

# Governor's Roadless Commission



Idaho  
Roadless Rule

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## Idaho Roadless Commission Meeting

### NOTES

October 27, 2022  
Virtual and In Person Meeting

#### Video Teleconferencing Information:

**WebEx meeting link:**

<https://idahogov.webex.com/idahogov/j.php?MTID=m44e0897621d046d60f840a08b00f3ab8>

**Phone:** 415-655-0001

**Meeting number (access code):** 2458 776 1048

**Meeting password:** PvsPP94Cu2K

**In Person Address:**

**Location:** Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game, Owyhee Conf. Room, 600 S. Walnut Street, Boise, ID 83712

### Introductions:

**Commission Members present:** Alan Prouty, Bob Cope, Bill Barquin, Bill Higgins, Brad Gilbert, Dale Harris, Dan Dinning, Elt Hasbrouck, Jim Caswell, Jonathan Oppenheimer, Michael Gibson, Pete Stegner

**Forest Service:** Amy Marshall, Ted McArthur, Chris Moyer, Zach Shull, Julie Schaefer

**Idaho State:** Jace Hogg, Darren Parker

**Others:.....**

## SECTION I: Welcome and Business Meeting – October 27

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*Call to Order – 8:30 – 8:45 MDT*

### Welcome and Introductions:

- Welcome/Introductions.....Jim Caswell

- Status of Appointments.....Jim Caswell/Michael Gibson
  - No updates

**Preliminary Action Items**

**8:45 - 9:45 MDT**

**Review/Approve 5/24/2021 notes.....Michael Gibson**

- Add list of attendants to be more specific.
  - Motion. Seconded. Moved

**Update Status Report on Pilot Project.....Joe Hinson/Michael Gibson/Jim Caswell**

- Joe Hinson/McCall Ranger District: communities of high priority and fire hazards. (1st map)
  - Questions: Julie: Did a query on how many IRA acres are within the 1.5 mile WUI buffer?  
Jim: Very site specific, area of impact segregated between a mile and half a mile. Julie: Does this county have a CWPP? Jim: Yes.
  - Jonathan: Is there any primitive areas or back country rec? Need to look at different designations?
  - Brad: FS, does McCall district have plans of treating fuels? Joe: Have looked at what has been treated but not what is proposed. Elt: 3200 acres proposed for this fall? Joe: Important to update this information. Jennifer B: are working with communities, two fires that have provided opportunities. Forest wide prescribed fire plans.
  - Jim C: Southern piece in priority area? Jennifer: Majority in the NE is not but yes to southern. Linda: developing projects to address fuels in near McCall but off to the northwest towards New Meadows.
  - Have any roadless rules created any issues? No from both Jennifer and Linda.
  - Next challenge: Work with Joe to figure out how we can get all the data into a platform to share with the commission, subcommittees, etc.
- Joe Hinson/Sawtooth National Rec Area (2nd Map)
  - New wilderness areas superimposed with roadless areas.
  - Do we want to address this area of wildland rec that did not get recognized. Redraw it? Or leave it and make note of it? Jonathan: If it's appropriate to look at, is there a need to designate changes relevant to themes that don't line up/ clean up boundaries?
  - Action: Subcommittee: Jonathan, Bill, Brad, Peter.

Higgins motioned.... Seconded from Jonathan. Moved.

**Update regarding Chief's Review and R4 Prescribed Fire EA's.....USFS DRF**

- Ted: Chief of FS put a 90 day pause on prescribed burns due to unfortunate past circumstances. Mechanical treatment isn't the ultimate tool. How to take advantage of burn scars?
- Bill: Precision and effectiveness of tools used on roadless boundaries. Opposed to agency direction of prescribed fire.
- Questions: Jim: Regions pursuing large EA's?

**Update on Crow Creek Litigation/Settlement (C-T NF)**.....USFS Ted McArthur

- In the process of doing a supplemental draft. Known status today isn't known.
- Jim: Appendix Q of EIS, forest plan special areas are broader in application than Wild and Scenic, depending on forests. Caribou plan, corridor that follows the highway and six roadless areas, might fit one of the criteria in the forest plan that, would allow for more flexibility for the pipeline. Forest plan special areas (might not be depicted on the map)?

**9:45 – 10:15 MDT**

**Update on Project Spreadsheet (1 page)** .....Amy Marshall (30 Min.)

- Updated/Attached copy handed out.
- Jim: What specific updates have been made? Amy: Few decisions signed over the summer, actual numbers from decisions at the very bottom. Anything in peach/red is what has been updated.
- Project summary: comparison of the last five years numbers.
- Updates based on when decisions come through.

**Completed Project Updates:** ..... USFS (30 min.)

Boise NF: Lowman WUI Prescribed Burn (any updates with BIL)

- Traci: 1600 acres in roadless, not been able to get work done in there. Still moving forward, priority areas are the areas outside of roadless. Infrastructure law: not receiving support or part of.
- Jonathan: Infrastructure law? Traci: In relation, it was not included in the priority landscape, originally was but then was removed.

Salmon-Challis NF: South 21 Fuels Reduction Project

- Heath: Commercial sales: volume?
- Noncommercial: not many updates, small amount of thinning.

Regular Agenda – Action Items – 10:30 – 12:00 MDT

PROJECT UPDATES and NEW PROJECTS

- 1. [Non-Timber, Roads, or Minerals Small Projects](#) – Amy Marshall – Includes all Forests
- 2. [Idaho Panhandle National Forest](#) – Jori Johnson, Environmental Coordinator
  - Westside Restoration.....Implementation Update
  - Chloride Gold.....No Updates
- 3. [Payette National Forest](#) – Kara Kirkpatrick, Environmental Coordinator
  - Stibnite Gold EIS (very brief update) .....Update/Status
  - Rapid River Travel Management.....Update/Status
  - East Fork South Fork RAMP.....Update/Status
  - Brundage Mountain MDP Screening.....No Updates

Lunch Break – 12:00 – 12:30 PM MDT

Public Comment – 12:30 PM PDT, 1:30 PM MDT

- 4. [Caribou-Targhee National Forest](#) – Ashly Kula, NEPA Planner
  - East Palisades Hazardous Fuels Reduction... ..Implementation Status
  - Caribou Prescribed Fire Restoration.....Implementation Status
  - Diamond Creek Forest Management.....Initial Briefing
- 5. [Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest](#) – Zoanne Anderson, Environmental Coordinator
  - Forest Plan Revision .....Update/Status
  - Race Cow .....Update/Status
  - Dead Laundry.....Update/Status
  - Lost Toboggan Landscape Prescribed Burn.....Update/Status
  - Dixie Comstock.....USFS Deferred due to Dixie Fire
- 6. [Salmon-Challis National Forest](#) – Jeff Huntteman, NEPA Planner
  - Sheep Creek Vegetation Improvement.....Implementation Update
  - Forest Plan Revision.....Update/Status
  - Bayhorse V2.....Update/Status
  - S-C Fuels Reduction and Restoration.....Update/Status
  - Big A Vegetation.....Initial Briefing
- 7. [Boise National Forest](#) – Teresa Pearson-Ramirez, Forest Planner
  - Southwest Idaho Resilient Landscape .....No Updates
  - Tamarack Resort Special Use Permit.....No Updates

**Kootenai National Forest** – No Projects

**Sawtooth National Forest** – No Projects (except non-timber, roads, and minerals project)

Feedback on today’s meeting and discussion of future meetings

Adjourn – 5:30 MDT, 4:30 PDT

## Section II: Project Updates and New Projects

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### Non-Timber, Roads or Minerals Small Projects

The following Table provides a summary of new small projects that have ***no tree cutting, road construction/reconstruction, or mineral activities***. Projects that include any of these activities are addressed individually below the table.

