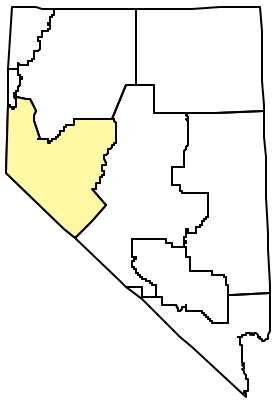
United State Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Carson City Field Office
Carson City, Nevada

May 2001

CONSOLIDATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN



Carson City Field Office

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Carson City Field Office
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Carson City, NV 89701
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In Reply Refer To:
1610 (NV-030)

Memorandum

To: State Director, Nevada (NV-910)

From: Field Office Manager, Carson City, NV

Subject: Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan

The attached Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) incorporates decisions from eight major field office planning documents and five amendments to these plans. The CRMP has been created through a plan maintenance action, including extensive review by field office resource specialists, and does not change the scope of the decisions made in previous land use plans or amendments to these plans. The CRMP updates and modernizes these previous decisions and is designed to provide easy reference to the planning decisions that guide management of the BLM managed public lands under jurisdiction of the Carson City Field Office. The CRMP includes national policy statements for use in guiding management of what were considered non-issue resources or programs in the mid 1980's. Upon completion of the CRMP all land use plan conformance determinations will be based on the decisions and information contained in the CRMP. All maps included in the CRMP are available on the field office GIS system which will facilitate examination of the areas of interest in greater detail. The CRMP will be posted on the Carson City Field Office's internet homepage to improve public access to these decisions.

John O. Singlaub
Manager, Carson City Field Office

Attachment (61 pp)
Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan

CARSON CITY FIELD OFFICE CONSOLIDATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

May 11, 2001

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INTRODUCTION

The Carson City Field Office was previously divided into the following eight planning units; 1) Pinenut, 2)Markleeville, 3) Pyramid, 4) Long Valley, 5) Walker, 6) Mina, 7) Fort Churchill, and 8) Clan Alpine.

Land use planning decisions for these planning units have been made in nine major planning documents.

Pinenut, Markleeville, Pyramid, Long Valley Planning units (Reno Planning Area)

- The Final Reno Grazing Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision, 1982, (Reno Grazing EIS)
- The Management Framework Plan for the Reno Planning Area and Record of Decision, 1982 (Reno MFP)
- Walker Wilderness Recommendations Final Environmental Impact Statement, 1987, (Walker Wilderness EIS)
- California Section 202 Wilderness Study Areas Final Environmental Impact Statement, 1988, (California Wilderness EIS)

Walker, Mina, Fort Churchill, and Clan Alpine planning units

- The Walker/Mina Management Framework Plan (Walker/Mina MFP)
- The Fort Churchill/Clan Alpine Management Framework Plan, 1975 (Clan Alpine MFP)
- The Walker Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, 1986 (Walker RMP)
- The Lahontan Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, 1985 (Lahontan RMP)
- Lahontan Wilderness Recommendations Final Environmental Impact Statement, 1987, (Lahontan Wilderness EIS)
- Walker Wilderness Recommendations Final Environmental Impact Statement, 1987, (Walker Wilderness EIS)

The relationships between these plans and the draft and final versions of each are somewhat complex. First of all, the Reno Grazing EIS and the Reno MFP make decisions for the same geographic area. In fact, the decisions in the grazing EIS are included in the Reno MFP.

When the Walker and Lahontan Resource Areas were created, they each included two planning units of the Reno Planning Area as well as two planning units to the east.. The Walker Resource Area included the Pinenut, Markleeville, Walker and Mina Planning units. The Lahontan Resource Area included the Pyramid, Long Valley, Fort Churchill, and Clan Alpine planning units. Resource Management Plans were written for each of these resource areas. However, the Walker and Lahontan Resource Management Plans do not make or alter decisions in the geographic area covered by the Reno MFP. Instead, the Walker and Lahontan Resource Management Plans specifically incorporate by reference the decisions made in the Reno MFP into the appropriate RMP. Thus decisions for the four

planning units, Pinenut, Markleeville, Pyramid, and Long Valley were not changed in the RMPs.

On the other hand, the Walker and Lahontan Resource Management Plans also cover planning units addressed by the Clan Alpine MFP and Walker/Mina MFP and replace decisions made in these MFPs. The Walker and Lahontan RMPs do not include any incorporation language in regards to the Clan Alpine MFP or Walker/Mina MFP.

The result is that current decisions for the Walker and Mina planning units are found in the Walker RMP; while current decisions for the Pine Nut, and Markleeville planning units are found in the Reno MFP, which were subsequently incorporated by reference into the Walker RMP. At the same time, current decisions for the Fort Churchill and Clan Alpine planning units are found in the Lahontan RMP, while current decisions for the Pyramid and Long Valley planning units are found in the Reno MFP, which were also subsequently incorporated by reference into the Lahontan RMP.

In addition, both the final Walker and Lahontan RMPs are abbreviated final RMPs. These abbreviated final RMPs are intended to be used in conjunction with the draft RMPs. This is specifically stated in both the final Walker and Lahontan RMPs. Thus some portions of the alternative section, chapter 2, of the draft RMP are by necessity included in the final RMP. In the case of the Walker draft RMP, Management Guidance for Non-Issue Resources should be considered as part of the preferred alternative in the final RMP. In addition, both RMPs specifically state that the Implementation section applies to all alternatives.

Subsequent to the completion of the Walker and Lahontan RMPs, three Wilderness EISs and five amendments to these Plans have been completed. The Wilderness EISs include: 1) Walker Wilderness Recommendations Final EIS, 1987, 2) Lahontan Wilderness Recommendations Final EIS, 1987, and 3) Wilderness Recommendations California Section 202 Wilderness Study Areas Final EIS, 1988. Amendments include: 1) The Carson City Urban Interface Plan Amendment, 1996, 2) Washoe County Bomb Disposal and Training Facility Final Plan Amendment, 1996, 3) The City of Fallon Landfill Final Plan Amendment, 1997, 4) The Fire Management Plan Amendment, 1998, 5) The Central Nevada Communication Sites Modified Plan Amendment, 1998.

The end result of all this is current land use planning guidance for BLM managed public lands under the jurisdiction of the Carson City Field Office are found in the Reno Grazing EIS, the Reno MFP, the Walker RMP, the Lahontan RMP, three Wilderness EISs and five subsequent amendments made to these documents.

In addition to these amendments several maintenance activities have also been completed. These activities include: 1) Walker Resource Management Plan Update: Standard Operating Procedures, December 1993, 2) Lahontan Resource Management Plan Update: Standard Operating Procedures, April 1994, 3) Plan Change 96-1, April 1996.

Other updates and guidance are provided by the following: 1) Lahontan Rangeland Program Summary (LRPS), October 1985, 2) The LRPS update, December 1989, 3) The Lahontan Management

Decision Summary 1987 Update, () The Walker Rangeland Program Summary, November 1989, 5) The Walker Management Decision summary, 1986, and 6) Rangeland Program Summary Reno Planning Area 1984.

The following Consolidated Resource Management Plan for the Carson City Field Office (Consolidated RMP) incorporates decisions: 1) That are RMP level decisions, implementation level decisions, or administrative actions, 2) Found inappropriate sections of the draft or final Walker or Lahontan Resource Management Plan or their associated records of Decision, or 3) Will be traced to a valid Management Framework Plan later incorporated into either the Lahontan or Walker Resource Management Plan, 4) Decisions found in the amendments described above, 5) Decisions found in the three wilderness EISs 6) designations of cultural resource sites on the National Register of Historic Places and a National Landmark and 7) includes national policy statements for each resource, issue, or program for which policy direction has been provided.

The Consolidated RMP has been created through a maintenance action and does not change the scope of the decisions made in previous land use plans or amendments to these plans. The Consolidated RMP updates and modernizes these previous decisions and is designed to provide easy reference to the planning decisions that guide management of the BLM managed public lands under the jurisdiction of the Carson City field Office.

CARSON CITY FIELD OFFICE CONSOLIDATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN DECISIONS

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. The resource management plan will generally be implemented through activity plans. These are detailed, site-specific management actions outlined in livestock allotment management plans (AMP), wildlife habitat management plans (HMP), wild horse herd area management plans (HMAP), and wilderness management plans (WMP), among others. These plans are multiple-use in nature and include such actions as range improvements and grazing systems. Monitoring will be used to ensure that plans meet objectives.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES COMMON TO ALL

1. An environmental review (i.e., environmental assessment) will be prepared before projects are developed except when they are covered by categorical exclusion or previous analysis deemed adequately through a Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) so that implementation, modification, or abandonment of the project may be considered depending on identified impacts.

2. Permanent roads will not be constructed into temporary project sites. Existing access roads, off road travel, or temporary roads which will be rehabilitated after construction activity will be used.

3. Application of herbicides on proposed treatment areas will be in accordance with procedures established in Bureau Manual 9011 and 9015 and the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision, Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands in Thirteen Western States (1991). Herbicide use on BLM lands in California is covered by California Vegetation Management Final Environmental Impact Statement (1988).

4. All areas of new surface disturbance will be rehabilitated, where such action is necessary and practical, to replace ground cover and prevent erosion.

5. Construction of all fences (except in cases of public safety) will conform to the objectives and specifications in Bureau Manual 1737 to minimize impacts to wildlife, wild horses, recreation, and visual resources.

6. The clearing of vegetation from all project sites will be restricted to the minimum amount necessary.

7. All construction, maintenance, or rehabilitation activities on public lands will use every reasonable means to minimize erosion and soil damage, including but not limited to, construction

of water bars, cross ditches, or other structures as required by the authorized officer.

8. Authorized public land users will remove or dispose of all waste in accordance with a plan approved by the authorized officer and in a manner consistent with federal, state and local laws and regulations.

9. Activities in key fish and wildlife areas will, when necessary, be restricted during periods of breeding, nesting, spawning, lambing, or calving activity, and during major migrations of fish and wildlife.

10. All operations by authorized public land users will be conducted in such a manner as will avoid: (a) permanent blockage of any drainage system; (b) changing the character, or causing the pollution or siltation, of rivers, streams, reservoirs, ponds, water holes, or springs; and (c) damaging fish and wildlife resources and habitats.

11. Authorized public land users will take such measures as are necessary to assure unrestricted passage and movement of fish and wildlife. No artificial structure or stream channel alteration that would cause a blockage to the movement of fish will be allowed.

12. Authorized public land users will comply with construction practices and mitigating measures established by 33 CFR 323.4, which sets forth the parameters of the "nationwide permit" required by section 404 of the Clean Water Act. If the proposed action exceeds the parameters of the nationwide permit, the holder will obtain an individual permit from the appropriate office of the Army Corps of Engineers and provide the authorized officer with a copy of the same. Failure to comply with this requirement will be cause for suspension or termination of their authorization.

13. Authorized public land users will rebuild or repair roads, fences, and established trails that may be destroyed or damaged by construction, operation, or maintenance of the authorized project and build or maintain suitable crossings for existing roads and significant trails that intersect the project.

14. Benefit/cost analysis will be performed on improvements required to implement new AMPs and other appropriate activity plans subsequent to the EIS. The benefit/cost analysis will be performed in compliance with Bureau policy.

15. During the pre-construction and construction periods, the Bureau will make modifications to any land use authorization necessary to maintain stability of geologic materials, fish and wildlife habitats, the environment, and the public interest.

16. The Bureau will, if necessary, suspend any construction maintenance activity if there is an immediate threat to life (including wildlife and aquatic life), property, or the environment.

17. Public land users will abate any conditions, created by implementation of their project, that could potentially cause irreparable harm or damage to any person or property.

18. Revegetation of disturbed areas will be required as specified by the Bureau. The appropriate seed mixture and proper planting techniques will be specified by the Bureau.

19. Authorized public land users will construct, maintain, operate, and/or modify structures or facilities as directed by the Bureau to protect and minimize adverse effects upon raptors and other wildlife.

20. Authorized land users will comply with state and federal laws applicable to the authorized use and such additional state and federal laws, along with implementing regulations, that may be enacted and issued during the term of their authorization.

21. Authorized public land users will ensure that activities in connection with the authorization will not violate applicable water quality standards or related facility siting standards established by or pursuant to applicable federal or state laws.

22. Authorized public land users will prevent or control damage to scenic, aesthetic, cultural and environmental values (including damage to fish and wildlife habitat), damage to federal property and hazards to public health and safety.

23. Authorized public land users will comply with state standards for public health and safety, environmental protection and siting, construction, operation, and maintenance when those standards are more stringent than federal standards.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 4100 - Grazing Administration - Exclusive of Alaska 02/16/89)

1. The BLM's policies are designed to ensure proper administration of an efficient and effective livestock grazing management program. Livestock grazing management will be prescribed to provide harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources. Grazing is a natural process on most plant communities and most American rangeland vegetation evolved under grazing. The BLM recognizes that properly prescribed and managed livestock grazing are an economically important use of the rangeland resource and a most effective and efficient means of changing plant communities to achieve land use plan resource goals and objectives. The BLM is committed to the maintenance and improvement of the condition of the public rangelands so that they may become as productive as feasible for all rangeland uses, including provision of habitat for wildlife and domestic livestock. See BLM manual Section 4100, .06 policies for specific policies regarding: 1) Management Priorities, 2) Inventory and Monitoring, 3) Consultation, Coordination and Cooperation, 4) Grazing Supervision, 5) Range Improvements.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS:

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Maintain or improve the condition of the public rangelands to enhance productivity for all rangeland and watershed values.

