays;

the level of interest in a specific tract indicates that competitive bidding is desirable for reasons of fairness; or

disposal through exchange is not feasible.

The method of sale will be determined on a case-by-case basis with the goal of avoiding unnecessary hardships on current public land users and surrounding or adjacent landowners. BLM policy for determining sale methods is further explained in Instruction Memorandum WO-83-524 (see Appendix T).

Trespass Abatement

Existing unauthorized uses of public land will be resolved either through termination, authorization by lease or permit, or disposal. Decisions will be based on consideration of the following criteria:

- the type and significance of improvements involved;
- conflicts with other resource values and uses, including potential values and uses; and
- whether the unauthorized use is intentional or unintentional.

New cases of unauthorized use generally will be terminated immediately. Temporary permits may be issued to provide short-term authorization, unless the situation warrants immediate cessation of the use and restoration of the land. Highest priority will be given to abatement of the following unauthorized uses:

- new unauthorized activities or uses where prompt action can minimize damage to public resources and associated costs;
- cases where delay may be detrimental to authorized users;
- cases involving special areas, sensitive ecosystems, and resources of national significance; and
- cases involving malicious or criminal activities.

Withdrawal Review

Review of other agency withdrawals will be completed by 1991. These withdrawals will be continued, modified, or revoked. Upon revocation or modification, part or all of the withdrawn land will revert to BLM management. Current BLM policy is to minimize the acreage of public land withdrawn from mining and mineral leasing, and, where applicable, to replace existing withdrawals with rights-of-way, leases, permits, or cooperative agreements.

Utility and Transportation Corridors

Public land within identified exclusion areas will not be available for utility and transportation corridor development.

Public land along the Rocky Mountain Front will continue to be managed as an avoidance area. Public land within avoidance areas generally will

not be available for utility and transportation corridor development. Exceptions may be permitted based on consideration of the following criteria:

- type of and need for facility proposed;
- conflicts with other resource values and uses, including potential values and uses; and
- availability of alternatives and/or mitigation measures.

Public land within identified windows is available for utility and transportation corridor development. All other public land generally is available for utility and transportation corridor development. Exceptions will be based on consideration of the criteria identified above. Applicants will be encouraged to locate new facilities within existing corridors.

Recreation Program

General

A broad range of outdoor recreation opportunities will continue to be provided for all segments of the public, commensurate with demand. Trails and other means of public access will continue to be maintained and developed where necessary to enhance recreation opportunities and allow public use. Developed recreation facilities receiving the heaviest use will receive first priority for operation and maintenance funds. Sites that cannot be maintained to acceptable health and safety standards will be closed until deficiencies are corrected. Investment of public funds for new recreation developments will be permitted only on land identified for retention in public ownership.

Recreation resources will continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as a part of project level planning. Such evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project and the sensitivity of recreation resources in the affected area. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to assure compatibility of projects with recreation management objectives.

Travel Planning and Motorized Vehicle Use

Travel planning, including the designation of areas open, restricted, and closed to motorized vehicle access, will remain a high priority for public land in the following areas: the Rocky Mountain Front; the Jefferson, Missouri, and Smith river corridors; the Holter Lake area; Sleeping Giant; Marysville; the Spokane Hills; the Elkhorns; Black Sage; the Toston/Lombard area; and other seasonally important wildlife use areas. Public land within areas identified as open to motorized vehicle use generally will remain available for such use without restrictions. Exceptions to this general rule may be authorized after consideration of the following criteria:

the need to promote user enjoyment and minimize use conflicts;

the need to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, or other resource values;

the need to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant degradation of wildlife habitats; and

the need to promote user safety.

Public land within areas identified as restricted to motorized vehicle use generally will receive priority attention during travel planning. Specific roads, trails, or portions of such areas may be closed seasonally or yearlong to all or specified types of motorized vehicle use.

Public land within areas identified as closed to motorized vehicle use will be closed yearlong to all forms of motorized vehicle use. Exceptions may be allowed in Wilderness Study Areas based on application of the Interim Management Policy.

Restrictions and closures will be established for specific roads, trails, or areas only where problems have been identified. Areas not designated as restricted or closed will remain open for motorized vehicle use.

Organized Motorcycle Events

The Montana City use area will remain available for organized motorcycle events. Public land along the RMF and the Jefferson, Missouri, and Smith rivers, and within the Beartooth Game Range, the Holter Lake/Sleeping Giant area, the Elkhorns, and the Toston/Lombard area will not be available for organized events. Applications for events on public land within areas identified as available for further consideration will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The criteria for travel planning and motorized vehicle use (listed above) will be used in this evaluation.

Visual Resources

Visual resources will continue to be evaluated as a part of activity and project planning. Such evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project and the visual sensitivity of the affected area. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to assure compatibility of projects with management objectives for visual resources.

Areas recommended for or designated as wilderness will be subject to Class 1 Visual Resource Management (VRM) guidelines. Natural ecological changes and limited management activity will be allowed in these areas; however, any man-made contrast created within the characteristic landscape must not attract attention.

Areas recommended for or designated as recreation lands or areas of critical environmental concern will be subject to Class 2 VRM guidelines until completion of area-specific management plans. At this time, VRM classes will be delineated in more detail based on the standard criteria of scenic quality, visual sensitivity, and distance zones. Class 2 guidelines require that changes in any of the basic visual elements (form, line, color, texture) caused by a management activity should not be evident in the characteristic landscape. Contrasts may be seen, but must not attract attention.