#### Discussion

- Amy Marshall presented.
  - **Eagle Creek Trail Maintenance (Caribou-Targhee NF)** - No questions
  - **Midland Trail and Trailhead (Caribou-Targhee NF)** - No questions
  - **Tincup Mountain Trailhead (Caribou-Targhee NF)** - No questions
  - **Paris Spring Restoration (Caribou-Targhee NF)** -
    - Q: Was the decision made? A: Not sure, can follow up with Caribou-Targhee.
    - A: Signed August 3rd.
  - **Blackpine Cobalt-Copper (Salmon-Challis NF)** -
    - Q: Which County/Counties? A: Lemhi
    - Q: Something that will become bigger? A: Not sure, would have to follow up.
  - **Castle Creek Pipeline (Salmon-Challis NF)** - No questions
  - **Swan Basin Water Development and Fence (Salmon-Challis NF)** - No questions
  - **Pioneer Cabin Trailhead (Sawtooth NF)** -
    - Q: Parking lot expansion primitive or restoration? Does this stay in small projects or kicked into main packet?
    - If it is only parking inside roadless area, ok to proceed?
    - Jonathan: from rules perspective its alright but from NEPA perspective there might be some contingencies.
    - Jim: Within the confines of the existing tear-drop shaped parking, can you do anything within the inside of the loop? Zach: Will take question to project lead.

## Region 1 and 4 (Idaho portion) Inventoried Roadless Area Briefing Template for Projects that DO NOT INCLUDE Timber, Road, or Mineral Activities:

**National Forest:** Caribou-Targhee National Forest

**Project Name:** Eagle Creek Trail Maintenance

**IRA Name and Theme:** Caribou City Roadless Area, Forest Plan Special Area theme

**Type of Activity:** Improve watershed and trail conditions by relocating 0.5 miles of NFS Trail 451 (Midland Trail) out of the riparian and flood zone and eliminate up to 8 stream crossings. Close and rehabilitate the hydrologically impaired trail and remove non-functioning culverts. Install two bottomless arch culverts on relocated trail-stream crossings.

**Approximate Acres of Activity within IRA:** Relocate approximately 0.5 miles of trail relocation; remove non-functioning culverts and install two bottomless arch culverts.

**NEPA type (CE, EA, EIS) and expected Decision Date:** CE, Decision expected November 2022

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**National Forest:** Caribou-Targhee National Forest

**Project Name:** Midland Trail and Trailhead Project (NFS Trail 312)

**IRA Name and Theme:** Worm Creek Roadless Area, Backcountry Restoration theme

**Type of Activity:** Relocate a portion of the Midland Trail (NFS Trail 312) and rehabilitate the old trail where it is eroding and causing sedimentation in the stream.

**Proposed activities located outside the Roadless Area for this project:** Move the existing parking area and turn around, and create a new trailhead parking area; remove old bridge and install a new USFS approved and engineered bridge appropriate for designated use (motorcycle and equestrian) at the new trailhead parking area; from the new trailhead and bridge reroute a section of the NFS Trail 312; redesignate the “orphaned” motorized Trail 312 to non-motorized Trail 370 (the trail currently joins up with this non-motorized trail within 0.25 miles of the trailhead).

**Approximate Acres of Activity within IRA:** 0.5 miles of trail relocation and rehabilitation.

**NEPA type and expected Decision Date:** CE; Decision expected Nov 2022.

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**National Forest:** Caribou-Targhee National Forest

**Project Name:** Tincup Mountain Trailhead

**IRA Name and Theme:** Caribou City Roadless Area, Forest Plan Special Area theme

**Type of Activity:** Gravel widen an existing non-system road which exits HWY34, create a turnaround area large enough for trucks and trailers, and gravel the parking area. The roadbed will be widened to the West and graveled which will encourage parallel parking leaving the turnaround area open. The Tincup area is a popular recreation area for anglers, hunters, and tourists enroute to Jackson Hole and Yellowstone National Park. Currently, recreationalists utilize FS Road 258, which conflicts with the utilization of range allotments as this road provides access to large corrals utilized by range permittees. This parking area should also alleviate recreationalists utilizing the Pinebar campground as a parking area for day activities.

**Approximate Acres of Activity within IRA:** <1 acre; the project is located between Highway 30 and the Caribou City Roadless Area and just within the Roadless area.

**NEPA type (CE, EA, EIS) and expected Decision Date:** CE; Decision expected Oct/Nov 2022.

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**National Forest/District:** Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Montpelier Ranger District

**Project Name:** Paris Spring Restoration Project

**IRA Name and Theme:** Paris Peak Roadless Area, Backcountry/Restoration theme.

**Type of Activity:** The project involves removing a diversion and intake structure from Paris Creek near Paris Spring and decommissioning a 0.78-mile canal segment on NFS lands. In some areas the canal serves as a boundary for the roadless area. There is also a proposal to develop a new stock water source which would involve the drilling of a well and installation of a solar pump with pipeline being run and buried along an existing ATV trail to a 5,000 gallon tank, three 1,000 gallon troughs and a 30 ft x 30 ft overflow pond. Disturbance will be minimized by using motorized Trail 365 for the pipeline path and for equipment access to the ridgeline. All of the water source development would take place in the Paris Peak Roadless area.

**Approximate Acres of Activity within IRA:** The buried stock water pipeline will be approximately 1200 meters long. The tank, troughs, and overflow pond will be located on less than 1 acre.

**NEPA type (CE, EA, EIS) and expected Decision Date:** CE; Decision expected August 3, 2022.

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**National Forest/District:** Salmon-Cobalt Ranger District/Salmon-Challis National Forest

**Project Name:** Blackpine Cobalt-Copper Project

**IRA Name and Theme:** South Deep Creek , Backcountry/Restoration theme.

**Type of Activity:** The purpose of this action is to assess a Plan of Operations (Plan) submitted in compliance with Forest Service mineral regulations at 36 CFR 228A.

In accordance with laws governing locatable minerals activities on National Forest System lands (the 1872 General Mining Law (as amended), the Organic Administration Act of 1897, the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970, et al.), the public has a statutory right to conduct locatable mineral exploration and development activities, provided such activities are reasonably incident to mining and comply with all other Federal laws and regulations. The Forest Service role, as directed by Federal Regulations (36 CFR 288A), is to ensure that mining activities minimize adverse environmental effects to surface resources and comply with all applicable environmental laws. The Forest Service is authorized to minimize adverse effects by regulating the functions, work, and activities connected with the Operator's Plan, as authorized by United States Mining Laws (30 U.S.C 21-54). Congress has not given the Forest Service authority to unreasonably prohibit reasonably necessary activities under the 1872 General Mining Law that are otherwise lawful.