2. Initially, manage livestock use at existing levels.

3. Provide adequate, high quality forage for livestock by improving rangeland condition.

4. Improve overall range administration

Reno Planning Area

5. Within ten years the objective of the proposed action is to cause an overall shift in ecological condition of the native ranges follows: (1) increase excellent condition by 3,017 acres, (2) increase good condition by 28,448 acres, (3) reduce fair condition by 12,687 acres and poor condition by 18,778 acres.

Walker and Lahontan Rangeland Program Summary (RPS)

6. The long range objectives of the grazing management program are to manage, maintain, and improve the rangeland conditions on the public lands through the following:

A. Maintain a sufficient quality, and diversity of habitat and forage for livestock, wildlife, and wild horses through natural regeneration and/or vegetation manipulation methods.

B. Improve the vegetation resource and range condition by providing for the physiological needs of key plant species.

C. Reduce soil erosion and enhance watershed values by increasing ground cover and litter.

D. Improve and maintain the condition of the riparian habitat. (Reno RPS 1984).

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

Lahontan Resource Area

1. Initially, authorize livestock use at the three-year average use level of (94,481 AUMs 1987 LMDS) (64,239 AUMs 1985 LMDS). There would be no initial decisions to adjust active preference.

2. Discontinue livestock grazing in allotments where grazing is no longer practical due to land ownership patterns, real estate development, and disposal of the connected base properties. (1). Dry Lake, (2). Pah Rah Mountains, (3). Peavine Watershed, (4). Haskell Peak.
. . . . . Dry Lake gone.
. . . . . Peavine Watershed transferred to USFS.
. . . . . No grazing implemented on Haskell Peak.

Walker Resource Area

3. Initially authorize livestock use at the three-year average licensed use level of 36,962 AUMs. There would be no initial change in active preference.

4. The Black Canyon Road will not be used for public access.

5. The Faye Canyon, Spratt Creek and Hangman allotments will continue as areas set aside for wildlife use.

Pine Nut-Markleeville Planning Units.

6. Initially authorize livestock's use at the three-year average licensed use level of 11,536 AUMs. There would be no initial change in active preference.

7. Exclude livestock grazing from the Prison Hill, Diamond Valley, Spratt Creek, Hangman, Faye Canyon, and Luther Creek allotments as grazing administration is no-longer practical.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. Initiate land exchanges with the Southern Pacific Railroad and the private owners in the Spanish Springs to block up public lands in the White Hills and Olinghouse allotments.
. . . . . Completed 01/31/1995, Dapoli Phase II land exchange.

2. Initiate land exchanges in the Jumbo Allotment to block in the higher country and to release lands in the low country next to residential zones.
. . . . . Completed 04/2001 Laborde Land Exchange

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS:

1. Rangeland Program Summary. A Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) will be issued within five months of the completion date of the RMP. The RPS will inform livestock permittees and the interested public about implementation of the rangeland management program. The RPS will identify allotment specific objectives for livestock, wild horses and burros, and wildlife. It outlines specific monitoring studies necessary to evaluate the attainment of objectives and the range improvements proposed to implement the RMP.

2. The Selective Management Policy. It is the policy of the BLM to address rangeland management problems through a selective management approach. This approach assigns management priorities among allotments within a planning area. This is based on identifying allotments with similar management needs, resource characteristics, and potential for improvement in both resource and economic returns.

   The similarity among the allotments allows them to be grouped into three categories with each having its own objective. The three categories and their objectives are: Maintain current satisfactory condition; Improve current unsatisfactory condition; or manage the allotments Custodially, while protecting existing resources. The use of these allotment categories will help to establish priorities for distributing available funds and personnel in such a way as to achieve cost-effective improvement of rangeland production and condition. These funds will be used to develop grazing treatments and systems and install range improvements in order to resolve grazing related problems. The priorities identify those allotments where more intensive management is needed.

   Allotments have been placed in the (M) Maintenance, (I) Improvement, and (C) Custodial categories using the criteria outlined in Appendix D of the draft RMP.

3. Allotment Management Plans. Allotment management plans would be developed for all Category I allotments, and Category M and C allotments as needed. These plans would be

multiple-use in nature. They would be developed in consultation with interested parties and coordinated with wildlife, wild horse and burro, watershed, and wilderness plans. Key components of AMPs are allotment specific objectives, monitoring studies, grazing systems, range improvements, and evaluations.

4. Grazing Treatments and Systems. A grazing treatment describes the level of grazing use and periods-of-use for a unit (usually a pasture) of an allotment, or an entire allotment in one or more years. Grazing treatments are the building blocks of the grazing plan, and are designed to improve rangeland condition by manipulating livestock grazing to accomplish objectives of management. The deferment of grazing or complete rest from grazing during the critical growth period of key management species would allow these species to maintain and/or increase their density, composition, vigor, production, and reproduction. The following rest treatments (singly or in various combinations) would be combined with scheduled grazing treatments to form grazing systems in amps for specific allotments.

   Treatment one: Rest from livestock grazing for two consecutive growing seasons (approximately April 1 of one year to August 31 of the following year. Two growing seasons of rest would allow key management species to improve vigor, increase litter accumulation, seed production, and seedling establishment. Rest for two growing seasons is required in order for grass seedlings to develop adequate root growth to withstand appreciable grazing and trampling (Hormay 1970.)

   Treatment two: Livestock grazing from midsummer to fall (approximately July 16 to November 15 dates vary with allotments). Grazing after seed-ripe would provide better seed dispersal and trampling. When coupled with other treatments that provide for spring rest the following year, this treatment would allow an improvement in plant vigor and seedling establishment for key grass species and many shrubs.

   Treatment three: Provide rest from livestock grazing for two years, until seedlings are established or until it is determined that a vegetation manipulation or recovery project is unsuccessful. This treatment provides the protection necessary for establishment or recovery of key management species following wildlife seeding, burning, or herbicide spraying projects.

   Treatment four: Defer livestock grazing from early spring to midsummer each year (approximately April 1 to June 30). This treatment may be required yearly and could be retained until the systems are implemented. Improved vigor and reproduction of key management species in each allotment would result. Where intensive grazing management systems are implemented, utilization levels may be exceeded during each grazing cycle. The periodic rest from grazing would allow the key management species to increase in vigor and production.

Treatment five: For key deer winter range where bitterbrush is the key species, a special grazing treatment is recommended. This requires two years of rest, followed by one year of grazing after seed-ripe and finally one year of season-long grazing. Variations of this treatment are acceptable as long as they include the two-year rest period required for bitterbrush seed production.

5. Range Improvements. Range improvements will be developed to meet identified management objectives. Fencing and water developments improve livestock distribution, especially when developed in conjunction with a grazing management plan. Table 2-1 identifies potential range improvements and their costs.

6. Resource Monitoring. Future adjustments in livestock and wild horses will be based on consultation with interested parties and an analysis of data from monitoring studies. This involves the use of vegetation study techniques to measure ecological status and trend, grazing utilization and distribution, actual use information, and climatic data. Category I allotments have the greatest number of resource conflicts and potential for improvement. Therefore, more intensive range monitoring efforts, including frequency transects (1981 Nevada Range Monitoring Procedures), key area utilization, ecological status, use pattern mapping, actual use, and precipitation studies will be implemented or continued in these allotments to determine whether management objectives are being met with proposed management treatments. Management and/or grazing use levels may be changed based upon results of these studies.

   Few changes in management or treatments are anticipated for Category M and C allotments. Therefore, less intensive range monitoring efforts, including utilization, actual use, precipitation, and perhaps a few frequency studies within selected key areas will be implemented or continued to determine whether current conditions are being maintained, and existing resources protected with present management.

7. Construct the following range improvements in the Lahontan Resource Area: (1) Four miles of water pipeline, (2) One windmill, (3) Four water storage tanks and sixteen water troughs, (4) Three spring developments, (5) One hundred thirty-four miles of fence and nine cattleguards, (6) Treatment of 1,960 acres of brushland and old seedings, and developing 8,260 acres of new seedings, and (7) drilling four wells and (8) twelve miles of fence removal.

8. Install the following range improvements in the Walker Resource Area to assist in meeting management objectives: (1) Drill two wells, (2) Eleven miles of water pipeline, (3) One water storage tank and fourteen water troughs, (4) Eight spring developments, (5) One reservoir (6) thirty-two miles of fence and five cattleguards, (7) Brush control on 500 acres.

9. Install the following range improvements in the Pine Nut and Markleeville planning units to assist in meeting management objectives: (1) One Well, (2) Three water tanks, (3) Six spring

developments, and (4) One reservoir.

Reno Planning Area

10. Allotments in Category C will receive such management as is necessary to prevent resource deterioration. These allotments will be monitored to detect change in resource condition should situations change an allotment may be moved into the intensive management category.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

1. In the Lahontan Resource Area develop AMPs/grazing systems on 12 Category I allotments and grazing systems as needed on 19 Category M and 5 C allotments to improve condition, provide for proper utilization within key areas, achieve better livestock distribution to obtain more uniform utilization, and provide for an increase in available forage and water for livestock, wild horses and wildlife.
   . . . . . AMP/Grazing systems implemented on 12 Category I and 19 Category M allotments.

2. In the Walker Resource Area develop AMPs/grazing systems on 7 Category I allotments and continue implementation of existing AMPs on 1 Category I and 4 Category M allotments to improve and/or maintain condition, provide for proper utilization within key areas, achieve better livestock distribution to obtain more uniform utilization, and provide for an increase in available forage and water for livestock, wild horses and burros and wildlife.
   . . . . . Completed AMP/Grazing systems implemented on 7 Category I and 4 Category M allotments

Pine Nut-Markleeville Planning Units.

3. Develop and implement AMPs as needed. AMPs have been identified for development on all four Category I allotments. . . . . Completed
   . . . . . Implemented, Pinenut Allotment decisions.
   . . . . . Implemented Buckeye allotment decisions.
   . . . . . Implemented, Churchill Allotment decisions and grazing system.
   . . . . . Implemented, Servsese Allotment decision.

4. Obtain necessary easements to insure continued access over Cottonwood Stock Trail in the Flanigan Allotment. . . . . Completed Easement Acquired November 1989.

5. Delete the Dead Horse Well allotment by incorporating it into the LeBeau Flat and Phillips Well allotments. . . . . Completed

6. Adjust allotment boundaries in the Antelope Mountain Allotment to reflect changes in land use. . . . . Completed

7. Combine the Shovel Springs and Hungry Valley allotments into the Paiute Canyon Allotment. . . . . Completed

8. Combine Peavine and Black Springs into Peavine Mountain allotment . . . . . Completed and transferred to USFS

9. Reestablish the Lincoln Flat Allotment by splitting it off from the Spring Gulch Allotment. Change livestock use from sheep to cattle and establish a grazing period from 12/31 to 1/31. . . . . Completed

10. Eliminate the Colony Settlement Allotment and incorporate the remaining public land into the Hudson Hills Allotment. . . . . Completed

11. Combine Fish Springs and Jacobson allotments with the Buckeye Allotment. . . . . Completed

12. Combine the Gold Hill Allotment with the Carson Plains allotment. . . . . Completed

13. Continue rangeland and watershed monitoring to determine if management objectives are being met and what future adjustments in grazing use are necessary.

14. In the long-term, the range monitoring program would provide data on which to base future adjustments in livestock and wild horse use and to identify additional range improvements. All future adjustments and improvements would be designed to achieve the objectives of this alternative.

15. The initial assignment of allotments into the categories of "Maintain," "Improve," and "Custodial," would be evaluated periodically. These evaluations would assure that the management objectives are being reached and that AMPs and range improvements would be initiated for those allotments requiring more intensive management.

Reno Planning Area

16. Allotments in Category C will receive such management as is necessary to prevent resource deterioration. These allotments will be monitored to detect change in resource condition, should situations change an allotment may be moved into the intensive management category.

17. Livestock use (numbers, class, periods of use) will be permitted as authorized under a 10-year permit. Increases in use may be allowed when consistent with multiple use objectives. Prescribed flexibility will occur in livestock operations through consultation

18. Through consultation and coordination in a public process develop or revise intensive grazing systems with monitoring that will insure proper periods of use as part of allotment management plans. Prioritization of Category I allotments will be made through consultation and coordination. CRMP is the preferred process. . . . . Completed

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

1. Benefit Cost (B/C) analysis will be performed on improvements required to implement Allotment Management Plans and other appropriate activity plans subsequent to the EIS. Such improvements will be analyzed on an allotment basis.

2. Permanent roads will not be constructed into project sites. Existing access, off road travel, or temporary roads which could be rehabilitated after construction will be used.

3. Construction of all fences will conform to the objectives and specifications in Bureau manual 1737 to assure minimizing impacts on wildlife, wild horses, recreation, and visual resources.