The following areas also will be subject to Class 2 VRM guidelines, unless a higher management class is required because of wilderness designation:

Rocky Mountain Front, Management Units 03, 04;

Yellowstone River Corridor, Management Units 08, 30;

Devils Kitchen, Management Unit 09;

Canyon Ferry Lake, Missouri River Corridor, Management Unit 17; and

Holter Lake, Management Unit 19.

Management classes for all other public lands would be determined during activity and project planning, in accordance with BLM visual resource management policy. Guidelines for Class 3 areas permit contrasts to the basic visual elements caused by a management activity to be evident, but generally subordinate to the existing landscape. In Class 4 areas, contrasting activities may attract attention and be a dominant feature of the landscape in terms of scale, but should be consistent with the basic visual elements of the characteristic landscape.

Cultural Resources

Cultural resources will continue to be inventoried and evaluated as part of project level planning in compliance with E011593 and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Such evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project and the sensitivity of cultural resources in the affected area. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to assure compatibility of projects with management objectives for cultural resources.

The objective of the BLM Cultural Resource program is to manage cultural resources in a stewardship role for public benefit. The Department of the Interior has issued instructions setting forth

this management structure through a use evaluation system. The purposes of the system are to analyze the scientific and sociocultural values of cultural resources, to provide a basis for allocation of cultural resources, to make cultural resources an important part of the planning system, and to identify information needed when existing documentation is inadequate to support a reasonable cultural resource-based land use allocation.

The evaluation of cultural resources requires the consideration of actual or potential use of individual sites or properties within the following categories:

1. **Sociocultural Use.** This category refers to the use of an object (including flora and fauna), structure, or place based on a social or cultural group's perception that the item has utility in maintaining the group's heritage or existence.
2. **Current Scientific Use.** This category refers to a study or project in progress at the time of evaluation for which scientists or historians are using a cultural resource as a source of information that will contribute to the understanding of human behavior.
3. **Management Use.** This category refers to the use of a cultural resource by the BLM, or other entities interested in the management of cultural resources, to obtain specific information that is needed for the reasonable allocation of cultural resources or for the development of effective preservation measures.
4. **Conservation for Future Use.** This category refers to the management of cultural resources by segregating them from other forms of appropriation until specific conditions are met in the future. Such conditions may include the development of research techniques that are presently not available or the exhaustion of all other resources similar to those represented in the protected sample. The category is intended to provide long-term, onsite preservation and protection of select cultural resources.
5. **Potential Scientific Use.** This category refers to the potential use (utilizing research techniques currently available) of a cultural resource as a source of information that will contribute to the understanding of human behavior.

Wilderness Resources

Wilderness Study Areas will continue to be managed in compliance with the Interim Management Policy until they are reviewed and acted upon by Congress. Other areas being studied for wilder-

ness will be managed to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation of the land, and, when it does not conflict with valid existing rights, they will be managed to meet the nonimpairment standard as well.

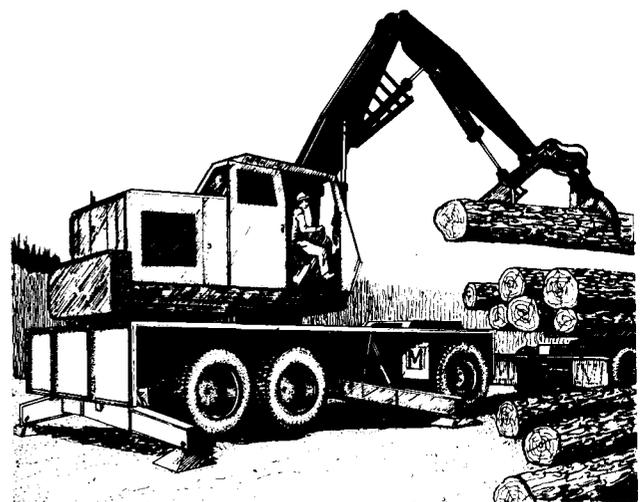
Public land within areas added by Congress to the National Wilderness Preservation System will be managed in compliance with the Wilderness Management Policy. Site-specific wilderness management plans will be developed for such areas.

Areas reviewed by Congress but not added to the National Wilderness Preservation System will be managed in accordance with other applicable guidance provided by this Resource Management Plan.

Forestry Program

General

Public land within high priority forest management areas will be available for a full range of forest management activities. Major forest activity plans (also known as compartment management plans, or CMPs) generally will be required prior to initiating forest management activities in such areas. Exceptions will be allowed for small sawlog, or commercial thinning sales. Exceptions will also be allowed for post and pole sales sold on a public demand basis, and for emergency salvage sales of insect, weather, or fire killed timber of less than 250,000 board feet. These sales will be covered by an environmental assessment and a checklist of contract stipulations that conform with the guidelines developed in the Dillon Sustained Yield Unit EA.



Public land within low priority forest management areas will also be available for a full range of forest management activities. However, forest activity plans will be abbreviated to fit the intensity of management.

Public land within set aside areas will not be available for the harvest of forest products.

Firewood gathering by individuals for home use will be permitted on most accessible forestland that is available for the harvest of forest products. Permits will cost \$10 each and are good for a maximum of ten cords. Occasional free use may be authorized to clean up specific concentrations of debris.

Silvicultural Guidelines and Harvesting Techniques

Roads will be constructed to the minimum standards necessary to remove the timber, unless the roads will be needed for other public purposes requiring a higher standard.

Silvicultural prescriptions will be consistent with accepted methods related to site, species, habitat types, and the individual requirements of the forest stand. Tractor logging generally will be limited to slopes with average gradients of less than 50%, and the season of logging will be limited to avoid soil compaction and rutting.