The need to take this action is to comply with the legal requirement to respond to the Operator's Plan (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 228.4)

**Approximate Acres of Activity within IRA:** Project area is approximately 17 air miles southwest of Salmon, Idaho, and 10 air miles southeast of Cobalt within unpatented lode mining claims located in the Middle Panther Creek watershed. The project area has an elevation ranging from around 6,400 feet to 7,700 feet with the exploration season expected to be March – November. Vegetation consists of sage and grasses covering the lower mountain slopes and valleys with open-spaced lodgepole pine, Douglas fir, Englemann spruce, juniper and deciduous tree cover on the higher mountain slopes and ridges. A series of creeks run through the project area and down to Panther Creek.

**NEPA type (CE, EA, EIS) and expected Decision Date:** CE; Analysis session in March 2023

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**National Forest/District:** Salmon-Challis, Leadore RD

**Project Name:** Swan Basin Water Development and Fence Project

**IRA Name and Theme:** Lemhi Range, Improve livestock distribution on Swan Basin allotment with addition of water development and relocation of fence.

**Type of Activity:** The purpose of the proposed project is to improve livestock distribution with the construction of an off-site water source and modification of existing fences, and to protect riparian

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areas with the expansion of an enclosure fence. The need for the project is to reduce grazing use on Timber Creek and an isolated spring, which will aid in the attainment of meeting annual use indicators and requirements established in the Biological Opinion.

The Leadore RD proposes to develop one new water development in an unnamed tributary of Big Timber Creek. The water development would consist of a spring box, approximately 100 meters of pipeline, a trough, and overflow pipe. Approximately 850 meters of an existing pasture fence between the Ted Whittaker pasture and the Lower Timber Creek pasture would be reconstructed and moved approximately 30 meters to the west so that the water source, which is currently within the Ted Whittaker pasture, would instead be encompassed within the Lower Timber Creek pasture. An existing pasture fence (550 meters long) between the Ted Whittaker pasture and the Chandler Springs pasture would be reconstructed and relocated approximately 120 meters to the south. This would result in approximately five acres of riparian habitat associated with the unnamed tributary to Timber Creek being more accessible to livestock grazing. To help offset this, an existing one-acre riparian enclosure fence would be expanded to two acres.

**Approximate Acres of Activity within IRA:** This project is proposed in Lemhi County, approximately nine miles south of the town of Leadore. The area is known as “Swan Basin” and is one mile west of Timber Creek. The IRA is the Lemhi Range.

**NEPA type (CE, EA, EIS) and expected Decision Date:** Scoping and analysis would occur fall and winter of 2022/2023. A decision and implementation would take place in 2023.

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**National Forest/District:** Sawtooth NF, Ketchum Ranger District

**Project Name:** Pioneer Cabin Trailhead

**IRA Name and Theme:** Pioneer Mountains #921, Primitive.

**Type of Activity:** The purpose of this proposed project is to take a proactive approach in reducing resource damages occurring near/at an existing recreation trailhead as a result from sustained increase in visitor use on the Ketchum Ranger District. The Pioneer Cabin Trailhead at the end of Corral Creek Road is one of the most popular trails for visitors and locals due to its proximity to the towns of Sun Valley and Ketchum. The existing trailhead is designed to accommodate 14- 16 vehicles and two trailers. However often passenger vehicles are parked along the road and in the trailer spot increasing the parking capacity to 25-30 vehicles at one time.

This project proposes expanding the Pioneer Cabin Tailhead gravel parking area into the IRA to prevent resource damages occurring from passenger vehicles parking along the existing road. A second gravel parking loop would be constructed immediately to the north of the existing lot which will accommodate about 15 vehicles. We do not believe this is adding additional vehicles to the site, rather relocating them

from the dispersed pull-offs that have been created over time. Expanding parking in the greater area is limited due to the proximity of Corral Creek to the immediate east and topographic limitations to the west of the road.

This project proposed to construct 350' of parking area within a roughly 0.27 acres footprint that include the road and parking area.

**Approximate Acres of Activity within IRA:** The proposed project area is located in the Pioneer Mountains #921 IRA. The site is 9 miles from downtown Ketchum, located at the terminus of Corral Creek Road. Immediately adjacent to the IRA boundary is a popular, higher use parking area known as Pioneer Cabin Trailhead. Coordinates: 43.739619, -114.232171

**NEPA type (CE, EA, EIS) and expected Decision Date:** Comment Period: September 21<sup>st</sup> – October 21<sup>st</sup> 2022. CE Scoping and Analysis: Fall 2022 - Summer 2023 (dependent on archeology/heritage review). CE DM: Winter 2022 - Summer Fall 2023 (dependent on archeology/heritage review).

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***Oppenheimer motioned to see Pioneer Cabin Trailhead Project back. Barquin Seconded. Moved.***

**Public Comment: None**

## Individual Projects by Forest:

Following are the generally larger, individual projects. These projects may or may not require the use of an exception under the Idaho Roadless Rule.

### Idaho Panhandle National Forest

<b>Project:</b> Westside Restoration Project		
<b>District:</b> Bonners Ferry Ranger District	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Selkirk (#125), Kootenai Peak (#126) and White Mountain (#127)	
<b>Status:</b> Scoping: December 20, 2019, to January 31, 2020 Draft EA for public comment: December 4, 2020, to January 4, 2021 Draft Decision/FONSI (Objection Period): June 11 to July 26, 2021 Final Decision/FONSI: signed October 28, 2021. <b>Implementation: Fall 2022</b>	<b>Table Location:</b> 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Jennifer Anderson jennifer.anderson3@usda.gov 208-610-8800
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> Yes           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 28 miles temporary road construction on 28 different segments; and road reconstruction expected.</li> <li>○ Temporary road miles increased due to addition of non-system roads.</li> <li>○ Weed spraying.</li> <li>○ Aquatics Organisms Passage (AOP).</li> <li>○ Numerous recreation proposals are being considered, including: New non-motorized trails, trail re-routes, relocation of trailheads, parking areas for both motorized and non-motorized recreation, a warming hut for winter recreation, and historic lookout cabin stabilization.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> Yes           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 11,585 acres total veg treatments.</li> <li>○ 7,317 acres commercial timber harvest w/fuels reduction.</li> <li>○ 2,538 acres natural fuels burning (without commercial tree removal).</li> <li>○ 1,730 acres precommercial thinning (PCT) and/or white pine pruning.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> NA</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes: – Exception:</b>	<b>No</b> _____
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>		

Jonathan: No litigation on Westside?

Jim: Is there a need to see Westside again? A: Every Commissioner should participate in the spring Westside project field review.

**Action Requested:** None.

**Project:** Chloride Gold

**District:** Sandpoint Ranger District

**Roadless Area:** Packsaddle (#155), Magee (#132)

**Status:** Pre-Scoping, (No Updates).

**Table Location:**

**Project Lead:**

Doug Nishek  
(208) 267-6765

**Link to Project Briefing Paper:**

**Project Summary:**

- **Road Construction/Reconstruction:** No.
  - No road building is proposed within this IRA.
  - Motorized trails would be rerouted or reconstructed in this IRA to address erosion issues.
- **Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:** No.
  - Within this IRA (all Backcountry/Restoration), approximately 3,000 acres have been identified for natural fuel burns (no commercial tree cutting/removal).
  - Activities to restore whitebark pine (WBP) are being considered near Packsaddle peak with the packsaddle mountain IRA. Activities would include some hand slashing of small trees (e.g., subalpine fir or Engelmann spruce) from around the existing WBP, pulling the slash away from the WBP, and performing a low to mixed intensity under burn throughout the area. After those activities, some hand planting of rust resistant WBP would occur in the area based on funding.
- **Discretionary Minerals:** NA
- **Modification or Correction:** No

**Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?**

**Yes: – Exception:**

**No** \_\_\_\_\_

**Commission Discussion:**

No questions.