4. The clearing of vegetation from project sites will be restricted to the minimum amount necessary.

5. Application of herbicides such as 2,4-D on treatment areas to reduce sagebrush and other plant species would be in accordance with procedures established in Bureau Manual 9222 and other applicable regulations, laws, and court orders to ensure non-impairment of other than target species.

6. All disturbed areas will be rehabilitated where such action is necessary and practical to replace ground cover and prevent erosion.

7. Maintenance of structural improvements shall be provided by the user deriving the primary benefit from the improvement through cooperative agreements and as specified in the Bureau's range improvement policies.

8. Livestock permits will be adjusted, if necessary, to reflect decreases in public land acreage available for livestock grazing use within an allotment as a result of land disposal.

9. When public lands are disposed of or devoted to a public purpose which precludes livestock grazing, the permittees and lessees will be given two years prior notification, except in cases of an emergency (i.e., military defense requirements in the time of war, natural disasters, national emergency needs, etc.), before their grazing permit or grazing lease and grazing preference may be canceled in whole. A permittee or lessee may unconditionally waive the two prior notifications. Such waivers shall not prejudice the permittee's or lessee's right to reasonable

compensation for the fair market value his interest in authorized permanent range improvements located on these public lands.

10. Livestock grazing will be deferred for at least two growing seasons on all vegetation manipulation projects, including prescribed burns, to allow vegetation to be established.

11. Wildlife escape ramps will be installed in all livestock troughs to prevent wildlife from drowning.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. Walker Resource Area Rangeland Program Summary . . . . . November 1989.
2. Lahontan Resource Area Rangeland Program Summary Update . . . . . December 1989.
3. Desatoya Mountains Ecosystem Management Plan . . . . . July 1999.
   The following allotments are managed under provisions of the Desatoya Ecosystem Management Plan: (1) Clan Alpine 03009, (2) Porter Canyon 10013, (3) Eastgate 03020, and (4) Edwards Creek 03021.

4. Allotment Management Plans

Northern CCFO

Antelope Mountain	03001	Frenchman Flat	03024
Carson	03003	Horse Springs	03032
Big Canyon	03004	Hole In the Wall	03030
Constantia	03012	Mountain Well-Laplat	03039
Red Rock	03014	Paiute	03043
Dixie Valley	03018	Rock Springs	03049
Flanigan	03022		

Southern CCFO

Artesia	03500	Hudson Hills	03545
Buckeye	03509	Lincoln Flat	03555
Central	03516	Parker Butte	03572
Churchill Canyon	03518	Perry Spr-Deadman	03573
Garfield Flat	03535	Pilot-Table Mountain	03574
Gray Hills	03539		

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health, Sierra Front Northwestern Great Basin, February 12, 1997.
2. Final EIS Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands In Thirteen Western States . . . . . July 1991
3. California Vegetation Management Final EIS . . . . . August 1988

GIS MAP REFERENCES:

1. LSG-1 Herd Management Areas, Livestock Grazing Allotments

WILD HORSE AND BURROS

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 4700 - Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Management 11/23/88)
It is the policy of the Bureau of Land Management, in accordance with the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act (Public Law 92-195, as amended) and other laws governing the public lands, to:

1. Protect, manage, and control wild horses and burros on public lands as an integral part of the public land's ecosystem. Appropriate management levels shall be determined for Wild horses and burros through the resource management planning process. Wild horses and burros shall be considered comparable with other resource values on each herd area in the formulation of resource management plans and managed as self-sustaining populations of healthy animals in balance with other uses and the productive capacity of their habitat. Current inventories of herd management areas shall be maintained. Management of wild horses and burros shall be constrained as necessary to ensure the protection of the habitat of a candidate, threatened, or endangered species. Management actions shall be at the minimum feasible level that allows attainment of herd and habitat objectives and protects the range from deterioration associated with over population. Wildhorse and burro ranges shall be designated when it is determined to be in the public interest to manage herd management areas principally, but not necessarily exclusively, for wild horses and burros.

2. Remove excess wild horses and burros from public lands to preserve and maintain a thriving ecological balance and multiple-use relationship. Priority shall be given to removing wild horses and burros from private land when the landowner submits a written request to BLM for their removal.

3. Destroy humanely old, sick, or lame wild horses and burros, using methods judged acceptably for euthanasia of large animals by the American Veterinary Medical Association Panel on Euthanasia. Excess wild horses that are not adopted shall be humanely maintained by the BLM or its' agents, preferably on sanctuaries on private land, until such time that the BLM is ordered by an appropriate authority to implement the provision in the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act for destruction of unadopted excess wild horses and burros in the most humane and cost-efficient manner possible.

4. Ensure that aircraft and motor vehicles used to administer the Act meet appropriate safety standards and are operated in a safe and humane manner and that a public hearing is held prior to the use of helicopters to capture wild horses and burros and motor vehicles to transport captured animals.

5. Place health excess wild horses and burros in private maintenance with qualified individuals who pay a fee established by regulation. The Director may reduce the adoption fee for excess wild horses and burros not adopted at the standard fee when the Director determines it is in the public interest to do so. The BLM shall convey title to eligible adopters at the end of 1 year of humane private maintenance.

6. Carry out compliance activities necessary to ensure humane treatment of adopted wild horses and burros.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Initially, manage for wild horses and their habitat in herd areas at current population levels, or at a level identified in an approved activity plan.
   . . . . . Completed, AMLs set through multiple use decisions.

2. Maintain sound thriving populations of wild horses within herd management areas.

3. Maintain or improve the condition of public rangelands to enhance productivity for wild horses and burros within herd management areas.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Totally remove wild horses from the following areas:
   A. Pah Rah WHA . . . . . Completed 1984.
   B. Jumbo WHA . . . . . Completed 1984.
   C. Southern Pine Nut WHA . . . . . Completed 1984.
   Removal in these areas is the result of conflicts resulting from wild horse use of private lands

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. Propose an area of about 68,000 acres in the Marietta Land Area for designation as the Marietta National Wild Burro Range. . . . . Completed 1991.

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Conduct wild horse gatherings to initially maintain the herds at the current population levels established in the RMP and outlined in the following:

Herd Area	Appropriate Management Level	Date
A. Lahontan	7-10	1993
B. Horse Mountain	60-95	1992
C. Pine Nuts	Trace	
D. South Stillwaters	16	1994
E. North Stillwaters	49	1994
F. August Mountains	155	

G. Clan Alpines	619-979	1992

Herd Area	Appropriate Management Level	Date
H. Desatoya Mountains/Both F.Os.	73-98/127-180	1992
I. Flanigan	80-124	1990
K. Dogskin Mountain	10-15	1994
L. Granite Peak	11-18	1993
M. Garfield Flat (horses)	83-125	Nov. 1996
N. Marietta (burros)	78-104	Nov. 1998
O. Montgomery Pass (horses)	38 *1	
P. Pilot Mountain (horses)	228-346 *2	Oct. 1993
Q. Pine Nut-northern (horses)	119-179	Aug. 1995
R. Powell Mountain (horses)	3 *1 *3	Transferred to USFS.
S. Wassuk (horses)	109-165	
T. New Pass (horses)	69-90	1992
U. Fort Sage	36	
Total	**4,064**	

*1 The Forest Service has management responsibility for these herd areas. Population levels listed are prorated to percent BLM lands. The population of the Montgomery Pass Herd Area is an estimated current population figure. Actual management levels will be determined by the Forest Service.

*2 The Gabbs Valley Range Herd Area has been combined with the Pilot Mountain Herd Area.

*3 The Powell Mountain Herd Area population will be managed to maintain the population set in an existing management plan. . . . . Transferred to USFS

2. Develop eleven water sources for wild horses and burros. (7 in the Walker Resource Area and 4 in the Lahontan Resource Area). First priority will be a spring development in the Pilot Mountain Herd Area. Second priority will be a well in the Horse Mountain Herd Area. Other water developments will be determined in subsequent HMAPs.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Develop and implement Herd Area Management Plans for wild horse herds and burros in the following areas:
   - A. Horse Mountain
   - B. Clan Alpine (revision)
   - C. Flanigan
   - D. Augusta Mountains
   - E. Lahontan
   - F. South Stillwater Range
   - G. Dogskin Mountain
   - H. Granite Peak
   - I. Marietta
   - J. Pine Nut-northern
   - K. Garfield
   - L. Pilot Mountain
   - M. Wassuk
   - N. Fort Sage
   - O. Tule Ridge/Mahogany Flats
   - P. North Stillwater Range
   - Q. Desatoya Mountains

2. Wild horse and burro management in specific areas will be guided by HMAPs. The plans will be developed through consultation with interested parties and coordinated with livestock, wildlife, and watershed plans. They will be focused on wild horse and burro management through maintaining or improving wild horse and burro populations and habitats, development of water sources, and population and habitat monitoring studies.
3. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has been designated lead management responsibility for wild horses in the Powell mountain and Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Herd Areas. The USFS has prepared a management plan for the Powell mountain Wild Horse Territory (USFS term) which sets the wild horse population management level at 29. The Forest Service is in the process of preparing a management plan for the Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Territory which may require adjustments in that population.

4. Monitoring of wild horse and burro populations will be conducted in accordance with Nevada State Office Manual Supplement 4730.

5. Designated wild horse and burro ranges are devoted primarily to the protection and preservation of wild horses or burros. This means that other uses may be constrained to the extent necessary to provide fully for their welfare. This could require reductions or closure to livestock grazing, although in the case of the Marietta Herd Area, current livestock/wild burro use areas overlap only slightly.

6. Designation of wild horse and burro ranges is reserved to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management. Following approval of the Walker RMP, the recommendation for designation of the Marietta National Wild Burro Range will be forwarded to the Director for his/her action.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

1. Section four of the Wild Horse and Burro Protection Act of 1971, requires that wild horses and burros that stray from public lands on to privately owned lands be removed on request of the landowners.

2. Fences in wild horse and burro herd areas will be located or constructed in accordance with BLM Manual Supplement 4730 so as to minimize interference with the normal distribution and movement of wild horses. Selected portions of new fences constructed in these areas will be flagged or otherwise marked for one year after construction to make them more visible to horses and burros.

3. A range of wild horse numbers will be set for each HMA. The upper end of the range will not exceed the carrying capacity of the HMA so that an ecological balance can be maintained between wild horses, livestock, wildlife and their habitat. The range of horse numbers will be designed to maximize the interval between removals (3-5 years). Also, contraceptive techniques may be used to slow the rate of an increase of wild horses within the HMAs. Older

unadaptable horses may be removed from a herd management area within the Resource Area that is over appropriate management level and relocated to a herd management area that is under appropriate management level.

4. Helicopter capture techniques will be the primary method used to capture horses. Where feasible, water trapping will be used. Roping and capture net techniques may be used when necessary.

5. Riparian area fencing will be utilized when necessary to protect these areas. Spring development and protection may be undertaken to increase the quantity and quality of water at these sources for the use by wild horses, wildlife and livestock.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

Herd Area Management Plans

Northern CCFO

1.	Horse Mountain	December 1991	Lahontan	May 1991
2.	Clan Alpine	July 1993	Desatoya	July 1993
3.	New Pass	August 1993	Flanigan	October 1990
4.	Granite Peak	August 1993	Fort Sage	March 1995
5.	Dogskin	July 1994	Augusta Mtn.	March 1995
6.	South Stillwater	March 1995	North Stillwater	February 1994

Southern CCFO

7. Marietta

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. LSG-1 Herd Management Areas, Livestock Grazing Allotments

RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 1737 Riparian-Wetland Area Management 12/10/92)

1. **Departmental Policy**. The Department of the interior has a mandate for management of the Nation's natural resources, including riparian-wetland areas. The Department's policy is to:
   A. Exercise leadership and take action to avoid, to the extent possible, the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of wetlands and floodplains.

   B. Avoid the direct or indirect support of wetland or floodplain projects whenever there is a practical alternative.

2. **BLM's Policy**. In accordance with the laws, EO's, and Departmental policy to maintain, restore, or improve riparian-wetland ecosystems to achieve a health proper functioning condition that assures biological diversity, productivity, and sustainability, it is the BLM's policy to:
   A. Use an interdisciplinary team to conduct and maintain an inventory of all riparian-wetland areas, quantifying physical, biological, chemical condition and potential.

   B. Focus management on entire watersheds using an ecosystem approach and involving all interested landowners and affected parties whenever possible.

   C. Achieve riparian-wetland area improvement and maintenance objectives through management of existing and future uses wherever feasible.

   D. Ensure that new resource management plans (RMP's) and activity plans, and existing plans when revised, recognize the importance of riparian-wetland values, and initiate management to maintain, restore, improve or expand them.

   E. Prescribe management for riparian-wetland values that is based upon site-specific characteristics and settings.

   F. Use an interdisciplinary team approach to monitor and evaluate management activities in riparian-wetland areas and revise management practices where objectives are not being met.

   G. Ensure public involvement in the planning and management of riparian-wetland ecosystems. This includes federal, state, local governments, and industry organizations sharing information, implementing management actions, coordinating activities, and providing education on the value , productivity, and management of riparian-wetland areas.