Road locations will be determined on the basis of topography, drainage, soils, and other natural features to minimize erosion. Skid roads will be rehabilitated by seeding and/or scarification. Spur roads will be left in a condition that will minimize erosion and encourage stabilization.

Slash disposal will be done in a manner conducive to revegetation and advantageous to the passage of big game. Slash will be burned when necessary and such burning will be in conformance with state air pollution regulations. Logging methods in riparian areas will be designed to minimize the amount of sediment-laden overland flow that reaches stream channels.

Logging units will be laid out in a manner that will mitigate the risk of windthrow, and the selection of trees in shelterwoods will be made in a manner that will improve the genetic composition of the regenerated stand. Disturbed areas will be artificially revegetated when natural forest regeneration cannot be reasonably expected in five to fifteen years.

Guidelines from the *Montana Cooperative Elk Logging Study* (USDA, FS 1982) will be utilized where applicable in the formulation of forest activity plans. In concert with the timber management program, a snag management program will be implemented to enhance habitat for cavity-nesting birds.

These are all general guidelines. More detailed discussions of measures that can be applied are found in the environmental assessments for the Dillon and Missoula Sustained Yield Units.

Range Program

Allotment Categorization

All grazing allotments in the resource area have been assigned to one of three management categories based on present resource conditions and the potential for improvement (see **Appendixes D and M**). The M allotments generally will be managed to maintain current satisfactory resource conditions; I allotments generally will be managed to improve resource conditions; and C allotments will receive custodial management to prevent resource deterioration.

Allotment-Specific Objectives for the Improvement Category

Multiple-use management objectives have been developed for each allotment in the I category (see Appendix E). Future management actions, including approval of allotment management plans, will be tailored to meet these objectives. However, the priorities assigned to achieving objectives for wildlife habitat, watershed, vegetation condition, and livestock forage production differ between alternatives.

Implementing Changes in Allotment Management

Activity plans are commonly used to present, in detail, the types of changes required in an allotment, and to establish a schedule for implementation (see **Appendix E**). Actions set forth under the plan that affect the environment will be analyzed and compared to alternative actions. During the analysis, the proposal may be altered or completely revamped to mitigate adverse impacts. The following sections contain discussions of the types of changes likely to be recommended in an activity plan and the guidance that applies to these administrative actions.

Livestock Use Adjustments. Livestock use adjustments are most often made by changing one or more of the following: the kind or class of livestock grazing an allotment, the season of use, the stocking rate, or the pattern of grazing. For each of the four alternatives presented in this RMP, target stocking rates have been set for each allotment in the Improve category (refer to Appendix N). Appendix N also notes where adjustments in the season of use and the class or kind of livestock may be needed. While most livestock use adjustments will occur in the I allotments, use adjustments are permitted for allotments in categories C and M.

In reviewing the target stocking rate figures and other recommended changes, it is emphasized that the target AUM figures are not final stocking rates. Rather, all livestock use adjustments will be implemented through documented mutual agreement or by decision. When adjustments are made through mutual agreement, they may be implemented once the Rangeland Program Summary has been through a public review period. When livestock use adjustments are implemented by decision, the decision will be based on operator consultation, range survey data, and monitoring of resource conditions. Current BLM policy emphasizes the use of a systematic monitoring program to verify the need for livestock adjustments proposed on the basis of one-time inventory data.

Monitoring will also be used to measure the changes brought about by new livestock management practices and to evaluate the effectiveness of management changes in meeting stated objectives.

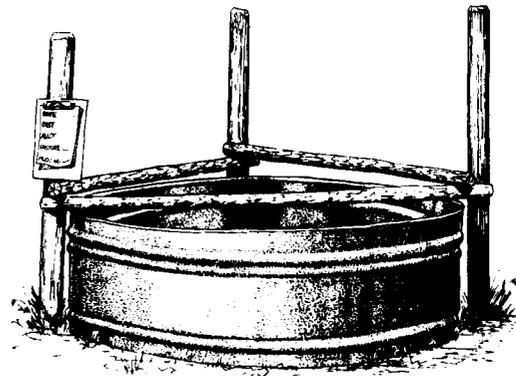
Instruction Memorandums WO-82-292, WO-82-650, and MT-82-89 discuss the applications of rangeland monitoring in more detail.

The federal regulations that govern changes in allocation of livestock forage provide specific direction for livestock use adjustments implemented by decision (43 CFR 4110.3-1 and 43 CFR 4110.3-2). The regulations specify that permanent increases in livestock forage "shall be implemented over a period not to exceed five years. . . ." and that decreases in livestock forage "shall be implemented over a five year period. . . ." The regulations do provide for decreases to be implemented in less than five years when: (1) the downward adjustment is 15% or less of the "authorized active grazing use for the previous year;" (2) an agreement is reached to implement the adjustment in less than five years; or (3) a shorter implementation period is needed to sustain resource productivity.

Range Improvements and Treatments.-

Range improvements and treatments will be implemented under all alternatives. Typical range improvements and treatments and the general procedures to be followed in implementing them are described in Appendix F. The extent, location, and timing of such actions will be based on the allotment-specific management objectives adopted through the resource management planning process; interdisciplinary development and review of proposed actions; operator contributions; and BLM funding capability.

All allotments in which range improvement funds are to be spent will be subjected to an economic analysis. The analysis will be used to develop a final priority ranking of allotments for the commitment



of the range improvement funds that are needed to implement activity plans. The highest priority for implementation generally will be assigned to those improvements for which the total anticipated benefits exceed costs.

Grazing Systems. Grazing systems will be implemented under all alternatives. The type of system to be implemented will be based on consideration of the following factors:

- allotment-specific management objectives (see Appendix E);
- resource characteristics, including vegetation potential and water availability;
- operator needs; and
- implementation costs.