**Action Requested:** None.

**Prouty motioned to only bring Chloride Gold back. Oppenheimer Second. Moved.**

## Payette National Forest

<b>Project:</b> Stibnite Gold		
<b>District:</b> Payette NF Krassel RD and Boise NF Cascade RD	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Burnt Log, Black Lake, Meadow Creek, Caton Lake, Horse Heaven, Reeves Creek	
<b>Status:</b> Final review of supplemental draft environmental impact statement submitted to WO for approval to publish Notice of Availability. Tentatively publishing the end of October.	<b>Table Location:</b> Table 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Kevin Knesek kevin.s.knesek@usda.gov
		Rick Rymerson Richard.Rymerson@usda.gov
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Forest Service proposes to authorize a Plan for mining operations and temporary supporting infrastructure on NFS lands, portions of which could impact IRAs for a period of approximately 20 years</li> <li>▪ Estimated publication of supplemental draft environmental impact statement October/November 2022 for a comment period; estimated publication of final environmental impact statement and draft record of decision for an objection period, winter 2022/2023; estimated final record of decision summer 2023.</li> </ul> <p>Therefore, Perpetua plans to develop other temporary mine access/public by-pass routes. Until the current public access route can be relocated through the mine operations area, the initial access/by-pass is referred to as the “Burntlog Route”. This route would begin near Landmark, approximately 32 road miles southeast of the mine site (and 26 miles south of Yellow Pine) on the Boise National Forest.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Development would include re-aligning portions of the Burntlog Road, constructing new connecting road, re-constructing portions of the “Old Thunder Mountain Road” and Meadow Creek Lookout Road on the wilderness boundary and constructing a new road down from the wilderness boundary to the planned main mine gate near the head of the East Fork South Fork Salmon River. Approximately 14 miles of the planned route could be within IRAs (Backcountry/Restoration). Mine reclamation would include decommissioning new segments of the Burntlog route; however, portions of the road within the Black Lake and Meadow Creek IRAs may not be fully recontoured.</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes: – Exception:</b>	<b>No</b>
Commission Discussion:		
<i>Jim: Any major changes? Brian: Substantial changes from what was presented back in 2016.</i>		

*Jonathan: Burn log route still considered temporary road? Brian: Part of the process with ESDIS, conversation about whether that road is temporary or open for public use, details will come out in final ESDIS.*

*Jonathan: Recognize that the roadless rule does provide for exceptions but have yet to hear about any resolution to questions posed. Jonathan: Reasonable versus preferred access?*

*Elt: Has anything new been found? Brian: Operations for exploration but not full mining operations, just scoping potential.*

**Action Requested:** None

**Project:** Rapid River Travel Management

<b>District:</b> Payette National Forest/New Meadows Ranger District	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Rapid River	
<b>Status:</b> Under analysis; draft Decision Notice and FONSI legal notice of opportunity to object published 6/23/2022. Objection response letters sent September 2022.	<b>Table Location:</b> Table 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Dana Harris dana.harris@usda.gov
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>

**Project Summary:**

- Non-motorized use alternative— This alternative would designate 25.7 miles of trail as open to foot and horse traffic only. It would essentially be an administrative change, as it would be the same trail use designations as the existing condition. No activities other than trail use designation are included under this alternative.
- Timeline: Scoping (completed): August 2020. EA comment period (completed): March 2021. Objection period: Completed August 2022. Decision: Fall 2022
- Decision in the next couple of months

<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes - Exception:</b>	<b>No</b> _____
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**Commission Discussion:**

*Jim: What kind of objections, how many? Kara: Received seven and three were supported.*

*Kara: Don't want the corridor closed, objection review and found that there was need for mapping to be correct.*

*Jonathan: Were any objections from organizations or from individuals? Kara: Adams*

County and the rest were individuals.

**Action Requested:**

**Project:** East Fork South Fork RAMP

**District:** Payette NF, Krassel RD      **Roadless Area:** Caton Lake, Horse Heaven, Sugar Mountain, Meadow Creek, Secesh

**Status:** Analysis by Interdisciplinary Team began in earnest in February 2022. Environmental analysis being written presently and is anticipated for publishing in November 2022.

**Table Location:** Table 2

**Project Lead:**  
Joshua Simpson  
joshua.simpson@usda.gov

**Link to Project Briefing Paper:**

Project Summary:

The Forest is considering a range actions relating to motorized travel management and watershed rehabilitation within the East Fork of the South Fork Salmon River.

- **Motorized access actions may include:**
  - Determine the MRS needed for administrative, public, and private access under Subpart A of 36 Code of Federal Regulations 212 (36 CFR 212), and if necessary, revise the travel management plan for routes open to public motorized travel under Subpart B.
  - Designate the Quartz Creek Road/Motorized trail #067 as a system road to the Quartz Creek Bridge, then as a new motorized trail open to all vehicles that incorporates 3 miles of mining roads up to the Red Mountain mining area.
  - Designate approximately 1 miles of new motorized trail in the Wilson Mine area near Profile Summit.
  - Designate approximately 4.5 miles of new motorized trail open to all vehicles in the Horse Heaven area connecting with the existing Boise National Forest trail access (Figure 4).
  - Designate approximately 1 mile of system road in the Thunder Mtn. Area to provide access to the Marble Creek and Lookout Mtn Trailheads (Figure 3).
  - Designate approximately 2 miles of new motorized trail open to all vehicles in the Thunder Mtn. Area (Figure 3).
  - Manage access to and location of dispersed camping opportunities within the Project Area to minimize impacts to riparian, watershed, and fisheries resources.
  - Designate the Missouri Creek road as ML2 from the Warren Profile Gap Road to the trailhead to incorporate the loop road.
- **Watershed improvement actions may include:**
  - Restoration treatments would be considered on approximately 70 miles of mining roads which were abandoned during the last 50 or so years across the project area. Numerous roads were built to provide access to various mining areas including Red Mountain in the 60's through the 90's; Dewey Mine and Thunder Mtn. Mining area

as recently as the late 90's and early 2000's. Some areas have seen restoration activities already but may be incomplete and offer more restoration opportunities. (Figures 1, 2, and 3). Some of these routes have been accessible to motorized uses, but not officially on Travel Management Maps as designated routes. Additionally, many of these routes have been impassable or inaccessible to motorized travel for decades due to large water bars, landslides, and re-growth of trees and other vegetation. Some of the roadbeds have stabilized naturally over time or were treated by the Forest Service or mining entities to reduce erosion, but other roadbeds continue to impair riparian function. Depending on the need for restoration/rehabilitation (e.g., risk of erosion, riparian, and wildlife impacts) and ability to access with heavy equipment, treatments could include removing culverts, planting trees and shrubs, de-compaction, and re-contouring.