H. Retain riparian-wetland areas in public ownership unless disposal would be in the public interest, and acquire riparian-wetlands as determined in the land use planning system.

I. Identify, encourage, and support research and studies needed to ensure that riparian-wetland area management objectives can be properly defined and met. Incorporate research findings into the planning and management of riparian-wetland ecosystems.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Protect and maintain existing and potential fisheries and riparian areas in good or better condition. (Proper functioning condition).

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. See Wildlife Section.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Riparian protection measures would involve implementation and evaluation of grazing management systems and techniques which have been designed to enhance riparian habitats before initiating extensive fencing of specific areas to exclude wild horses and livestock. Riparian and fisheries habitat protection measures will involve fencing of some specific areas to prevent over-utilization and trampling. Some grazing uses by livestock and wild horses could occur on those riparian areas where monitoring studies indicate the area has recovered to a good or better condition class. The degree and season of grazing use will be determined through consultation and coordination with affected livestock permittees and other interested parties.

2. See Wildlife Section.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. None

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. None

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health; Sierra Front Northwestern Great Basin; February 12, 1997.
2. Riparian-Wetland Initiative for the 1990's; September 1991.

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. None

FORESTRY

NATIONAL POLICY:

1. None

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Forest and woodland management will be based on the principles of multiple use, sustained yield, and ecosystem management.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Allow commercial timber sales (Markleeville and Long Valley Planning Units) consistent with VRM class designations and objectives for scenic value management.

2. Commercial sales will not be allowed in the Class II VRM area (Indian Creek Recreation Lands) that is highly visible from recreation developments unless needed for disease or hazard reduction.

3. Salvage and sanitation cutting of commercial timber and other cutting consistent with VRM and wildlife guidelines will be provided for in the Long Valley and Markleeville Planning Units.

4. Sell green pinyon and juniper for fuelwood and fence posts, for personal use, at the rate of up to 5,000 cords and 1,000 posts annually. These sales would take place only in areas where there would be no conflicts, or in areas where the conflicts could be mitigated.

5. The sale of dead standing and down fuelwoods, for personal use, with the exception of standing cottonwood or aspen will continue in the Reno Planning Area outside of deer migration corridors and identified critical watersheds. Any sales within identified high erosion areas must not reduce ground cover more than 50 percent.

6. The J.W. Ranch area will be open to woodcutting for a one-year period to improve forage for wintering mule deer.

7. Pinyon pine nuts may be harvested throughout the Field Office area of jurisdiction. The first 25 pounds are free and do not require a permit. After the initial 25 pounds the harvester is considered a commercial user and will be required to get a permit and pay fair market value. Commercial use is subject to Field Office Manager approval.

8. Protect the five-acre stand of western white pine located in T 11N. , R 22E. , Sec. 16, from damage or destruction.

9. Limit logging in the East Fork of the Carson River Canyon to Class II VRM recommendations. Logging would be allowed if the visual quality of the canyon will be maintained. Salvage logging will be allowed if the Watashema Dam is constructed.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Vegetation manipulations such as chaining, burns, and chemical treatments will be allowed only after attempts have been made to sell or dispose of forest products through forestry sales programs.

2. Sell vegetation and woodland products such as pine boughs, pine cones, ephedra, juniper berries, ming moss, wildlings, and others as supply and demand allows.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. The establishment of greenwood cutting areas and harvest levels will be implemented through Woodland Management Activity Plans which include ten-year sale levels and are based on woodland inventories and classifications.

2. Commercial firewood and Christmas tree sales will be dealt with on a case by case basis. These sales will be covered by an environmental assessment and a checklist of contract stipulations that conform with the guidelines developed in the Carson City Woodland Management Policy (BLM Manual Supplement, 1983). Commercial sales may be either negotiated or competitive bid depending on the size of the sale and local demand. Sales of 250,000 board feet or more will be competitive bid.

3. A variety of woodland products will continue to be available to the public. Designated green firewood and Christmas tree cutting areas will be maintained and developed as public demand directs. Firewood gathering and Christmas tree cutting by individuals for home use will be permitted in these areas. Woodland products will be sold at fair market value. Maximum Field Office-wide harvest rates are currently 5,000 cords and 16,000 Christmas trees annually.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. Forest resources will continue to be evaluated case-by-case as a part of project level planning. Such evaluations will consider the significance of the proposed project and the sensitivity of the forest resources in the affected area. Stipulations will be included with harvest authorizations to

assure the project meets forest management objectives for each project.

2. Harvest procedures will require limiting individual cutters to five cords per year where demand is high.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. Final EIS Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands In Thirteen Western States . . . . . July 1991
2. California Vegetation Management Final EIS . . . . . August 1988

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. None

WILDLIFE

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 6500 - Wildlife and Fisheries Management 06/17/88) The general policies below are supplemented by more specific policies in BLM Manual Sections 1622 and 6501-6880. It is BLM policy to manage habitats with emphasis on ecosystems to ensure self-sustaining populations and a natural abundance and diversity of wildlife, fish, and plant resources on the public lands. To carry out this responsibility, the BLM will:

1. Prepare and maintain on a continuing basis, an inventory of the wildlife and fish resources, plant communities, and threatened, endangered, and candidates (special status) species on the public lands.

2. Ensure full consideration of the wildlife, fish, and special status species in land use plans and other BLM activities.

3. Use strategic planning to establish long range goals and objectives for the wildlife, fish and special status species and identify management activities needed to achieve these goals and objectives.

4. Develop and implement habitat management plans identified during the planning process.

5. Ensure all activity plans (HMPs, AMPs, etc.) Include site specific objectives for wildlife, fish, and special status species and the actions necessary to achieve those objectives.

6. Monitor ongoing management actions and determine if habitat management objectives are being met.

7. Carry out habitat management activities identified during the planning process and in NEPA documents.

8. Maintain the continued effectiveness of habitat improvements.

9. Maintain a staff of professional employees with the formal training and expertise necessary to achieve the objectives of the program.

10. Ensure a level of communication and coordination necessary to provide effective cooperation between BLM, private groups, and local, state and federal agencies concerned with management of the wildlife, fish, and special status species on the public lands.

11. Support or carry out research necessary to ensure availability of data and techniques necessary for proper and efficient management of the wildlife, fish, and special status species.

12. Develop and maintain wildlife and fisheries automated records and systems with a balance of standardization and flexibility to improve the efficiency and manageability of the program and resources.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Initially, manage habitats for existing numbers of big game.

2. Manage wildlife habitat for a long-term goal of providing forage for reasonable numbers of big game as follows:

Lahontan Resource Area

(see Lahontan Rangeland Program Summary, December 1989 for allotment specific allocations)

Species	Animal Unit Months (AUMs)
A. Mule Deer	13,254
B. Bighorn Sheep	960
C. Antelope	Objectives only in RPS.

Walker Resource Area

(see Walker Rangeland Program Summary, November 1989 for allotment specific allocations)

Species	Animal Unit Months (AUMs)
A. Mule Deer	9,220
B. Bighorn Sheep	180
C. Antelope	Objectives only in RPS.

3. Protect and maintain existing and potential fisheries habitat and riparian habitats in a good or better condition.

4. Maintain and improve wildlife habitat, including riparian/stream habitats, and reduce habitat conflicts while providing for other appropriate resource uses.

5. Maintain or improve the habitat condition of meadow and aquatic areas. Habitat condition for any wildlife species can be defined as the ability of a specific area to supply the forage, cover, water and space requirements of an animal. Habitat condition, therefore, is a measure of habitat quality, and is determined by assessments, surveys and studies.

6. Maintain or improve the condition of the public rangelands so as to enhance productivity for all rangeland values (including wildlife).

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Support reintroduction of Lahontan cutthroat trout, bighorn sheep and other endemic species into suitable, potential and historic habit.

Species	Site(s)
A. Bighorn sheep	Stillwater Mountains, Clan Alpine Mountains, Desatoya Mountains
B. Lahontan cutthroat trout	Streams and springs identified by NDOW as potential habitat
C. Other T&E fish	Streams and springs identified by NDOW as potential habitat

Reno Planning area

2. Intensive grazing systems will be implemented on the category I allotments within mule deer habitat areas which have cattle, and will recognize bitter-brush as a key species on these allotments.

3. The Faye Canyon, Spratt Creek and Hangman allotments will continue as areas set aside for wildlife use.

4. Limit OHV use to designated roads and trails in the Petersen Mountain and Sand Hills crucial deer areas.
. . . . . Federal Register Notice, Sept. 15, 1988 Closed Petersen Mountains Year round.
. . . . . Sand Hills Closed Dec. 1 - April 30.

5. Close Bedell Flat strutting ground to OHV use from March 1 to May 30 each year.
. . . . . Strutting Ground has Disappeared.

6. The Jacks Valley Wildlife Management Area will be closed to OHVs between Dec. 1st and May 1st annually. . . . . Transferred to USFS in 1988.

7. Limit vehicle traffic to designated roads and trails in the higher elevations of the Pine Nut Mountains. All existing roads and trails will be designated open to OHV use except where roads or trails impact sensitive meadows, seeps, springs and other waters as identified in the watershed decisions.

8. Protect Jack's Valley Wildlife Management Area (WMA) from wildfires, especially that portion of it south of Jack's Valley road. . . . . Transferred to USFS in 1988.

9. Carson City District's Normal Year Fire Plan will provide for maximum protection of Sand Hills deer winter range from wildfires.

10. Protect all occupied identified raptor eyries threatened by OHV events or mining operations with area closures from March 1st thru June 15.

11. The JW Ranch area will be open to commercial or noncommercial wood cutting for a one year period to improve forage for wintering mule deer. If this practice does not accomplish the desired objective, chaining and reseeding will be allowed.

12. Dead-standing or live cottonwood or aspen trees will remain. Any dead or live trees in identified deer migration corridors will be left for wildlife use.

13. All riparian areas will be given special management consideration through the consultation and coordination process to provide for adequate protection.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. Acquire private lands in the following areas for wildlife:

   A. Lassen-Washoe deer winter range and migration corridor. About 7,400 acres.

   . . . . . Petersen Exchange Acquired 3,812 acres, April 1996.

   . . . . . Perma Bilt Exchange Acquired 123 acres, September 1997.

   B. East Walker River lands for fisheries and wildlife habitat management.

   . . . . . Transferred to USFS in 1988

   C. Pine Nut Mountains for wildlife habitat management, about 35,000 acres.

   . . . . . Perma Bilt Land Exchange Acquired 4,310 acres, June 1997.

2. Acquire legal access to Faye Canyon, Bagley Valley and the Hangman's Bridge area near Markleeville. Legal access will be acquired in coordination with the USFS.

   . . . . . Completed Faye/Luther Trailhead EA, August 2000

3. Acquire or provide legal access through or around Big Canyon, Cottonwood Canyon and Hardscrabble Canyon to provide vehicular access into the Virginia Mountains. Legal access will be provided for administration of BLM lands.

   . . . . . Cottonwood Canyon Easement Acquired, 1990.

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Implement range improvement projects to protect and improve (big game) mule deer, bighorn sheep, sage grouse, fisheries, and riparian habitat and to improve livestock and wild horse distribution and vegetation utilization. This includes:

   A. Protection of 10.7 miles of fishable rivers and creeks.

   B. Rehabilitation of meadow habitats in the McBride Flat allotment.

C. Protection of 20 developed spring sources and 7 undeveloped riparian areas.

D. Removal of 600 acres of pinyon-juniper overstory on selected sites in the Pine Nut Mountains, Excelsior Mountains, Wassuk Range, and the McBride Flat area through fuelwood harvest.