Typical grazing systems available for consideration are described in Appendix G.

Unleased Tracts. Unleased tracts generally will remain available for further consideration for authorized grazing, as provided for in the BLM grazing regulations (43 CFR 4110 and 4130). **However, all islands not currently authorized for grazing use and certain other tracts similarly unauthorized for grazing use will remain unleased. These tracts, exclusive of the islands, total approximately 13,882 acres and are identified in Table 2-1. Eight islands totaling 172 acres are known to be affected. Other presently unsurveyed islands may also be affected but would not add appreciably to the acreage estimate.**

The Dog Hair tract (1032) has been dropped from the list of tracts to remain unleased as a result of BLM review of the Draft RMP/EIS. Wildlife use levels on this tract are no longer considered significant enough to warrant a total forage reservation for elk and mule deer. The Marysville Townsite tract (1195) has been added to the list because it is no longer leased for grazing and because of the reasons stated in Table 2-1. Islands were inadvertently omitted from the list. Unleased islands will remain unleased in order to avoid conflicts with recreation and wildlife uses.

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**TABLE 2-1
UNLEASED TRACTS TO REMAIN UNLEASED**

Name and Number	Legal Description	Acres	Rationale
Scratchgravel (1007)	T10N, R4W Sec. 5 Lot 1 NE of Road Sec. 4, Lot 4, 1, 2 S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 3, Lots 3, 4 S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ T11N, R4W Sec. 27, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ S and W of Fence S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ S of Fence Sec. 28, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Unlotted PD in SE $\frac{1}{4}$ S and W of Fence Sec. 29, SE $\frac{1}{4}$; N $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 33, E $\frac{1}{2}$; NW $\frac{1}{4}$; W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34, NW $\frac{1}{4}$; W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 20, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 19, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	2,469	Conflicts with recreational use and expanding suburban development
South Knob (1008)	T10N, R4W Sec. 1, Lots 11, 14, 15, 18, 13, 12	110	Conflicts with recreational use and expanding suburban development
Green Meadow (1009)	T10N, R4W Sec. 2, Lots 7, 8, 9 Unlotted PD in NW $\frac{1}{4}$	124.2	Conflicts with recreational use and expanding suburban development
Orchard (1015)	T10N, R1W Sec. 27, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80	Recreational conflicts
Silver Creek (1023)	T11N, R4W Sec. 23, Lying N and E of BN tracks	20	Riparian habitat protection
Silver Creek (1033)	T12N, R5W Sec. 31, Lots 9, 10, 11 Sec. 32, Lot 8 Unlotted PD Lot 12 Sec. 33, Lot 4	141	Reservation needed for riparian habitat protection
Beartooth Ranch (1037)	T13N, R3W Sec. 2, Lots 6 and 7 Sec. 12, Lots 3, 4, 5 Sec. 14, Lots 1, 2, 3	200	Forage reservation needed for bighorn sheep habitat protection

MGMT. GUIDANCE COMMON TO ALL ALT.

Cottonwood (1041)	T14N, R2W Sec. 12, S $\frac{1}{2}$	320	Forage reservation needed for elk winter habitat
South Fork (1044)	T15N, R2W Sec. 2, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 12, E $\frac{1}{2}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 13, All	1,320	Forage reservation needed for riparian habitat and big game habitat protection
Smith Creek (1051)	T19N, R8W Sec. 30, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 32, W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$	240	Land and forage reservation needed for grizzly bear habitat protection
Roost Hill (1052)	T20N, R8W Sec. 6, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 5, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	520	Land and forage reservation needed for grizzly bear, bighorn sheep, and elk habitat protection
Shed Creek (1054)	T21N, R8W Sec. 34, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40	Forage reservation needed for elk winter habitat
Dutchman Creek (1058)	T8N, R3W Sec. 34, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40	Forage reservation needed for riparian, deer, and elk habitat protection
Antelope Butte (1093)	T4S, R8E Sec. 14, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	280	Reservation of forage required for mule deer and elk winter/spring habitat
Dailey Lake (1100)	T7S, R7E Sec. 2, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	40	Reservation needed for wetland habitat protection at Dailey Lake
Pamburn (1127)	T25N, R8W Sec. 19, Lot 4 Sec. 30, Lots 1, 2, 3	192.25	Land and forage reserved for bighorn sheep habitat (previously set aside by District Manager's decision dated May 22, 1975).
Ear Mountain (1134)	T24N, R8W Sec. 18, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 19, Lots 1, 2, 3 E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	550.2	Land and forage needed for threatened and endangered species protection and bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and mule deer winter/spring forage (reserved previously by District Manager's decision dated November 4, 1977).
Devils Kitchen (1137)	T16N, R2W Sec. 24, S $\frac{1}{2}$	320	Reservation needed for the protection of fragile and unstable watershed conditions and wildlife habitat
Chisolm Mountain (1138)	T16N, R2W Sec. 10, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	120	Reservation required for mule deer and riparian habitat protection
Harris Mountain (1139)	T16N, R1W Sec. 2, N $\frac{1}{2}$	327	Forage reservation required for the protection of fragile and unstable watershed conditions and wildlife habitat
Sawtooth (1140)	T16N, R1W Sec. 28, All Sec. 30, All Sec. 32, All Sec. 34, Lots 1, 2, 3 NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	2,286	Forage reservation required for the protection of fragile and unstable watershed conditions and wildlife habitat
Black Butte (1142)	T16N, R4E Sec. 28, S $\frac{1}{2}$	320	Reservation required for elk and mule deer habitat