Replace or repair identified culverts on existing county or FS system routes.

No updates: trying to get EA published. Timeline push.

<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes – Exception:</b> 294.24(c)(1)(vii)	<b>No</b>
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>		
<i>Jim: Is November still correct for the EA. Dave: Would be optimistic at this point.</i>		
<i>Jonathan: Trails open to full size vehicles, only one figure present. Dave: Will be provided once EA is finalized.</i>		
<b>Action Requested:</b> None.		

<b>Project:</b> Brundage Mountain MDP Screening		
<b>District:</b> Payette National Forest, McCall Ranger District	<b>Roadless Area:</b> French Creek	
<b>Status:</b> We have received a draft of the MDP and are reviewing it. Once a MDP is "accepted", Brundage can propose projects for review under NEPA.	<b>Table Location:</b> Table 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Jennifer Blake Jennifer.b.blake@usda.gov
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> The MDP describes constructing trails (less than 50" in width) and routes over 50" in width "managed as trails" in to facilitate implementation of other portions of this project, such as chairlift installation, timber removal, etc. Clarity on routes over 50" in width managed as trails is likely needed.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> Yes; exact details are yet to be determined but it is</li> </ul>		



likely that mixed timber types and both commercial and non-commercial timber would be removed to facilitate construction of ski lifts and ski trails within the IRA, incidental to non-prohibited activities.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes – Exception:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>		
No resubmission of plan for approval.		
<b>Action Requested:</b> None.		

*Barquin motioned to bring Stibnite Gold, Rapid River, East Fork South Fork RAMP, and Brundage Mountain Resort MDP back. Dinning Second. Moved.*

## Caribou-Targhee National Forest

<b>Project:</b> East Palisades Hazardous Fuels Reduction		
<b>District:</b> Palisades	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Palisades	
<b>Status:</b> The Final Environmental Assessment and Draft Decision Notice/FONSI for the project was finalized and sent out to the public on September 14, 2022, initiating the 30-day objection period. The objection period ends October 13, 2022. We will provide an update and status of objections to the Roadless Commission at the meeting October 27, 2022. Memo February 2023.	<b>Table Location:</b>	<b>Project Lead:</b> Deb Flowers 208-354-6630
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> <i>Backcountry/Restoration:</i></li> </ul>		

Temporary road construction is proposed within the community protection zone (See Appendix A for delineation process of the community protection zone.) and designed to protect values at risk and to restore the characteristics of ecosystem composition, structure and processes.

Potential construction of new temporary roads may be necessary for the commercial and non-commercial sale of timber. Temporary road construction will be dependent upon the access allowed by private landowners. Any temporary roads constructed will be decommissioned after use. Total proposed length of temporary road construction is 3 miles due to limited access.

- **Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:**

Treatments are proposed within the community protection zone and designed to protect values at risk and to restore the characteristics of ecosystem composition, structure and processes and maintain forest resiliency in an area where allowing natural fire on the landscape is limited due to proximity of values at risk.

*Backcountry/Restoration:*

**Table 2. Proposed Mechanical Treatments in Backcountry Restoration**

<b>Backcountry/Restoration</b>	
Prescribed Fire Prep (Boundary 1, 2, & 4)	58 Acres
Unit 2	38 Acres
Unit 3	226 Acres
<b>Total</b>	<b>322 Acres</b>

*Wild Land Recreation:*

Prescribed fire operations will require some construction of fireline for containment (Up to 10 miles). Construction of fireline is incidental to the prescribed fire treatment. Fireline construction may include a 1.5' – 2' wide handline scrape to mineral soil and sawline from 12' to 100' wide dependent upon vegetation and terrain in proximity to containment lines. Any control lines deemed necessary will be rehabbed. Mangers will limit the amount of fireline by utilizing natural breaks and vegetation transitions to aid in fire containment.

**Table 3. Cutting Incidental to Prescribed Fire Treatments in Wild Land Recreation Theme**

<b>Wild Land Recreation</b>	
Prescribed Fire Prep	23 Acres
<b>Total</b>	<b>23 Acres</b>

- **Discretionary Minerals:** No
- **Modification or Correction:** No

**Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?**

**Yes** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Exception:**

**No** \_\_\_\_\_

**Commission Discussion:**

*Ashuly: One objection. NEC, AWR filed the objection. Regarding the collaboration requirements and*

there was no public participation, management areas and what was allowed, migratory bird treaty act discussion in the wildlife report. Roadless rule designation.

No questions.

**Action Requested:**

**Project:** Caribou Prescribed Fire Restoration Project

**District:** Montpelier, Soda Springs, & Westside Ranger Districts

**Roadless Area:** 20 Roadless Areas.

**Status:** Preparing Decision Document. Scoping comments/objections: Objections were received from Alliance for the Wild Rockies, Yellowstone to Uintas Connection, Native Ecosystem Council, and Wildlands Defense. The Objection Review Officer affirmed the decision with modification/clarification. Timeline: November 2022, is the target date for issuance of the decision documents.

**Table Location:**

**Project Lead:**  
Dylan Johnson  
208-313-7839

**Link to Project Briefing Paper:**

**Project Summary:**

- **Road Construction/Reconstruction:** No road construction or reconstruction would occur within the IRAs.
- **Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:** No commercial harvesting would occur within any of the IRAs. However, pretreatment activities are planned to occur in all IRAs except for themes Wildland Recreation or Primitive. No pretreatment activities (slashing, hand thinning, or mastication) will occur in either of these two themes in the Caribou City, Meade Peak, or Stump Creek roadless areas. However, incidental cutting of small diameter trees and limbing of larger trees would only occur for fire line construction.
- **Discretionary Minerals:** No
- **Modification or Correction:** No

Final EA and Draft Decision/45-day objection period started December 29, 2021 with final decision document anticipated July 2022

**Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?**

**Yes -**

**Exception:**

**No** \_\_\_\_\_

**Commission Discussion:**

Dylan Johnson: Objection last spring from same previous groups and previous reasonings. Goal to finish in early 2023.

No questions.

**Action Requested:** None

**Project:** Diamond Creek Forest Management Project

<b>District:</b> Caribou-Targhee/ Montpelier and Soda Springs Ranger District	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Dry Ridge, Sage Creek, and Stump Creek.	
<b>Status:</b> Scoping letter released September 16, 2022. Scoping- ended October 18, 2022. FONSI/Decision- May 2023.	<b>Table Location:</b>	<b>Project Lead:</b> Sheven Andersen 435-730-2414
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>

**Project Summary:**

- **Reconstruction:** To facilitate the removal of the timber, up to 12 miles of newly constructed temporary roads may be required. The exact mileage of temporary road would depend on a variety of factors. In addition, 15 miles of ATV trails, previous temporary roads, or mine exploration templates would be used for hauling. Temporary roads would be constructed to a minimal standard to facilitate harvest, then closed and/or rehabilitated. The proposed temporary roads are located within the Sage Creek, Dry Ridge, and Stump Creek roadless areas (General Forest, Rangeland, and Grassland).
- **Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:** Yes. There would be ~2,250 acres of commercial harvest and ~737 acres of commercial thinning. There would be ~95 acres of non-commercial thinning where trees up to 12 inches in diameter may be cut but would not be removed. Lastly, there would be ~1,640 acres of prescribed burn, to facilitate conditions where the burn could be done safely in small patches and groups of trees may need to be cut to create the fuel bed needed to meet objectives safely. It is expected that all patches and groups combined would be less than 16 acres and most trees cut would be less than 10 inches dbh. No cut patch would be greater than a ¼ acre.
- **Discretionary Minerals:** Not in the roadless areas. The proposed action does include using mineral materials from the inactive Timber Creek Pit.
- **Modification or Correction:** No