E. Installation of 10 guzzlers.

F. Development of water for wildlife at six spring development and 5 undeveloped riparian areas.

G. Removal of 250 acres of pinyon-juniper and potential chaining and seeding in the J-W ranch area.

H. Protection of 95 small wildlife habitat areas.

I. This also includes protection of riparian/meadow habitat areas with the following priority:

Site	Miles	Acres
1. Edwards Creek	4.6	
2. Horse Creek	5.0	
3. Big Dens Creek	6.0	
4. Cherry Valley Meadows		1,600
5. Park Canyon Creek	1.1	
6. Willow Creek	3.4	
7. War Canyon Creek	5.1	
8. Cherry Creek	4.6	
9. Carson River	0.2	

J. The protection of 65 spring sources is also included with the following top 20 prioritized.

Inventory Number	Area	Location
1. K0780008A 13	Cherry Valley	T.20 N., R.36 E, Sec.33, NE
2. K0770001A 13	South War Canyon	T.20 N., R.26 E, Sec.13, NESW
3. K0770002A 13	South War Canyon	T.20 N., R.36 E, Sec.23, NWNW
4. K0770003A 13	South War Canyon	T.20 N., R.36 E, Sec.23, SWSW
5. K0780003A 13	South War Canyon	T.20 N., R.36 E, Sec.28, SESW
6. L0020007B 63	Burnt Canyon	T.19 N., R.33 E, Sec.33, NESW
7. D0370001A 13	Cherry Valley	T.20 N., R.36 E, Sec.20, SESE
8. D0370002A 58	Cherry Valley	T.20 N., R.36 E, Sec.28, SWNW
9. D0580002A 12	Silver Hill	T.21 N., R.33 E, Sec.12, SENW

10. D0570002A 13	Silver Hill	T.21 N., R.33 E, Sec.07, NWNW
11. D0570001A 12	Silver Hill	T.21 N., R.33 E, Sec.12, SENW
12. D0610001B 42	Mud Spring	T.20 N., R.34 E, Sec.05, SWNE
13. D0610005A 13	East Job Canyon	T.21 N., R.33 E, Sec.25, NESW
14. D0580004A 13	West Wood Canyon	T.21 N., R.34 E, Sec.30, SWNE

Inventory Number	**Area**	**Location**
15. D0360001A 36	Mount Augusta	T.19 N., R.36 E, Sec.09, SESE
16. K0750004A 13	North War Canyon	T.20 N., R.37 E, Sec.19, NWSE
17. K0750006A 13	North War Canyon	T.20 N., R.37 E, Sec.18, NESW
18. K0750007A 13	North War Canyon	T.20 N., R.37 E, Sec.18, SENW
19. K0440004A 27	Straight Canyon	T.21 N., R.38 E, Sec.30
20. K0440005A 27	Rocky Canyon	T.21 N., R.38 E, Sec.19

2. Rehabilitate 6,000 acres of burned deer winter range (Petersen Mountain).

3. Rehabilitate 6,000 acres of burned critical deer winter range. The specific locations and types of rehabilitation will be determined by consultation and coordination through a public process. CRMP is the preferred process.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Continue implementation of the following Habitat Management Plans (HMPs):
   - A. Job Peak . . . . . Incorporated in Stillwater HMP, completed 1987.
   - B. Dogskin/Virginia . . . . . Completed 1977.
   - C. Lassen/Washoe . . . . . Revised 1988.
   - D. Desert Mountain . . . . . Completed 1983, Needs Revision.
   - E. Sand Springs/Fairview Peak . . . . . Completed 1981, Needs Revision.
   - F. Alkali Lake . . . . . Managed by NDOW since 1980s.
   - G. East Walker River . . . . . No Plan Transferred to USFS.
   - H. Jacks Valley . . . . . Transferred to USFS.
   - I. Excelsior Mountain . . . . . No Plan.
   - J. Pilot Mountain . . . . . No Plan
   - K. Mina . . . . . Completed 1988

2. Complete or revise the following HMPs:
   - A. Pah Rah . . . . . Completed 1982.
   - B. Jumbo . . . . . No Plan.
   - C. Pine Nut . . . . . Revision completed 1987.

3. Fencing of small habitats will be accomplished through the Activity Planning process and will include public participation and collaboration.

4. Wildlife habitat improvement projects will be guided, in the most part, by provisions in activity level plans such as habitat management plans, or interdisciplinary activity plans. These plans will be developed through consultation with interested parties and will be coordinated with livestock, wild horse, and wilderness plans. These plans will be focused on rehabilitation and improvement of wildlife habitat through protective fencing, water developments, grazing management, and vegetation treatments.

5. Riparian protection measures would involve implementation and evaluation of grazing management systems and techniques which have been designed to enhance riparian habitat before initiating extensive fencing of specific areas to exclude wild horses and livestock. Riparian and fisheries habitat protection measures will involve fencing of some specific areas to prevent over-utilization and trampling. Some grazing uses by livestock and wild horses could occur on those riparian areas where monitoring studies indicate the area has recovered to a good or better condition class. The degree and season of grazing use will be determined through consultation and coordination with affected livestock permittees and other interested parties.

6. Monitoring of big game habitat and fisheries will be conducted in accordance with BLM manuals 6630 and 6672. Monitoring of other wildlife habitats will be conducted as appropriate.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. Current BLM Riparian Area Management Guidelines, as outlined in the 1987 Policy Statement clarified in the BLM's Riparian-Wetlands Initiative for the 1990's shall be followed.

2. There shall be no change in class of livestock from cattle to sheep in identified bighorn habitats of any type. Current BLM guidelines for domestic sheep management in bighorn sheep habitats as outlined in BLM Instruction Memo 98-140, as updated, shall be followed.

3. Identified bighorn lambing areas are considered very sensitive and essential to the continued existence of established bighorn populations. No activities shall be allowed which adversely affect these areas. Areas currently identified include Chalk Mountain, Bald Mountain, and the Desatoya Mountains

4. Active occupied raptor nests shall be protected with an administrative one-half mile wide buffer to protect them from disturbance by participants in OHV races, trail rides and other organized recreational events, unless sites specific conditions allow otherwise.

5. Vegetation control measures will be prohibited within 100 yards of a stream or meadow, on sage grouse breeding complexes, or wintering grounds, unless they are intended to improve sage grouse habitats.

6. BLM activities in this district shall adhere to current BLM policies and procedures to enhance ecosystem management on public lands.

7. Proposed introductions, transplants, augmentations, and reestablishment for both floral and faunal species shall follow BLM Manual 1745, and any additional Nevada State Office guidelines.

8. Animal damage control is an integral part of livestock management on public lands. It shall be allowed to continue as it has in the past 20+ years, provided there is a current annual plan of work prepared by Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and an environmental analysis prepared by the district, per current BLM/APHIS guidelines.
. . . . . Replaced with 1995 National Level MOU whereby APHIS/ADC prepares a state-wide EA and cooperates with BLM and NDOW in preparing an annual plan of work.

9. Big game guzzlers will be fenced to exclude domestic livestock and wild horses.

10. No broadleaf trees, dead or green, will be harvested because of their superior values to wildlife for nest trees.

11. Where the need is identified for wildlife use, water improvements will include protected seep areas and fences around spring developments.

12. Water for wildlife will be made available at all livestock watering developments where appropriate.

13. Spring improvement projects will be fenced and water will be piped away from the source to a trough or pond if necessary. Water will also be left at the spring source in accordance with Nevada law.

14. All water improvements will include bird ramps in watering troughs, lateral water sites off pipelines, overflows at troughs, protected seep areas, and fences around spring developments.

15. Brush control by herbicides, prescribed burning, or by mechanical means will be in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Nevada Division of Wildlife and the Bureau of Land Management. The procedures specify, among other things, that vegetation control measures will be prohibited on sage grouse breeding complexes, wintering grounds, or within 100 yards of a stream or meadow.
. . . . . All vegetation management actions in Nevada will conform with decisions in the final Environmental Impact Statement on BLM Lands in Thirteen Western States and Record of Decision 1991. All vegetation management actions in California will conform with decisions

in the California Vegetation Management Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision 1988.

16. BLM will adhere to current habitat modification guidelines prepared by the Western Sage Grouse Committee of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

Habitat Management Plans (HMP)

1. Stillwater Range HMP . . . . . September 1987.
2. Amendment to Stillwater Range and Clan Alpine HMPs . . . . . August 1995.
3. Lassen-Washoe Wildlife Habitat Area HMP (Revised) . . . . . June 1988.
4. Desatoya Mountains HMP . . . . . June 1994.
5. Desatoya Range Bighorn Sheep HMP . . . . . August 1986.
6. HMP Desert Mountains Wildlife HMA . . . . . June 1983.
7. HMP Sand Springs - Fairview Peak . . . . . April 1981.
8. HMP Dogskin - Virginia Mountain Wildlife HMA . . . . . September 1977.
9. HMP Pah Rah Range Wildlife HMA . . . . . August 1982.
10. Pine Nut HMP (Revised) . . . . . March 1987.
11. Mina HMP . . . . . August 1988.
12. Gillis Mountains Desert Bighorn Sheep Release Package . . . . . October 1997.
13. Clan Alpine HMP . . . . . February 1988.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. Lahontan Rangeland Program Summary Update . . . . . December 1989.
2. Walker Resource Area Rangeland Program Summary . . . . . November 1989.

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. WLD-1 Critical Areas, Deer Winter Range, Sage Grouse Leks.
2. WLD-2 Critical Areas, Pronghorn Antelope, Mountain Quail
3. WLD-3 Critical Areas, Desert Mountain Goat, Valley Quail, Mountain Lion

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM manual Section 6840 - Special Status Species Management 09/16/88) The policy of the BLM is listed below.

1. Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species
   A. The BLM shall conserve T/E species and the ecosystems upon which they depend and shall use existing authority in furtherance of the purposes of the ESA. Specifically BLM shall:
      1. Determine, to the extent practical, the occurrence and distribution of all T/E species on lands administered by BLM, and evaluate the significance of lands administered by BLM in the conservation of those species.
      2. Identify land administered by BLM that is essential habitat and designated Critical Habitat of T/E species and prescribes management for the conservation of these habitats in land use plans.
      3. Develop and implement management plans that will ensure the conservation of T/E species and their habitats.
      4. Evaluate ongoing management activities to ensure T/E conservation objectives are being met.
      5. Ensure that all activities affecting the populations and habitats of T/E species are designed to be consistent with recovery needs and objectives.

   B. Ensure that all actions authorized, funded, or carried out by the BLM are in compliance with the ESA. To accomplish this BLM shall:
      1. Screen all proposed actions to determine if T/E species or their habitat will be affected. Normally the environmental analysis process is used, but for some actions, such as 3809 notices or APDs, no EA is prepared; however, they must still be screened.
      2. Initiate consultation with the FWS/NMFS, as appropriate, for those actions that may affect T/E species or their habitats.
      3. Until the consultation proceedings are completed and a final decision has been reached, BLM shall not carry out any actions that would cause irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources or reduce the future management options for the species involved.
      4. Ensure that no BLM action will adversely affect the likelihood of recovery of any T/E species.

   C. Cooperate with the FWS/NMFS in planning for the recovery of T/E species. To accomplish this BLM shall:
      1. Participate on recovery teams and in recovery plan preparation, as well as State or regional working teams responsible for T/E species recovery.

2. Review technical and agency review drafts of recovery plans for species affected by BLM management to ensure that proposed actions assigned to BLM are technically and administratively feasible and consistent with BLM's mission and authority.
3. Ensure that the decisions, terms and conditions of resource management plans, and more detailed site-specific plans, prepared for lands by previously approved recovery plans are consistent with meeting recovery plan objectives.

D. Retain in federal ownership all habitat essential for the survival or recovery of any T/E species, including habitats used historically by these species.

2. Species Proposed For federal Listing. Species proposed for listing as T/E and proposed Critical Habitat shall be managed with the same level of protection provided for T/E species except that formal consultations are not required.

A. BLM shall confer with FWS/NMFS on any action that will adversely affect a proposed species or proposed Critical Habitat.

B. Until the conference proceedings are completed BLM shall ensure that all actions authorized or carried out do not cause any irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources or reduce the future management options for the species involved.

3. Candidate Species. The BLM shall carry out management, consistent with the principles of multiple use, for the conservation of candidate species and their habitats and shall ensure that actions authorized, funded, or carried out do not contribute to the need to list any of these species as T/E. Specifically BLM shall:

A. Determine the distribution, abundance, reasons for current status, and habitat needs for candidate species occurring on lands administered by BLM and evaluate the significance of lands administered by BLM in maintaining those species.

B. For those species where lands administered by BLM or actions have a significant effect on their status, manage the habitat to conserve the species by:
   1. Including candidate species as priority species in land use plans (BLM MS 1622).
   2. Developing and implementing range wide and/or site-specific management plans for candidate species that include specific habitat and population management objectives designed for recovery, as well as the management strategies necessary to meet those objectives.
   3. Ensuring that BLM activity that effect the habitat of candidate species are carried out in a manner that is consistent with the objectives for managing those species.
   4. Monitoring populations and habitats of candidate species to determine whether management objectives are being met.

C. Request technical assistance from FWS/NMFS, and other qualified sources, on any

planned action that may contribute to the need to list a candidate species as T/E.

4. Sensitive species. State Directors, usually in cooperation with state wildlife agencies, may designate sensitive species. By definition the sensitive species designation includes species that could easily become endangered or extinct in a state. Therefore, if sensitive species are designated by a State Director, the protection provided by the policy for candidate species shall be used as a minimum level of protection.

5. State Listed Species. The BLM shall carry out management for the conservation of state listed plants and animals. State laws protecting these species, apply to all BLM programs and actions to the extent that they are consistently with FLPMA and other federal laws. In states where the state government has designated species in categories that imply local rarity, endangerment, extirpation, or extinction, the State Director will develop policies that will assist the state in achieving their management objectives for those species.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. None

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Support reintroduction of Lahontan cutthroat trout, bighorn sheep and other endemic species into suitable, potential and historic habit.

Species	Site(s)
A. Bighorn sheep	Stillwater Mountains, Clan Alpine Mountains, Desatoya Mountains
B. Lahontan cutthroat trout	Streams and springs identified by NDOW as potential habitat
C. Other T&E fish	Streams and springs identified by NDOW as potential habitat

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Use fencing, emergency OHV closure, no disposal of public lands, minerals' coordination, or any other legal means necessary to protect identified T/E plant populations. Work with applicants who present mining plans to avoid destruction of T/E plant populations, following guidance in the 43 CFR 3802 and 3809 regulations.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. None

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. A Threatened and Endangered Species clearance for plants or animals will be required before any action will be approved could affect those species. If any action could impact a Threatened or Endangered Species or its habitat, Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be initiated. Results of the consultation will determine if modification or abandonment of the project is required.