2 — ALTERNATIVES

Finnegan Mountain (1145)	T17N, R2W Sec. 12, W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	318	Reservation of forage required for deer and elk winter habitat
Sawmill Peak (1146)	T17N, R2W Sec. 18, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	200	Reservation of forage required for deer and elk winter habitat
Hardy Creek (1147)	T17N, R2W Sec. 24, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	240	Reservation of forage required for deer and elk winter habitat
Bull Mountain Game Range (1168)	T3N, R4W Sec. 18, All Sec. 20, W $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 30, All	1,599	To provide winter forage for elk and mule deer (previously reserved by the Dept. of the Interior for use by the Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife, & Parks as part of the Bull Mountain Game Range, dated July 26, 1955).
Jefferson Hot Springs (1172)	T11N, R4W Sec. 32, that portion of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ west of the river	15	Reservation needed for riparian and wetland habitat protection
Kilborn Gulch (1177)	T6N, R5W Sec. 25, All land in Sec. 25 lying south of the Boulder River	372	To provide winter forage for elk, moose, and mule deer (previously set aside for wildlife habitat by District Manager's decision on August 7, 1969).
Chicken (1187)	T16N, R4E Sec. 8, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80	Reservation required for elk and mule deer habitat
Marysville Townsite (1195)	T12N, R6W Sec. 36, Lots 29, 30, 33, 34, 35 Sec. 35, Lots 24, 25, 33, Lying S and E of the Marysville boundary fence	135.08	Conflicts with residential development in and adjacent to the town of Marysville
Rinker Creek (6301)	T26N, R8W Sec. 29, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 30, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 31, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 32, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	680	Reservation required for grizzly bear habitat protection
Blackleaf (6302)	T26N, R8W Sec. 18, Lot 3	37	Reservation required for grizzly bear habitat protection
Unnamed	T11N, R1W Sec. 24, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40	Reservation needed for riparian and wetland habitat protection

Wildlife and Fisheries Program

General

Fish and wildlife habitat will continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as a part of project level planning. Such evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project and the sensitivity of fish and wildlife habitat in the affected area. **Concepts of critical, crucial, and essential habitats (see Glossary) will be used as part of the sensitivity evaluation.** Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to assure compatibility of projects with management objectives for fish and wildlife habitat. Habitat improvement projects will be implemented where necessary to stabilize and/or improve unsatisfactory or declining wildlife habitat condition. Such projects will be identified through habitat management plans or coordinated resource management activity plans.

Seasonal Restrictions

Seasonal restrictions will continue to be applied where they are needed to mitigate the impacts of human activities on important seasonal wildlife habitat. The major types of seasonal wildlife habitat and the time periods which restrictions may be needed are shown in Table 2-2.

**TABLE 2-2
SEASONAL WILDLIFE RESTRICTIONS**

Habitat	Restricted Period
Elk and mule deer winter range	12/1-4/30
Elk and mule deer spring range (including calving and fawning)	4/15-6/30
Bighorn sheep winter range	12/1-4/30
Bighorn sheep spring range (including lambing)	4/15-6/30
Mountain goat winter range	12/1-4/30
Mountain goat spring range (including kidding)	5/1-6/30
Moose winter range	12/1-4/30
Raptor nest sites	dates vary by species
Grizzly bear spring and summer range	4/1-9/1
Grizzly bear denning habitat	10/1-4/30

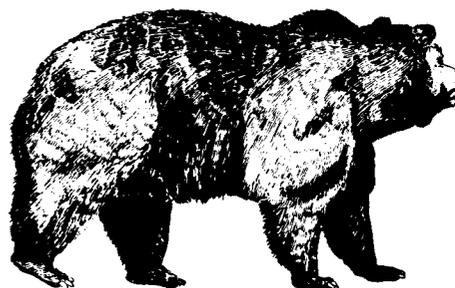
Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species Habitat

No activities will be permitted in habitat for threatened and endangered species that would jeopardize the continued existence of such species.

Whenever possible, management activities in habitat for threatened, endangered, or sensitive species will be designed to benefit those species through habitat improvement.

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be consulted prior to implementing projects that may affect habitat for threatened and endangered species. If a may affect situation is determined through the BLM biological assessment process then consultation with the USFWS will be initiated as per section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

To the extent practicable, management actions within occupied grizzly bear habitat will be consistent with the goals and objectives contained in the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan (USD), FWS 1982), and the guidelines developed through the Interagency Wildlife Monitoring Program for mineral exploration and development.



Terrestrial Wildlife Habitat

Sufficient forage and cover will be provided for wildlife on seasonal habitat. Forage and cover requirements will be incorporated into allotment management plans and will be specific to areas of primary wildlife use.

Range improvements generally will be designed to achieve both wildlife and range objectives. Existing fences may be modified and new fences will be built so as to allow wildlife passage. Water developments generally will not be established for livestock where significant conflicts over vegetation would result. Water will be provided in allotments (including rested pastures) during seasonal periods of need for wildlife.

Vegetative manipulation projects will be designed to minimize impact on wildlife habitat and to improve it whenever possible. **The MDFW&P will be consulted in advance on all vegetative manipulation projects, including timber harvest activities involving: the construction of new access into roadless elk summer/fall range; critical, crucial, or essential wildlife habitat; and sales of over 250,000 board feet.** Animal control programs will be coordinated with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and, in the case of aerial gunning requests, with the Montana Department of Livestock.

Management actions within floodplains and wetlands will include measures to preserve, protect, and if necessary, restore their natural functions (as required by Executive Orders 11988 and 11990). Management techniques will be used to minimize the degradation of stream banks and the loss of riparian vegetation. Bridges and culverts will be designed and installed to maintain adequate fish passage.