<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes -</b>  <b>Exception:</b>	<b>No</b> _____
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**Commission Discussion:**

*Elt: Summary of objections? Sheven/Ashuly: No current objections on this project.*

*Bill: CPZ areas? Ashuly: No CPZ in the area.*

*Jonathan: Was most of the work noncommercial in roadless? Exception for substantially altered being pursued. Sheven: Would occur in the general theme and non-theme areas. Ashuly: NO areas were substantially altered.*

*Jonathan: Is there commercial harvest within roadless that those temporary roads access? Sheven: Should just be occurring in the general area.*

**Action Requested:** None

***Gibson motioned to bring all three projects back. Oppenheimer Seconded. Moved.***

## Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest

<b>Project:</b> Forest Plan Revision		
<b>District:</b> All	<b>Roadless Area:</b> All	
<b>Status:</b> Working through ESA and Tribal Consultation on preferred alternative/ proposed decision and incorporating comments on the DEIS into analysis. Preparing documents for release and preparing for briefing to the Washington Office in the spring of 2022. Timeline: FEIS Release = Spring 2023 Objection Period = Summer/Fall 2023 Record of Decision/Revised Forest Plan = 2024	<b>Table Location:</b>	<b>Project Lead:</b> Zach Peterson zachary.peterson@usda.gov
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four action alternatives, developed through collaboration, were analyzed in the DEIS released in December 2019. A fifth action alternative, the preferred alternative, is being analyzed in the FEIS. The preferred alternative is to be announced in the future.</li> <li>The Idaho Roadless Areas are the Forests inventory for recommended wilderness evaluation. From this inventory, a draft evaluation was released in July 2018 with the draft alternatives for analysis. The draft evaluation will be updated to reflect public comments for the FEIS.</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes-Exception:</b>	<b>No</b> _____
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>  <i>Zach: Working through ESA and government/tribal consultation. Timeframe: Late spring/Early Summer.</i>  <i>No further questions.</i>		
<b>Action Requested:</b> None.		

<b>Project:</b> Race Cow Project		
<b>District:</b> Nez Perce - Clearwater National Forest - Salmon River Ranger District. Wallow-Whitman NF - Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.	<b>Roadless Area:</b> All IRA's on Nez Clear.	
<b>Status:</b> N/A	<b>Table Location:</b>	<b>Project Lead:</b> Jeff Shinn jeffrey.shinn@usda.gov Brian Anderson brian.t.anderson@usda.gov Jennie Fischer 208-983-4048 Jeremy Harris 208-983-4047 Graydon Galloway 208-983-4035
<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>		
<b>Project Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> No.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> Yes. Approximately 121 acres of grassland improvement. Improve grass production by reducing conifer encroachment in and adjacent to grasslands. Felling of trees by hand or mastication equipment, followed by prescribed burning.</li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes:</b> - <b>Exception:</b> 294.23 (b)(1)(iv), 294.23 (e), 294.24(c)(1)(vii), 294.24(c)(ii), 294.24(c)(iii)	<b>No</b> _____
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>  <i>Jeff: Scoping would be in 2023, project on course.</i>  <i>Jonathan: Any timber cutting in CPZ?</i>		
<b>Action Requested:</b> None.		

<b>Project:</b> Dead Laundry		
<b>District:</b> Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests North Fork Ranger District.	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Moose Mountain and Hoodoo RAs	
<b>Status:</b> Changes from Spring report: Sale dates have shifted from FY 24 to FY 26 and 27	<b>Table Location:</b> 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Andrew Skowlund (208) 476-8223
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> No new permanent road construction is proposed in any RA.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> No</li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes:</b> -  <b>Exception:</b>	<b>No</b> _____
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>  <i>Jonathan: Objection process open, if so, were any filed? Andrew: On the over 40, the objections received related to the road work, water quality, and sedimentation. Not on roadless.</i>  <i>Jim: Current status is to deal with the over 40-acre business? Andrew: Need to go back out and collect further data (which happened this summer) and then work back through the objection process and finalize ~maybe~ by the spring meeting.</i>		
<b>Action Requested:</b> None.		

<b>Project:</b> Lost Toboggan Landscape Prescribed Burn Project		
<b>District:</b> Nez Perce – Clearwater, North Fork and Lochsa/Powell Districts	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Hoodoo – (Wild Land Recreation); Bighorn-Weitas (Backcountry Restoration and Special Area of Historic or Tribal Significance)	
<b>Status:</b> Small NEPA CE scoped, still waiting for heritage work to	<b>Table Location:</b> 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Theodore Peterson



be completed. Anticipated implementation is field season of 2023.		208-476-8257 <b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<p><b>Project Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> No road construction or reconstruction will occur on this project.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> No</li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No minerals will be removed as a component of this project. No active mining claims exist within the project area.</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No.</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes:</b>  <b>Exception:</b>	<b>No</b> _____
<p><b>Commission Discussion:</b></p> <p><i>Andrew: Delayed, haven't had an archaeologist for some time.</i></p> <p><i>No further questions.</i></p>		
<b>Action Requested:</b> None.		

<b>Project:</b> Dixie Comstock Community Protection		
<b>District:</b> Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forests, Red River Ranger District	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Gospel Hump IRA – 46,300 acres (16,600 in CPZ, 29,700 non-CPZ), Gospel Hump Adjacent to Wilderness IRA – 2,400 acres (no-CPZ), Dixie Summit – Nut Hill IRA.	
<p><b>Status:</b> Pre-Scoping (Collaboration) The 2021 Dixie Fire burned north, east, and south of Dixie, Idaho burning forested lands and threatening private property. During the active fire: fire restrictions, Area Closures, Salmon River Boater Advisory, Recreation Advisory, Smoke Outlooks and Evacuation orders were issued. Fire behavior was driven by temperature, winds and weather resulting in active runs,</p>	<b>Table Location:</b>	<p><b>Project Lead:</b> Cheryl Probert 208-935-2513 Jennie Fischer 208-983-4048 Tom McLeod 208-842-2117 Jeremy Harris 208-983-4047</p>
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>