2. No actions will be authorized, funded or carried out that would contribute to the need to list a federal Category 1 Candidate Species as Threatened or Endangered.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. WLD-1 Critical Areas, Deer Winter Range, Sage Grouse Leks.
2. WLD-2 Critical Areas, Pronghorn Antelope, Mountain Quail
3. WLD-3 Critical Areas, Desert Mountain Goat, Valley Quail, Mountain Lion

SOIL, WATERSHED AND AIR

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Sections 7000 - Soil, Water and Air Management and 7001 - Soil Resource Management 03/08/84)

BLM Manual Section 7000: It is the policy of BLM to:

1. Manage the public lands in a manner that will protect and improve the quality of the soil, water, and air resources and watershed values associated with public lands.

2. Obtain and keep current needed soil, water, and air resource information to support the various planning and multiple-use management activities associated with BLM administered public lands.

3. Stop the deterioration of public lands due to accelerated erosion and runoff and rehabilitate those areas where watershed values are significantly below their potential.

4. Coordinate the BLM's soil, water, and air quality activities with the related programs of state, local and other federal agencies and departments.

5. Provide for compliance with applicable pollution control laws, including state and federal air, water, or other pollution control standards, programs, or implementation plans.

BLM Manual Section 7001 (08/15/84): It is the policy of BLM to:

6. Collect and maintain soil resource information at a level of intensity consistent with management needs and in accordance with the NCSS program.

7. Develop, test, and apply soil interpretations to guide the use and management of the soil and related resources.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Reduce soil loss and associated flood and sediment damage on public lands caused by accelerated wind and water erosion due to man's actions.

2. Maintain air quality standards through case by case review of activities on public lands.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Bureau and Bureau authorized activities will be limited or prohibited in watersheds that are degrading, or in specific portions of those watersheds that are in the most immediate risk of degradation. These areas include but are not limited to the following:
   A. Northwest Reno
   E. East Washoe Valley

B. Sun Valley
C. Sparks
D. Virginia Foothills
F. Pyramid Lake Area
G. Honey Lake Valley
H. Other critical watersheds

2. Critical or at-risk watersheds will be delineated as necessary in order to give these areas special consideration in activity plan development, with the goal of preventing accelerated soil loss and watershed degradation associated flood and sediment damage to private property or adjacent lands, or to prevent destruction of important wildlife habitat. Delineate high erosion hazard and/or flood-prone areas within the urban interface areas.

3. Limit any Bureau development, authorized activity, or land treatment so not to exceed a 50% reduction in ground cover in High Erosion Susceptibility Areas (HESA). Exceptions include water stabilization projects designed to promote vegetative cover, "open" OHV designations on Prison Hill, North Flannigan, Pah Rah Mountains, McClellan Peak, and East Churchill Canyon, non-discretionary mining and prospecting activities, lands disposal in HESAs, green firewood cutting in Bailey Canyon HESA and Christmas tree cutting in the Brunswick Canyon.

4. Retain public lands within 100-year flood plain boundaries. Authorize development within 100-year flood plain only if consistent with existing federal, state and local government restrictions.

5. Limit off-highway vehicle use to designated roads and trails in areas of severe erosion hazard susceptibility and in watersheds where OHV use is causing flood and sediment problems. The areas to be limited, include:
   A. Peterson Mountain
   B. Warm Springs/Hungry Valley
   C. Sun Valley
   D. Peavine Mountain . . . . . Transferred to USFS.
   E. Jumbo/Geiger Grade
   F. Portions of Prison and C Hill
   G. Mullen Pass

6. Eliminate OHV use in the following areas:
   A. Through or in the immediate vicinity (near enough to the source area that its water quality or quantity may be affected) of any surface water source such as a spring or seep.

   B. Any riparian zone associated with meadows, marshes, springs, seeps, ponds, lakes, reservoirs, or streams.

   C. Any channel, bank or streamed of a perennial stream. Exceptions are counties or BLM improved roads.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Initiate an erosion control treatment or management actions designed to reduce surface impacts, in areas where accelerated erosion is occurring due to BLM authorized activities. Develop specific management plans by watershed area, and implement action found to be economically feasible.

2. All Bureau and Bureau authorized activities will be reviewed to determine appropriate measures or stipulations to enhance positive or reduce negative air quality impacts.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Develop and implement watershed management plans on the following water sheds:
   A. Corey Creek Watershed
   B. Rough Creek Watershed . . . . . Rough Creek Transferred to USFS.
   It is projected that twenty erosion control structures will be required to implement these plans.

2. Establish goals on a case-by-case basis in all grazing management plans to reduce or stabilize erosion rates by increasing ground cover. Specify those portions of each plan where sufficient ground cover cannot be established to meet erosion goals.

3. Watershed management plans will be developed through consultation with interested parties and will be coordinated with livestock, wildlife, and wild horse and burro management plans. After the plans have been implemented, watershed conditions will be monitored through water quality, wind and water erosion studies as appropriate. If necessary, changes in the future watershed treatments will be proposed.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

1. Soil disturbance from activities on public lands will be minimized through activity planning and environmental assessment procedures.

2. Air quality will be protected through compliance with the Clean Air Act of 1990 and all federal, state and local emission standards for air quality. Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act 42 (U.S.C. 7506 states that "No department, agency or instrumentality of the federal Government shall engage in, support in any way, or provide federal assistance for, license or permit, or approve any activity which does not conform to an implementation plan after it has been

promulgated under section 110 of the Clean Air Act."

3. Actions which interfere with or prevent achievement of proper functioning condition of riparian-wetland areas, and associated uplands will be avoided or mitigated.

4. Pollution control and abatement programs will be developed to provide for both environmental protection and reasonable resource uses.

5. Best management practices will be instituted and necessary plans and permit requirements will be employed in activity plans for the abatement and control of non-point source pollution from public lands.

6. Maintain or strive to maintain all riparian systems and upland areas in proper functioning condition. Monitor and re-assess these areas appropriately, and address riparian and upland health in all pertinent activity plans.

7. In order to insure watershed health, control or elimination of noxious weeds on both upland and riparian areas will be in cooperation with local, state, and other federal agencies, as well private groups or other interested parties.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCES:

1. None

WATER RESOURCES

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Sections 7240 10/31/78 - Water Quality and 7250 - Water Rights 03/19/84)

1. BLM Manual Section 7240 Water Quality
   A. It is the Bureau policy to protect, maintain, restore and/or enhance the quality of water on public lands so that its utility for other dependent ecosystems, including present and/or desired human environments, will be maintained equally or above legal water quality criteria. The water quality limits are those defined by the most stringent applicable laws and regulations. It is also policy to inventory, monitor, and evaluate natural and developed water systems to determine existing conditions, make cause/effect determination of resource activities on water quality, and recommend appropriate actions.

2. BLM Manual Section 7250 Water Rights
   A. The water policy of the BLM is that the states have the primary authority and responsibility for the allocation and management of water resources within their own boundaries, except as otherwise specified by Congress on a case-by-case basis.

   B. Implement Water Policy. In order to implement the BLM water policy of state water resource's primacy, Bureau personnel shall:
      1. Cooperate with state governments under the umbrella of state law to protect all water uses identified for public land management purposes.
      2. Comply with applicable state law, except as specifically mandated by Congress, to appropriate water necessary to manage public lands for the purposes intended by congress.

   C. Withdrawn Lands. Where congress has by statute withdrawn lands from the public domain for a specific federal purpose pursuant to congressional authorization, the Bureau may assert a federal reserved water right to appurtenant and unappropriated water which was unappropriated as of the date of the reservation only in the minimum amount necessary.

   D. Primary Purpose. Where the primary purposes of the reservation can be served as, or more effectively by application of the receipt thereof of, a state appropriative water right, the Bureau is not required to assert an otherwise available federal reserved water right, unless the Bureau is required to participate in a McCarran Amendment Proceeding, in which case all federal reserved water rights must be asserted. (See Section .2.22A McCarran Amendment.)

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Maintain or enhance water quality and availability on public lands in the field office Area of jurisdiction.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. None

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Water availability and distribution will be enhanced through water developments proposed for livestock, wild horses, and wildlife.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Water quality will be improved through development of watershed management plans and protection of riparian areas.

Reno Planning Area (only)

2. Proof of water right permits will be required regarding any or all non-reserved waters before initiating development in such waters. If water right permit does not exist, the Bureau will encourage the permittee to choose and follow through on one of the following three options:
   D. Obtain water permit solely in his/her name.
   B. Obtain a permit as co holder with BLM.
   A. Requests BLM to obtain the permit.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. The BLM under the mandates of Sections 208 and 313 of the Clean Water Act of 1977, Executive Order No. 12088, and the provisions of the federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 is required to comply with the State of Nevada's water quality and implementation plan. Bureau commitment and responsibility are further emphasized by the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the BLM. Nevada State Director in December 1980 and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. Among other things the BLM has agreed to:
   A. Continue to develop pollution control and abatement programs which provide for both environmental protection and reasonable resource uses on BLM administered lands.

B. Wherever appropriate, institute best managements practice and employ other necessary plans and permit requirements in the development of Resource Management Plans, allotment management plans, grazing permits, etc., for the abatement and control of non-point source pollution from public lands.

C. Develop and institute a "208" water quality monitoring and survey program, and upon request, provide NDEP with any available water quality data gathered by BLM.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. None

FIRE MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Sections 9212- Fire Prevention 07/22/92 and 9214 - Prescribed Fire Management 02/02/88)
BLM Manual Section 9212, Fire Prevention
Consistent with Departmental policy (910 DM 1.4), it is the BLM's policy that:

1. Prevention of disaster wildfires is a high priority. Commitment to an effective wildfire prevention program is expected at all levels within the Bureau.

2. The wildfire prevention program shall be designed to minimize losses from fire consistent with resource objectives identified in Resource Management Plans.

3. Wildfire prevention shall stress the analysis of risks, hazards and values and the development of specific educational, engineering, enforcement and administrative prevention actions.

4. Wildfire prevention activities shall be coordinated with all federal, state, county, and Municipal agencies.

5. Each state and district office shall provide coordination, guidance, and assistance to achieve an aggressive wildfire prevention program and shall maintain and update as required a Wildfire Prevention Plan integrated with the Fire Management planning process.

6. Wildfire Prevention Program funding shall be consistent with the identified needs as determined through a prevention analysis that is approved as an operational plan of the FMAP (BLM 9212-1).

7. The BLM shall emphasize the use of hazardous fuel reduction techniques as part of the wildfire prevention program.

BLM Manual Section 9214, Prescribed Fire Management.

8. The fire role and its potential use will be considered in establishing the management strategy for all ecosystems.

9. Prescribed fires may be initiated by planned or unplanned (unscheduled) ignition. See definitions under 9210.

10. All prescribed fire (including hazard reduction) projects will support one or more approved land management objective(s) derived from the Bureau's land management planning process.

11. The planning and execution of the prescribed fire will be funded by the benefitting program(s).

12. Each prescribed fire project will have an approved Prescribed Fire Plan completed before ignition and will be reported upon completion. Other agency projects supported by the Bureau will have approved participation.

13. Each prescribed fire will be managed and executed in conformance with the approved plan by qualified personnel. The term qualified will include experience, training, and physical fitness for key positions.

14. Prescribed fire projects will comply with federal, state and local regulations and standards, including air quality and Smoke Management programs.

15. Pre-burn, burn, and post-burn fuel and weather measurement(s) will be taken on all prescribed fire projects for planning purposes, prescription, compliance, and project evaluation. It may not be necessary to take post weather measurements on fuel reduction projects.

16. Pre-burn and post-burn monitoring will be conducted to determine whether resource and fire objectives are achieved, unless where previous documented experience is adequate to predict post-burn results.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Restore fire as an integral part of the ecosystem, improve the diversity of vegetation and to reduce fire hazard fuels.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Carson City Field Office is divided into four fire management categories A, B, C and D (see map X). Fire will be managed in these areas according to the following guidance.

   A. **Category A:** Those areas where wildfires are not wanted. These areas include threatened and endangered species habitat and the urban/wildland interface.

   Full suppression of wildfires will be the objective. Treatments using prescribed fire and selective tree cutting could be used on a limited basis to reduce fuel loading and the potential for severe wildfires.

   Wildfires in Category A areas will be suppressed with the intent of holding them to 10 acres or less 90% of the time, and continue aggressive suppression until fires are contained. Category A fire management with full suppression will be limited to about 20,000 acres in

the Carson City Field Office administrative boundary.

B. **Category B:** Those areas where wildfires are not wanted, but if fires occur and escape, management options on how to suppress the fire is available. It is recognized that fire has a role in the natural environment and opportunities for prescribed fire are significant. Many of the areas in this category have a history of severe fires that have escaped, despite aggressive full suppression responses.

Hazardous fuels will be reduced in order to reduce the threat of rapid fire spread and escaped fires. Techniques to accomplish this will include prescribed burning and selective tree cutting. Major considerations are wildland/urban interface, threatened, endangered, or sensitive species habitat, or areas that have experienced so much fire in the last 10 to 15 years that special consideration is warranted.