Riparian habitat needs will be taken into consideration in developing livestock grazing systems and pasture designs. Some of the techniques that can be used to lessen impacts are:

- changing class of stock from cow/calf pairs to herded sheep or yearlings;

- either eliminating hot season grazing or scheduling hot season grazing for only one year out of every three;

- locating salt away from riparian zones;

- laying out pasture fences so that each pasture has as much riparian habitat as possible;

- locating fences so that they do not confine or concentrate livestock near the riparian zone;

- developing alternative sources of water to lessen the grazing pressure on the riparian habitat; and

- as a last resort, excluding livestock completely from riparian habitat by protective fencing.

Where applicable, the elk management guidelines contained in the Montana Cooperative Elk-Logging Study (USDA, FS 1982) will be followed. These include:

- managing public vehicle access to maintain the habitat effectiveness of security cover and key seasonal habitat (such as winter range and calving/nursery areas) for deer and elk;

- maintaining adequate untreated peripheral zones around important moist-sites (i.e. wet-sedge meadows, springs, riparian zones);

- maintaining adequate thermal and security cover on deer and elk habitat, particularly

- within timber stands adjacent to primary winter foraging areas;

- ensuring that slash depth inside clear cuts does not exceed one and one-half feet; and

- generally discouraging thinning immediately adjacent to clear cuts;

Wildlife reintroductions and fish stocking proposals will be evaluated and recommendations will be made to the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, & Parks. BLM policy requires that a Habitat Management Plan (HMP) be prepared prior to any wildlife reintroduction.

Cadastral Survey Program

Cadastral surveys will continue to be conducted in support of resource management programs. Survey requirements and priorities will be determined on a yearly basis as a part of the annual work planning process.

Fire Program

Until the 1978 Normal Year Fire Plan is updated, the primary fire protection objective will continue to be the control, during the first burning period, of all wildfires on or threatening public land.

Modified suppression areas may be established when the Normal Year Fire Plan is reviewed, based on the consideration of the following criteria:

- values at risk;

- fire behavior;

- fire occurrence;

- beneficial fire effects, including but not limited to a reduction in fuel loading;

- fire suppression costs; and

- consistency with other agency plans and policies.

Prescribed burning will continue to be used in support of resource management objectives.

Road and Trail Construction and Maintenance Program

Road and trail construction and maintenance will continue to be conducted in support of resource management objectives. Construction and maintenance requirements and priorities will be determined on a yearly basis as a part of the annual work planning process.

Investment of public funds for road and trail construction generally will be permitted only on land identified for retention in public ownership. Excep-

tions may be allowed where investment costs can be recovered as a part of land disposal actions.

Specific road and trail construction standards will be determined based on consideration of the following criteria:

- resource management needs;
- user safety;
- impacts to environmental values, including but not limited to wildlife and fisheries habitat, soil stability, recreation, and scenery; and
- construction and maintenance costs.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED IN DETAIL

Introduction

Four alternatives are considered in detail in this chapter. Three of them—no action, environmental protection, and resource production—were developed to explore a reasonable range of issue resolution scenarios as required by CEQ and BLM planning regulations. The fourth alternative—the preferred alternative, or proposed RMP—incorporates portions of the no action, protection, and production alternatives, and generally represents a middle ground approach to issue resolution.

In order to highlight the BLM's preferred alternative for the Headwaters RMP, it is the first alternative discussed in this chapter and all subsequent chapters. It is followed by the no action, protection, and production alternatives in that order. No priority or preference is implied by the order of the latter three alternatives.

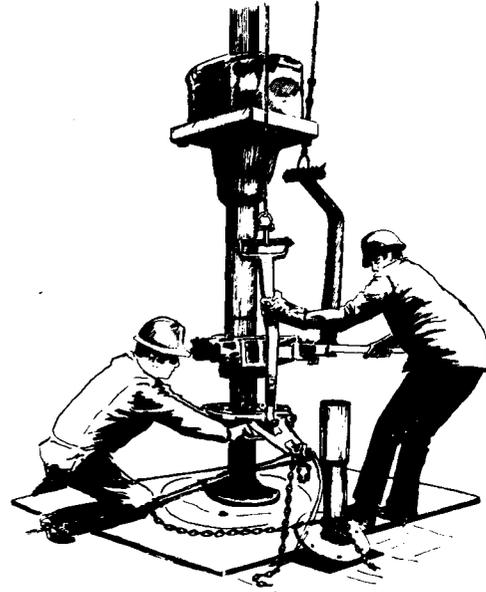
Alternative A: Preferred Alternative

Theme

The preferred alternative balances competing demands by providing for the production of needed goods and services, while protecting important and sensitive environmental values. The goal of this alternative is to change present management to the extent necessary to meet statutory requirements, policy commitments, and to resolve identified issues in a balanced, cost-effective manner.

Issue Resolution Guidelines

Issue 1: Oil and Gas Leasing and Development. Seasonal stipulations on oil and gas exploration and/or production will be required in bighorn sheep, elk, and mule deer winter/spring range and mountain goat kidding areas. No surface occu-



pancy will be permitted in key grizzly bear spring/summer use areas and within proposed outstanding natural areas. No leasing will be permitted within the core of areas identified for no surface occupancy, if reservoir drainage would not be feasible. Guidelines are displayed on the Oil and Gas Leasing Stipulations: Alternative A map, and are summarized in Table 2-3.