<p>and smoke. As part of the suppression effort fire fighters installed structure protection measures, established control lines, developed contingency lines, felled hazard trees, and created fuel breaks. The efforts focused on firefighter and public safety and protecting values at risk.</p>		
<p><b>Project Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> Yes, See Table 1 above and Map 6 below Approximately 1 mile of temporary road construction proposed in Gospel Hump IRA. Temporary roads would be decommissioned following use.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> Yes, See Table 1 above and Map 6 below. Activities proposed in the IRA include: commercial timber harvest, non-commercial timber harvest, hand thinning, prescribed burning, and temporary road construction are proposed in the Gospel Hump Idaho Roadless Areas. Commercial timber will be removed using helicopter or tractor logging systems. Non-commercial material would be removed mechanically or by hand.</li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No.</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b></p>	<p><b>Yes: -</b>  <b>Exception:</b></p>	<p><b>No</b> _____</p>
<p><b>Commission Discussion:</b></p> <p><i>Michael: Run through how the fire affected that project? Zoanne: Fire did affect majority of the roadless area, some area in the Comstock that we would like to treat in roadless areas (weren't affected by the fire). Reevaluating and plan to get it moving as quickly as possible.</i></p>		
<p><b>Action Requested:</b> None.</p>		

***Gilbert motioned to bring all three projects back. Prouty seconded. Moved.***

## Salmon-Challis National Forest

<b>Project:</b> Sheep Creek Vegetation Improvement Project		
<b>District:</b> Salmon Challis Nation Forest, North Fork District	<b>Roadless Area:</b> West big hole - 943	
<b>Status:</b> NFMA gathering, collaborative development, and public engagement of Purpose and Need and Proposed Action. Decision pending ESA concurrence.	<b>Table Location:</b> 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Chris Waverek 208-865-2731
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<p><b>Project Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> Road needs will be defined within the next several months to ensure access and miles reflect the project purpose and need. However, it is anticipated that new temporary roads would be utilized within the project area to remove merchantable timber, to access critical areas for hazardous fuels reduction work, and use as fire control lines. When possible, these temporary roads would be constructed utilizing existing or old roads or skid trail corridors and/or access routes that already exist. All newly constructed temporary roads would be fully decommissioned after use. Existing FS system roads would be improved to facilitate use and access. These routes may be used by but are not limited to tracked/rubber-tired equipment, 4x4 vehicles and other machinery needed to conduct fuels management activities. We are currently evaluating the authority provided by 36 CFR 220.6 (e) (6) that allows no more than one mile of low standard road construction to determine additional treatment opportunities.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> A variety of treatments would likely be utilized to meet the purpose and need of the project including ground and cable based commercial and non-commercial harvest systems, pre-commercial thinning, prescribed fire, and pile burning. Harvestable timber acres for commercial and noncommercial use will be defined within the next several months to ensure acres reflect the project purpose and need. Thinning and piling of trees less than 10 inches in diameter with a tree spacing from 20 feet to 50 feet will occur throughout a majority of the project area. This type of treatment will depend on specific prescriptions that will reflect treatment location, past/current insect/disease areas and sensitive tree species like Aspen or White bark pine.</li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No</li> </ul> <p>Decision pending ESA concurrence.</p>		

<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes - Exception:</b> 294.23 (b) (2), 294.23 (d) (1), 294.23 (d) (2), 294.24 (c), 294.24 (c) (i), 294.24 (c) (vii), 294.24 (d), 294.28 (d), 294.29 (f), 294.22(c)	<b>No</b> _____
<b>Commission Discussion:</b> Jeff: No further progress since last discussion/meeting.  No further questions.		
<b>Action Requested:</b> None.		

<b>Project:</b> Forest Plan Revision		
<b>District:</b> Salmon-Challis National Forest	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Salmon: 30 Idaho Roadless Areas, Challis: 28 IRAs	
<b>Status:</b> Multiyear planning effort was initiated in October 2016. Phase 1, Assessments, and collaborative relationships just beginning.	<b>Table Location:</b>	<b>Project Lead:</b> Josh Milligan jmilligan@fs.fed.us
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Each Forest Plan will provide general direction for the management of the Salmon-Challis National Forest for the next 20+ years.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal; Road Construction/Reconstruction; Discretionary Minerals:</b> The new Forest Plan will not propose specific projects or activities which include these features but will outline what areas are suitable for such and conducted under developed standards and guidelines.</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> None proposed.</li> </ul> <p>The Salmon Forest Plan (1988) and Challis Forest Plan (1987) are in review to determine if there is a need revise, amend, or keep the plan(s) in place based on new Forest Service planning regulations developed in 2012.</p>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes: - Exception:</b>	<b>No</b> _____
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>  Rob M: Working on pulling out the Salmon piece. Proposed draft assessment by January 2023, the out for public comment. Will follow up in Spring meeting.		

*Jonathan: Just for Salmon or Salmon-Challis? Rob: Just the Salmon Forest plan revision but plan to move on the Challis.*

*Jonathan: Plan to do a roadless reevaluation? Rob: No current plan, take it as it comes.*

**Action Requested:**

**Project: Bayhorse Project V2**

**District:** Salmon Challis N.F.,  
Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger  
District

**Roadless Area:** Squaw Creek

**Status:** Analysis phase post 30-  
Day Comment Period.

**Table Location:**

**Project Lead:**

David Morris  
208-879-4127  
Heath S. Perrine  
208-879-4125

**Link to Project Briefing Paper:**

**Project Summary:**

- **Road Construction/Reconstruction:** There is potential for maintenance of Forest Roads.
- **Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:** There would be no commercial cutting of trees in IRA. The noncommercial cutting of trees would be authorized to reduce conifers encroaching into sagebrush, restoration of aspen and whitebark, and conifers that are encroaching into fen/wetlands. Other noncommercial thinning would reduce live and dead fuels and ladder fuels. Fire control line would use landscape feature (rock scree), roads, and streams where possible, but in cases control line could be constructed in IRA and require the felling of trees.
- **Discretionary Minerals:** No
- **Modification or Correction:** None

Scoping comments/objections: Scoping of the proposed actions began on October 10, 2020 Comment period ended November 2020, Published 45-Day Objection Period for Draft EA, Decision Notice, and FONSI late 2021. Objection were received. SORT convened and reviewed the project and issued instructions. Forest formally went back out to the public for 30- Day Comment Period ending April 11, 2022 and an additional 30-Day comment period that ended July 2022. Analysis of new comments is occurring.

**Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?**

**Yes: -**  
**Exception:** 294.23(e),  
294.24(c)(1)(iii), 294.24(c)(1)(iv),  
294.24(c)(1)(v), 294.24(c)(1)(vii)

**No** \_\_\_\_\_

**Commission Discussion:**

*Jim: has anything changed from last meeting? Heath: Same project, no changes.*

*Q: Objections received? Heath: Typical objections*

*Heath: How do the details of objections help? A: To understand what is going on in areas regarding roadless areas.*

*Jonathan: Legend on the map is indecipherable, trying to clean those up.*

**Action Requested:**

<b>Project:</b> Salmon- Challis Fuels Reduction and Restoration Project		
<b>District:</b> Salmon-Challis National Forest	<b>Roadless Area:</b> All	
<b>Status:</b> NFMA gathering, collaborative development, and public engagement of Purpose and Need and Proposed Action.	<b>Table Location:</b>	<b>Project Lead:</b> Christine Droske 406-529-1750
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> No roads would be constructed or reconstructed. Existing Forest Service roads would be utilized to access treatment units and/or as prescribed fire control lines.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> Yes. Hand treatment of vegetation using chainsaws and hand tools would include thinning, piling, lop and scatter, pruning, and girdling to meet the purpose and need of the project and applicable Idaho Roadless Management Theme.</li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No.</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No.</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes: - Exception:</b> 294.23(d)(2), 294.24(a)(2), 294.24(b)(ii)(iii)(v), 294.24 (c)(1)(i)(ii)(iv)(v)(vii), 294.24 (d), 294.26 (b), 294.29 (f)	<b>No</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>X</b>
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>  <i>Heather: Preparing to sign final decisions in the next few weeks. Any objections did not pertain to roadless areas.</i>  <i>Jonathan: Objections did not relate to Roadless? Heather: Some of the objections were raised in relation to roadless. From 6-10 objections from private and NGO's.</i>  <i>Elt: Any related to smoke and health related issues? Heather: Yes.</i>  <i>Jace: When the final decision comes out, will the map come out with some more details or similar to current? Heather: Final decision does speak to that and public information sharing.</i>		
<b>Action Requested:</b> None.		