Wildfires in Category B areas will be suppressed with the intent of holding 90% to 10 acres or less in forested areas, and to 25 acres or less in brush or grass areas. Escaped fires will be closely analyzed to consider protection of life, then property and natural resources, and suppression strategies that will most effectively meet these goals will be used. Category B fire management will be applied to about 500,000 acres in the Carson City Field Office administrative boundary.

C. **Category C:** Those areas where fire has a significant role in the environment, and wildfires should be used to accomplish resource management goals. Constraints exist, but are generally localized (small towns, ranches, riparian sites, etc.), and will require buffer zones of full protection and fuel treatments, but as a whole, the areas are delineated for the beneficial effects of fire. In this category, the need for prescribed fire is less and tends to be site specific to accomplish protection or improvement goals. The desired future condition is a healthy ecosystem characterized by a good distribution and proportion of successional stages such as will occur over time under a natural fire regime. The desired outcome is that fires will be irregular in shape, exhibit varied intensities, and not consume more than half of any major drainage.

The objective for Category C will be to contain unplanned ignitions to less than 2,000 acres 90% of the time in all vegetative types. Fire suppression tactics will be constrained to protect scenic, natural resource, and wilderness values. Category C fire management will be applied to about 1,100,000 acres in the Carson City Field Office administrative boundary.

D. **Category D:** Those areas where wildfires should be allowed to burn in a mostly unrestricted fashion to achieve resource objectives. All fires receive a response and will be evaluated for potential threats or negative impacts. Fire suppression actions will be limited to protection of small sites with constraints (such as ranches, improvements,

or riparian zones) by either applying preventive fuels management treatment before wildfires start or by herding wildfires around in a manner that will achieve resource objectives. Opportunities for prescribed fire or selective tree cutting are usually localized in nature, either protect, enhance, or restore specific values in particular areas.

Wildfires in Category D will have no specific acreage limitation. Fires will be contained by appropriate means where and when conditions will result in significant damage to natural resources or threaten private developments. Category D fire management will be applied to about 3,300,000 acres within the Carson City Field Office administrative boundary.

2. Land to the west of U. S. Highway 95 will be managed under a mix of fire management categories A, B, C, and D, as depicted on Map X.

   A. Category A management will occur in the Carson City urban area, areas with special status species, and portions of Petersen Mountain and the Sand Hills.

   B. Category B management will occur to the north and east of developed areas in the western edge of the Field Office, including Long and Bagley Valley and the Indian Creek Recreation Area in California and Smith, Carson, and Mason Valleys and the Virginia and Pah Rah Ranges.

   C. Category C management will occur in the Winnemucca Ranch area, the Pah Rah Range, the Pine Nut Mountains, Bald Mountain, Bagley Valley, the Desert Mountains, and the Wassuk Range.

   D. Only one area west of Highway 95, near Marietta in Mineral County will be managed under Category D.

3. Lands to the east of U. S. Highway 95 will be managed primarily as described in Category D, which provides for a low intensity of fire suppression activities. Exceptions to Category D management include areas in Dixie and Edwards Creek Valleys, Sand Mountain, and portions of the Gillis Range, which will be managed under Category C.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. See Phase One through Phase Three of the Fire Management Planning Process. (Information

Bulletin No. NV-97-061, Information Bulletin No. 97-2031.)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Information Bulletin No. NV-99-143. Approved Fire Management Plans are not the final steps in allowing BLM personnel to use the full range of Appropriate Management Responses (AMR). Until and implementation process is developed and an activity plan is in place for each polygon identified in Phase I of the FMP, including full environmental analysis, your options to use fire for resource benefit are severely limited. Unless this implementation process has been completed, full suppression is the only viable alternative under current policy. As is, the current policy, human caused fires will always be suppressed.

2. In the case of a wildland fire that escapes initial attack, a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) must be completed to determine the complexity level and identify suppression alternatives. When analyzing alternatives, consideration should always be given to least cost suppression tactics as long as other resource objectives can be met.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. Fire suppression and management activities in wilderness study areas (WSAs) will be guided by the Wilderness Interim Fire Management Plan. The objective in WSAs is to allow fires to play their natural role.

2. Minimum impact suppression tactics will apply, whereby the environmental impacts of emergency fire management methods will be no greater than necessary to meet fire management objectives.

3. Prescribed burns will be reseeded, using native species to the extent practical, wherever residual vegetation is not adequately abundant to revegetate the sites naturally, prevent domination by invasive weed species, and meet ecosystem restoration objectives.

4. Increased emphasis will be placed on natural resource objectives for each fire and fuels treatment. A monitoring and evaluation program will be established to determine the effectiveness of the management implemented. This will include the purposeful collection and analysis of data to determine the results of implementing management actions. It will require monitoring both pre- and post-fire environmental conditions. This information will be used to adjust management determinations. Adjustment in fire and fuels management practices based on sound scientific monitoring and analysis will be consistent with this plan amendment.

5. Current standard operating procedures for environmental analysis will be followed. Each

proposal for a prescribed burn or selective tree cutting will be further analyzed in a project specific environmental analysis.

6. The assignment of one or more resource advisors will be a standard practice for all intermediate and large wildfires in Category A and B areas. Because of reduced initial attack in Category C and D areas, resource advisors will be assigned to all wildfires regardless of size in those areas.

7. Fire management plans which include fire prescriptions will be developed before any prescribed burning occurs.

8. Prescribed natural fire plans will be developed for limited suppression areas.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. Final EIS Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands In Thirteen Western States . . . . . July 1991
2. California Vegetation management Final EIS . . . . . August 1988
3. Phase One Fire Management Planning Information Bulletin No. NV-97-061
4. Information Bulletin No. 97-2031
5. Information Bulletin No. NV-99-143

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. FIR-1 Fire Category and Zones

LANDS AND REALTY

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 2100 Acquisition 09/30/84)
It is the policy of the Bureau to:

1. Acquire lands and interests in lands needed to manage, protect, develop, maintain, and use resources on public lands and further provide access for public use and enjoyment of such lands (as exemplified by perpetual access to lands having outstanding recreational value); provided such acquisitions are within the limitations of applicable authorities and available funds and are in conformity with land-use plans that apply to the area involved.

2. Acquire the real property necessary for program operation. Before acquisition, BLM personnel must determine whether requirements may be met by improved utilization of present holdings; whether other suitable existing federal holdings are available, including possible joint-use agreements; or whether requirements may be met by obtaining excess property from other agencies.

3. Obtain legal access for its operations through negotiations with landowners as expeditiously as possible. While BLM employees have a right to enter the public land and manage uses on public land, they do not have an unrestricted right to cross private lands or use private roads to reach public land. Negotiations must be carried out in an efficient, courteous, and fair manners with "face to face" meetings with the owners wherever possible. All negotiations shall comply with Title III of the Uniform Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970.

4. Purchase lands or interests in lands through the use of written instruments (deeds), only after final review and approval for technical adequacy and compliance with applicable standards by the respective state office staff.

5. Secure a written opinion of title from the appropriate Regional or Field solicitor as to the sufficiency of the title to the land or interest therein that is being acquired by the United states through purchase, exchange, or donation prior to making payment to the grantor. The title evidence must assure that proper owners are identified and unacceptable title encumbrances must be removed from the title. Managers must comply with 40 U.S.C. 255 which states in part "Unless the Attorney General gives prior written approval of the sufficiency of the title to land for the purposes for which the property is being acquired by the United States, public money may not be expended for the purchase of the land or interest therein."

6. Use eminent domain only after diligent negotiations to purchase have failed, when an emergency situation exists, or when a landowner is unable to convey a clear title.

7. Accept gifts (donations) or bequests of lands or interest in lands which will help consolidate and facilitate the management, use, and protection of the public lands and its resources. This must be a bonafide, landowner-initiated action.

8. Dispose of unneeded easements under procedures delegated to the BLM from GSA to the underlying landowner when it is determined that such easements are no longer needed by the United States and that the United States has received fair market value.

9. Use cost effective alternatives to the direct purchase of private lands whenever possible and only acquire the minimum interest necessary to meet the management objectives when using the federal portion of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

43 CFR 2200.0-6 Land Exchange Policy: (Selected Provisions)

10. The Secretary is not required to exchange any federal lands. Land exchanges are discretionary, voluntary real estate transactions between the federal and non-federal parties.....

11. The authorized officer may complete an exchange only after a determination is made that the public interest will be well served.....

12. The federal and non-federal lands involved in an exchange authorized pursuant to FLPMA as amended shall be located within the same state.

13. The authorized officer shall consider only those exchange proposals that are in conformance with land use plans or plan amendments where applicable.....

43 CFR 2710.0-6 Land Sale Policy (Selected Provisions)

14. Sales under this part shall be made only in implementation of an approved land use plan or analysis in accordance with part 1600 of this title.

15. Public land determined to be suitable for sale shall be offered only on the initiative of the Bureau of Land Management. Indications of interest to have specific tracts of public lands offered for sale shall be accomplished through public input to the land use planning process.....

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Transfer lands out of federal ownership that is uneconomic to manage or have been identified for community expansion or agricultural development and have little value for other resource uses. (see land disposal map)

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Designate for potential future disposal approximately 185,000 acres in of BLM managed public lands, under jurisdiction of the CCFO, as a pool of lands which meet preliminary criteria for transfer from federal ownership. In general these lands are those where BLM management is not cost effective. To determine the land tenure designation applicable to specific parcels of BLM managed public lands refer to map LND-1, Land Status, Disposal, Acquisition, Retention. For specific parcels in the Pyramid and Pine Nut Planning Units review decision 5 A and B in this section.

   A. These include lands that are difficult and uneconomic to manage because of the location and other characteristics; (e.g. Scattered parcels south of Hawthorne and in Smith and Mason Valleys, checkerboard lands near Fernley, Silver Springs and the Carson Sink).

   B. Land that would support community expansion (e.g. land west of Yerington, land surrounding the towns of Luning, Mina, Sodaville, Fallon, Gabbs, Reno, Verdi, and lands east of Montgomery Pass, near Honey Lake Valley, and Dixie Valley).

   C. Lands with possible agricultural potential (e.g. Smith Valley, Mason Valley, Honey Lake Valley, and Edwards Creek).

   D. Lands along the East Walker River identified for exchange to benefit Bureau programs.

2. Identify as potentially suitable for disposal 5,100 acres for community expansion and 7,700 acres as suitable for disposal for recreation and public purposes in the Pine Nut/Markleeville Planning Units.

3. The objective of the City of Fallon Landfill Final Plan Amendment (1997) is to allow for the transfer of 240 acres of public land to the City of Fallon under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and to make 600 acres of adjacent land available for disposal for expansion of the landfill or other compatible uses in the future. The amendment includes the following management prescription: **The land tenure designation on the public land shown in Figure 2 (within T. 16 N., R. 29 E., sections 20 and 21) is changed from retention to disposal.**

   Following the change in land tenure designation, BLM will offer 240 acres of public land for sale at $10/acre to the City of Fallon for use as a landfill. In addition a 30-year FLPMA Title V right-of-way will be issued to the City of Fallon across public land for access to the landfill.
   . . . . . Completed, 240 Acres patented to the City of Fallon June 16, 1997.

4. Within the Carson City Urban Interface Plan Amendment Area:
   A. Designate 15,690 acres for retention in public ownership under the administration of the Bureau of Land Management BLM (Map LND-3).

B. Designate 2,049 acres for potential disposal to state and local government through Recreation and Public Purposes Act.

C. Designate 153 acres for potential disposal through exchange for other lands in Carson City.

D. Disposals along the V&T railroad corridor would be limited to those that fully protect the corridor's historic and scenic values

E. Withdraw 17,892 acres from the operation of the locatable mining laws and close these lands to mineral exploration and leasing to protect open space and other public land values. These are discretionary actions.
. . . . . Completed PLO 7348, July 28, 1998, 18,584.68 acres withdrawn.

F. Lands retained in public ownership would be managed to protect open space, visual, recreation, watershed, and wildlife resources. Protection of these resources would be given priority over other land uses.

G. Management of mineral materials in the planning area would be determined through a joint aggregate resource plan to be developed with Carson City.

Within the Reno Planning Area covered by the Management Framework Plan

5. Identify the following tracts as suitable for disposal for urban or suburban purposes, consistent with the local comprehensive plans or the views of local governmental authorities.

		Acres			**Acres**
Pyramid Planning Unit		**Public Land**	**Pine Nut Planning Unit**		**Public Land**
D1	Red Rock Valley	80	D3	Carson Plains	860
D5	Cold Springs Valley	370	D6	Carson Valley	40
D6	Lemmon Valley	3,840	D7	Indian Hill Area	320
D7	Spanish Spr. Valley	1,870	D8	Johnson Lane	3,120
D9	Reno & U.S. 395 N.	660	D11	U.S. Route 395	40
D10	Mustang Interchange	40	D12	U.S. Route 50 (SR 17)	240
D11	U.S. 395 south	480			
D12	Pleasant Valley	80			
D13	Washoe Valley	400			
D14	Patrick	580			
	Total	**8,400**			**4,640**

6. Identify the following tracts as available for transfer out of federal ownership to state, county, or local government agencies, or to non-profit corporations and associations, for recreation and public purposes.