Issue 2: Grazing Allotment and Riparian Habitat Management. Reductions in authorized livestock use will be proposed for nineteen allotments, while increases will be proposed for seven allotments. Target levels of adjusted livestock use have been developed (see Appendix N) based on range condition ratings and the Soil Conservation Service's *Montana Grazing Guides* (USDA, SCS n.d.). These target livestock use levels may be adjusted in the future to reflect new resource information gathered by monitoring or other studies. All 1 allotments have been assigned a priority ranking so that future investments in range improvements, treatments, and monitoring will be directed to allotments with the greatest potential for improvement of wildlife, watershed, and vegetation conditions and livestock forage production (see Appendix E). Adjustments proposed under this alternative are summarized in Table 2-4. Estimated range improvement requirements are summarized in Table 2-5.

Issue 3: Wilderness Study Recommendations. All areas being studied for wilderness are being recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness management. Individual area boundaries are displayed on the alternative maps for Blind Horse Creek, Chute Mountain, Deep Creek/Battle Creek, Black Sage, and the Yellowstone River Island. Recommendations are summarized in Table 2-6.

2 — ALTERNATIVES

TABLE 2-3
SUMMARY OF OIL AND GAS LEASING AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES
 (in acres)¹
ROCKY MOUNTAIN FRONT ONLY

Allocation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Standard Stipulations	86,050	36,160	36,160	34,740	36,480
Special Stipulations	17,700	49,500	59,460	3,700	70,820
No Surface Occupancy	3,550	14,040	7,200	39,020	0
No Leasing	10,950	18,550	15,430	40,790	10,950

HEADWATERS RESOURCE AREA

Allocation	Current Status ²	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Standard Stipulations	450,154	272,449	272,449	271,324	272,703
Special Stipulations	163,333	339,208	347,103	302,903	356,107
No Surface Occupancy	23,550	22,950	17,528	42,751	11,821
No Leasing	12,918	20,898	18,425	38,527	14,874

¹ Acreage estimates for the Rocky Mountain Front include all lands with oil and gas rights reserved to the United States. Acreage estimates for the Headwaters Resource Area include only those lands with all minerals reserved to the United States.

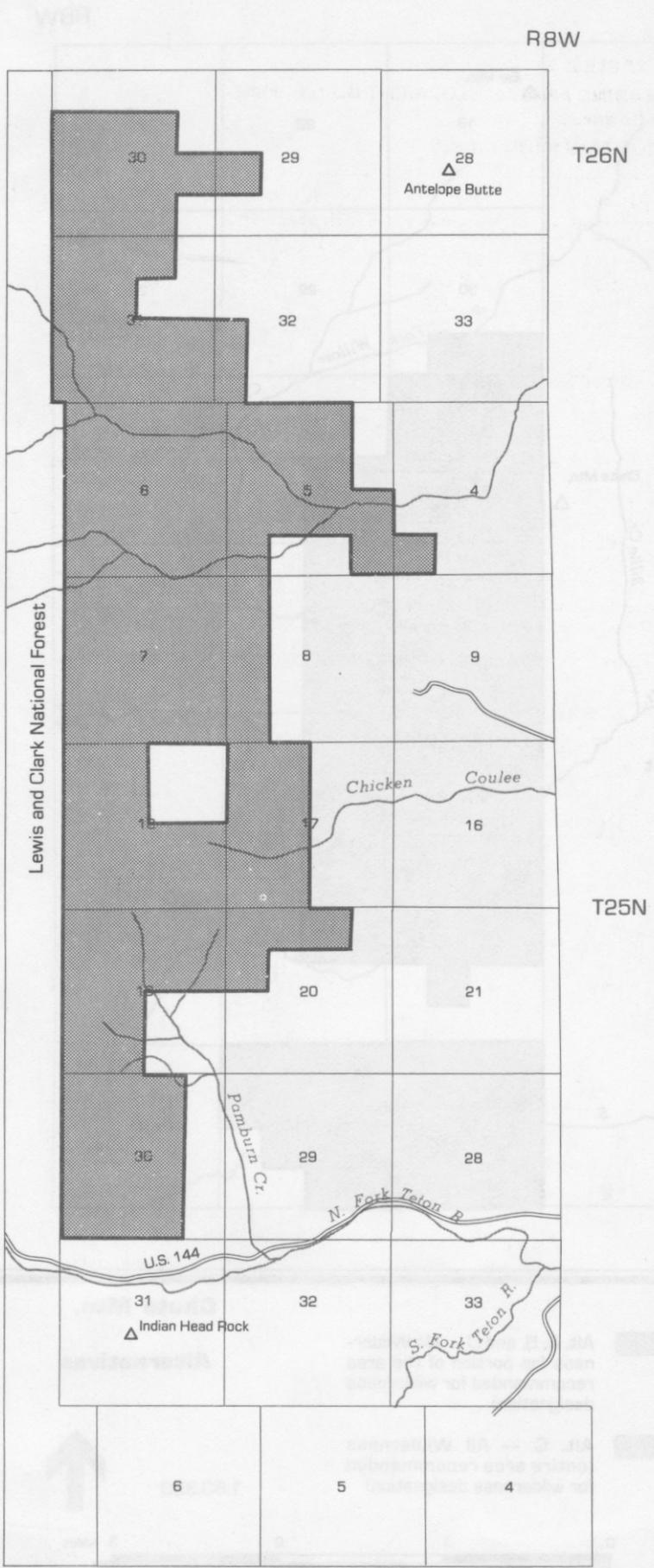
² Not shown are approximately 5,550 acres within the resource area which currently are unleased but available for lease.