<b>Project:</b> Big A Vegetation Project		
<b>District:</b> Salmon-Challis N.F., Challis-Yankee Fork R.D.	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Sq--- and Spring Basin	
<b>Status:</b> Decision.	<b>Table Location:</b>	<b>Project Lead:</b> Erin Pierson 208-879-4155

		<a href="#">Link to Project Briefing Paper:</a>
<p><b>Project Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> Yes. An estimated 1.5 miles of new temporary road construction will be needed to reduce hazardous fuel conditions and reduce the risk of wildland fire disturbance that could directly or indirectly adversely affect the at-risk community of Challis, Idaho, and its municipal watershed in Garden Creek. The Garden Creek Municipal Watershed is approximately one mile northeast of the proposed IRA units. The community of Challis is in the Garden Creek Watershed further to the northeast. Historic burn patterns on the Salmon-Challis NF indicate wildland fire generally moves in a northeast direction. The expected burn pattern of a wildfire in the Squaw Creek Drainage would pose a risk to the municipal watershed and the at-risk community.</li> </ul> <p>294.23(b)(3)(i) The Regional Forester may approve temporary road construction or road reconstruction to reduce hazardous fuel conditions outside a community protection zone where in the Regional Foresters judgement the circumstances set out below exist. Temporary road construction or road reconstruction to reduce fuels conditions under this provision will be dependent on forest type and is expected to be infrequent. There is significant risk that a wildland fire disturbance event could adversely affect an at-risk community or maniple water supply system pursuant to 294.24(c)(1)(ii). A significant risk exists where the history of fire occurrence, and fire hazard and risk, indicate a serious likelihood that a wildland fire disturbance event would present a high risk of threat to an at- risk community or municipal water supply system.</p> <p>294.23(b)(3)(ii) The Regional Forester may approve temporary road construction or road reconstruction to reduce hazardous fuel conditions outside a community protection zone where in the Regional Foresters judgement the circumstances set out below exist.</p> <p>Temporary road construction or road construction to reduce fuels conditions under this provision will be dependent on forest type and is expected to be infrequent. The activity cannot be reasonably accomplished without a temporary road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> Yes. Proposed 705 acres of commercial harvest, timber stand improvement and aspen restoration.</li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> N/A.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b></p>	<p><b>Yes: -</b>  <b>Exception:</b> 294.24 (c) (1) (ii),  294.24(c)(1)(iv),  294.24(c)(1)(viii),</p>	<p><b>No</b> _____</p>
<p><b>Commission Discussion:</b></p>		



Looking for a decision this winter.

Bill: Outside CPZ or is some of it within CPZ. Heath: No but is designated WUI and CWPP.

Jonathan: Any idea or history on when previously logged? Heath: A lot of the activity happened in the 70's but most recent was in the 90's. Jonathan: To some degree there is an argument that a thinning project done 100 years ago, is it still substantially altered?

Jim: Are you saying there is significant risk to fire or in context of the rule? Heath:

Q: Temporal constraint around the predictive modeling? A: ?

Jonathan: A few other components of significant risk that need to be considered.

**Action Requested:**

*Barquin motioned to bring all three projects back. Gilbert seconded. Moved.*

## Boise National Forest

<b>Project:</b> Southwest Idaho Resilient Landscape Project (SWIRL)		
<b>District:</b> Emmett, Cascade, Lowman, Idaho City, and Mountain Home Ranger Districts	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Multiple	
<b>Status:</b> Project is currently in proposal development. <b>No Updates.</b>	<b>Table Location:</b> Table 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Ryan Jones ryan.c.jones@usda.gov
	<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>	
<b>Project Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> No</li><li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> Yes. Non-commercial thinning treatments would include the cutting of generally small diameter trees and brush or other vegetation, with the occasional felling of a larger tree to mitigate hazards of those working within the burn area or the public. The material would not be removed from the IRA or sold. The proposed action does not include the use of harvesting systems as a pre-treatment.</li><li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No</li><li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> No</li></ul> <p>Scoping is anticipated to begin in June 2022 with a planned draft decision date of August 2023.</p>		

<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes – Exception: 294.24</b>	<b>No _____</b>
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>		
No further questions.		
<b>Action Requested:</b>		

<b>Project: Tamarack Resort Special Use Permit Application</b>		
<b>District:</b> Cascade Ranger District	<b>Roadless Area:</b> Poison Creek Roadless Area	
<b>Status:</b> Tamarack Resort Special Use Permit Proposal (revised SF-299) was accepted by Boise National Forest Supervisor Tawnya Brummett on February 28, 2022. <b>No Updates.</b>	<b>Table Location:</b> Table 2	<b>Project Lead:</b> Scott Kaden scott.kaden@usda.gov
		<b>Link to Project Briefing Paper:</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Road Construction/Reconstruction:</b> No permanent road construction/reconstruction is proposed; however overland travel by a variety of vehicles and equipment on access routes is proposed within the IRA for construction and annual maintenance -- via over- the-snow vehicles and use of off-road vehicles less than 50 inches wide during the snowpack-free months.</li> <li>▪ <b>Timber Cutting, Sale, or Removal:</b> Timber cutting and removal is proposed to create ski trails on a total of approximately 300 acres along with an as yet undefined amount of timber cutting for ski lift corridors and thinning along the forest boundary for fire mitigation. The total acreage of developed ski trails within the IRA would be 214 acres, requiring approximately 177 acres of tree clearing.</li> <li>▪ <b>Discretionary Minerals:</b> No</li> <li>▪ <b>Modification or Correction:</b> Still exploring the question- Does the activity require a modification or correction?</li> </ul>		
<b>Does Proposed Activity require use of an Exception?</b>	<b>Yes – Exception: 294.24 (c)(1)(vii)</b>	<b>No _____</b>
<b>Commission Discussion:</b>		
Jim: Southwest Idaho is a burn project? A: Yes.		
<b>Action Requested:</b>		

**Higgins motioned to bring Boise projects back. Hasbrouck seconded. Moved.**

## **Kootenai National Forest**

No projects presented.

## **Sawtooth National Forest**

No projects presented.

### **Public Comments/Discussion**

No Public Comments, closed at 1:36pm.

### **Wrap up**

- Meeting in May 2023
- Field trip to keep in mind.
  - Flexible into June-May of 2023

### **Feedback**

*Oppenheimer motioned to adjourn. Barquin seconded. Moved.*

*Meeting adjourned 4:30 PDT, 5:30 MDT.*