TABLE 2-4
SUMMARY OF GRAZING ALLOTMENT AND RIPARIAN HABITAT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Allocation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Initial Livestock Forage Target (AUMs)	31,501	29,297	31,501	27,036	33,954
Net Change From Current Use (AUMs)	0	-2,204	0	-4,465	+2,453
Downward Adjustments (allotments)	0	19	0	34	9
Upward Adjustments (allotments)	0	7	0	0	34
Satisfactory Riparian Habitat Condition (miles)	104	130	123	135.5	105

TABLE 2-5
SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Type of Treatment	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Acres to be Reseeded	2,560	2,560	440	3,140
Acres to be Burned	300	300	240	4,640
Miles of Fence to be Built (Removed or Altered)	62.2	62.2	75.9 (13)	45.3
Number of Springs to be Developed	21	21	0	26
Miles of Pipeline to be Built	23.5	23.5	0	23.5
Number of Stock Tanks to be Installed	20	20	0	20
Acres of Weeds to be Controlled	467.5	467.5	0	467.5
Number of Cattleguards to be Installed	11	11	10	8
Number of Other Water Developments to be Built	5	5	0	5
Total Initial Cost For All Improvements	\$449,331	\$449,331	\$247,659	\$442,020
25 Year Maintenance and Replacement Cost	\$637,997	\$637,997	\$322,907	\$746,913



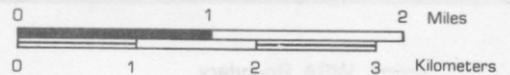
**Blind Horse Cr.
Alternatives**



— WSA Boundary

 Alt. A, B, and D — No Wilderness (no portion of the area recommended for wilderness designation)

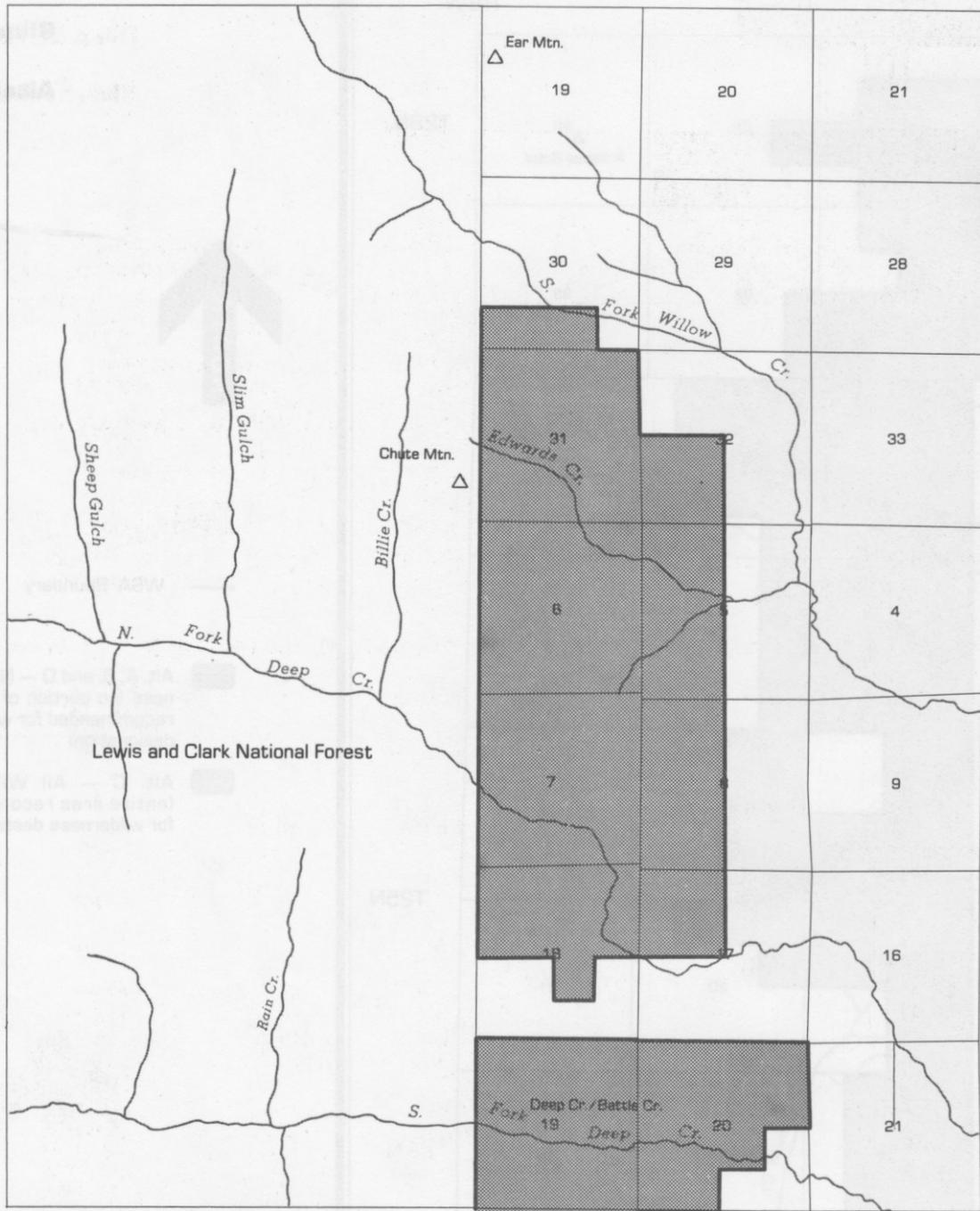
 Alt. C — All Wilderness (entire area recommended for wilderness designation)



1:63,360

T24N

R8W



T23N

— WSA Boundary

 Alt. A, B, and D — No Wilderness (no portion of the area recommended for wilderness designation)

 Alt. C — All Wilderness (entire area recommended for wilderness designation)

Chute Mtn.

Alternatives

1:63,360