Pyramid Planning Unit		**Acres Public Land**
P1&P2	Lemmon Valley	2,050
P4	Honey Lake Valley	4,270
P5	Sun Valley East	920
P6	Sun Valley West	240
P9	Huffaker Hills	210
P12	Steamboat Hot Spr.	40
P16	School Sites	390
P17	Galena,Thomas,Whites Cr	30
P15	Airport	100
	Total	**8,150**

Pine Nut Planning Unit		**Acres Public Land**
P3	Carson Valley	3,920
P5	Indian Hill	160
P6	Carson Plains	160
P7&P8	Mound House	160
P10	Carson River Canyon	210
P11	Six Mile Canyon	320
P12	Mud Lake	80
P13	Diamond Valley	40
	Total	**5,150**

7. Identify 6,760 acres in Honey Lake Valley as suitable for Desert Land Entry and subsequent agricultural development and disposal.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. Consolidate by land acquisition 66,970 acres of private land for crucial Lassen-Washoe deer winter range and migration corridors by acquiring about 7,400 acres of private lands in this area.

   . . . . . Petersen Mountain Exchange Acquired 3,812 Acres, December 1997.
   . . . . . Perma Bilt Exchange Acquired 123 Acres, September 1997.

2. Consolidate by land acquisition 34,880 acres of private land that is important as wildlife habitat in the Pine Nut-Markleeville Planning Units (Pine Nut Mountains).

3. Acquire private lands adjacent to Prison Hill and along the Carson River if Carson City and the state approve the acquisition.

   . . . . . Perma Bilt Exchange Acquired 703 Acres (Silver Saddle Ranch), September 1997.
   . . . . . Bernhard Exchange Acquired 32 Acres, March 2000.

4. Land exchanges will be done to block in the higher country in the Pine Nut Range and Jumbo allotment and to release land next to residential zones.

. . . . 04/2001 Laborde Land Exchange Acquired about 12,000 acres in the Jumbo Allotment
. . . September 1997 Perma Bilt Exchange Acquired about 5,000 Acres in the Pine Nut Mtns.

5. Land exchanges will be initiated with Southern Pacific Railroad and private owners in the Spanish Springs and Mustang allotments to block in lands in the White Hills and Olinghouse allotments.
. . . . . DePaoli Exchange (Phase II) acquired the majority of private lands in the white Hills and northern portion of the Olinghouse allotment, January, 1995.

6. Acquire legal access in coordination with USFS to Faye Canyon, Bagley Valley and the Hangman's Bridge area near Markleeville. Leave primary roads open.

7. Acquire or provide legal access through or around Big Canyon, Black Canyon, Cottonwood Canyon, and Hardscrabble canyon to provide vehicular access for the administration of BLM lands in the Virginia Mountains.
. . . . . Cottonwood Canyon easements acquired in 1970 (1) and 1990 (4) for access.

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Identify lands suitable for retention for management of Bureau resource management programs in cooperation with local government planning and zoning.

2. The Resource Management Plan does not propose any acreage for immediate sale to the private sector. It identifies a pool of lands with the potential for transfer to state and local governments, as well as to the private sector. Preliminary analysis indicates those tracts of public land identified meet the disposal criteria outlined in section 203 of FLPMA.

3. These are lands that are difficult or uneconomic to manage; are not suitable for management by another federal agency; were acquired for a purpose which is no longer required, or would serve an important public objective, which cannot be obtained otherwise and outweigh other public values.

4. The methods for tenure adjustments for these lands include lease and sale under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP); and lease, sale, or exchange under FLPMA.

5. Any land sales are subject to the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and Section 203 of the federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA),

which mandate a detailed analysis of each specific disposal. This analysis includes preparation of an environmental assessment, a cultural resources clearance, a report on mineral values, and an appraisal to establish fair market value. Tracts that this analysis indicates are not suitable for disposal will be retained. If the analysis indicates that a tract is suitable for disposal, a Notice of Realty Action will be distributed to interested parties, including local governments. This notice is published with a right of protest. A final decision will occur upon completion of the protest period.

6. Exchanges and minor non-Bureau initiated realty proposals will be considered where analysis indicates they are beneficial to the public.

7. All land disposal actions proposed are discretionary. Bureau initiatives for disposals, other than through exchange, would only be in those areas identified for disposal. Proposed land tenure adjustments would be evaluated through the environmental analysis process to determine if the action would be consistent with the objectives of the plan. These adjustments would be coordinated with interested parties, including local governments.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. Transfer of land from federal ownership is subject to the following provision: Mineral rights will be reserved to the United States unless there are no known mineral values in the land or the nonmineral development of the land is of more value than the minerals and the reservation of mineral rights interferes with such nonmineral development.

2. Lands identified as not suitable for disposal will be retained in federal ownership. The determination of suitability will include, but not be limited to an analysis of threatened and endangered species, wetlands, riparian areas, floodplains, wildlife, livestock and wild horse values.

3. Rights-of-way will be reserved where appropriate to provide public access prior to disposal of public lands.

4. In most cases BLM managed public lands will not be disposed of if a cultural resources survey determines that they contain sites eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, unless those sites fall within the category of sites which are to be managed for their information potential only. In that case, the sites will be mitigated following an approved treatment plan and the costs of such mitigation, including the analysis and report preparation will be borne by the proponent.

5. When public lands are disposed of or devoted to a public purpose which precludes livestock grazing, the permittee and lessees will be given two years prior notification, except in cases of emergency (i.e., military defense requirements in time of war, natural disasters, national

emergency needs, etc.) before their grazing permit and grazing lease and grazing preference may be cancelled in whole. A permittee or lessee may unconditionally waive the two-year prior notification. Such a waiver shall not prejudice the permittee's or lessee's right to reasonable compensation for fair market value of his interest in authorized permanent range improvements located on these public lands.

6. Livestock permits would be adjusted, if necessary, to reflect decreases in public land forage available for livestock grazing use within an allotment as a result of land tenure adjustments.

7. New communication site development will be allowed only when expansion of an existing site is not reasonable.

8. Only public lands identified for disposal may be transferred under the Desert Land Act or Carey Act.

9. Applicants for major rights-of-way shall submit a plan of development prior to issuance of a land use authorization that addresses specific construction, operation, maintenance, and/or termination features which will satisfactorily mitigate the impacts.

10. No agricultural entry will be allowed on lands with agricultural soil ratings of Class IV or higher or with soils having a high susceptibility to erosion or on lands which can potentially qualify for the Conservation Reserve Program from the USDA.

11. Land use permits and leases are granted under the authority of Section 302(b) of the federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Permits are issued for short-term, low impact uses of the public lands. In general, all lands within the Field Office Area of Jurisdiction which have not been dedicated to a specific use or uses are open to consideration for land use permits. Leases are issued for long-term uses which tend to establish a proprietary interest in the lands. The same public resource values considered prior to disposal will be considered prior to the issuance of a lease; consequently, such leases will be considered as disposals for the purposes of land use conformance.

12. To protect visual resource values and to enhance safety on highway rights-of-way across public lands, no permits will be issued for advertising signs or billboards.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. LND-1 Land Status Disposal, Acquisition, Retention
2. LND-2 Rights-of Way and Communication Sites
3. LND-3 Carson City Urban Interface Land Tenure Designations

RIGHT-OF-WAY CORRIDORS

NATIONAL POLICY:

43 CFR 2800.0-2 - Rights-of-Way - Objectives (Selected Provisions)

1. It is the objective of the Secretary of the Interior to grant rights-of-way and temporary use permits, covered by the regulations in this part, to any qualified individual, business entity, or governmental entity and regulate, control and direct the use of said rights-of way on public land so as to:

   A. Protect the natural resources associated with the public lands and adjacent private property or other lands administered by a government agency.

   B. Prevent unnecessary or undue environmental damage to the lands and resources.

   C. Promote the utilization of rights-of-way in common with respect to engineering and technological compatibility, national security and land use plans.

   D. Coordinate to the fullest extent possible, all actions taken pursuant to this part with state and local governments, interested individuals, and appropriate quasi-public entities.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Provide for an east-west and north-south network of rights-of-way corridors in the Field Office area of jurisdiction.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. None

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. Designate 686 miles of rights-of-way which include existing transmission lines and identify 218 miles of planning corridors, as shown on the Corridor map. All corridors are two miles in width. Private lands are not included in these corridors.

2. In the Reno planning area: Designate right-of-way corridors along existing transportation and utility facilities, where there is potential for future expansion, with a width of 1.5 miles on each side of the existing transportation/utility facility. Exceptions to this width requirement will be made on a case-by-case basis following a multiple use analysis of a specific proposal. The corridors are:

   A. **Lahontan Resource Area**

      1. A-J. A corridor running from Fernley to the Fort Churchill Power Plant. The corridor

follows U.S. Highway Alternate 95. It contains a railroad, phoneline, secondary powerlines, and pipelines.

2. A-B-G. A corridor running from Fernley to southern California and southern Nevada. This corridor does not contain any utility transmission facilities, however, it contains an existing right-of-way held by Western Area Power Administration. The present right-of-way is the eastern boundary of the corridor from B to G.
3. A-B-I. A corridor running north south through the Field Office area which contains a major powerline from Oregon to southern California.
4. P-Q-D-F-W-S-G. A planning corridor, running from Dixie Valley to southern California. It is expected to provide an outlet for geothermal power to be produced in Dixie Valley. A portion of this corridor follows the existing gravel road up the Dixie Valley.
5. Q-E. A planning corridor, running from the Dixie Valley toward Austin. This corridor passes north of the Clan Alpine Mountains WSA and south of the Augusta Mountains WSA.
6. I-W-F-R-E. A corridor running from the Fort Churchill Power Plant to Utah. It contains a major powerline, supplying much of the electricity for northern Nevada. This right-of-way provides the northern boundary of the Desatoya Mountains WSA. The corridor does not include any portion of the WSA.
7. S-R. A planning corridor, running to the south of the proposed U.S. Navy withdrawal.
8. C-B. A corridor from Valmy to the Lahontan substation.

B. **Reno Planning Area of Lahontan Resource Area**

1. L-J. A corridor supplying power to the South Lake Tahoe area from the Fort Churchill Power Plant.
2. A-H-M. The I-80 corridor system containing a highway, railroad and two major power lines.
3. H-O. A corridor used for transmission of power from Tracy to Fort Churchill.
4. M-W-K-J. A corridor bring power to the Reno area from the Fort Churchill Power Plant.
5. H-T. The Valmy-Tracy Corridor containing a 345 KV powerline.
6. H-V. The Tracy-Brunswick Corridor containing a 120 KV powerline.
7. H-K. The Tracy-Steamboat Corridor containing two major powerlines.
8. M-U. The Mount Rose-Brunswick Corridor containing a 120 KV powerline.

C. **Walker Resource Area**

1. C-A. A right-of-way corridor, containing a major powerline from the Fort Churchill Power Plant to the South Lake Tahoe area.
2. D-H. A right-of-way corridor following the existing major powerline from Bonneville to Los Angeles. Another major powerline is being planned for this route.
3. C-F. A right-of-way corridor following the existing major powerline from the Fort

Churchill Power Plant to southern Nevada. Portions of this route also contain U.S. Highway 95, a railroad, telephone, and other powerlines.

4. E-G. A right-of-way corridor following the existing Western Area Power Administration right-of-way. The existing right-of-way is the eastern boundary of this corridor. While it does not contain a powerline, a major powerline from Bonneville to southern Nevada and California is planned for this route.
5. I-J. A planning corridor for a powerline between Austin and the Los Angeles area. A portion of this route borders U.S. Highway 6 and contains telephone and secondary powerlines. It may be considered for power transmission to southern California from Dixie Valley.
6. E-M. A planning corridor for a proposed powerline from Dixie Valley connecting to a Forest Service corridor.
7. D-L. A planning corridor for a potential major gas pipeline to the west coast. A portion of this route follows an existing powerline corridor route.
8. C-B. A right-of-way corridor following the existing major powerline from the Fort Churchill Power Plant to Reno and Carson City.

D. **Reno Planning Area of Walker Resource Area**

1. C-Y. A right-of-way corridor containing a major powerline from the Fort Churchill Power Plant to Reno.
2. Z-Y. A right-of-way corridor containing a major powerline from the Valmy Power Plant to Reno.
3. Z-A. A right-of-way corridor containing major powerlines from the Tracy Power Plant to Carson City and Gardnerville.
4. Portions of planning corridors CAW and CB are in the Reno planning area and are governed by decisions regarding corridors and rights-of-way for the area.

3. The separation of rights-of-way within the designated corridors will be limited to the minimum spacing required by technology, topography, reliability, visual impacts, etc.

4. All new powerline rights-of-way grants within raptor areas will contain raptor protection stipulations as means of mitigation.

5. Future rights-of-way corridors will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, but should be as consistent as possible with the Western Regional Corridor Study.

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. The designation of rights-of way corridors is intended to minimize the proliferation of dispersed rights-of way by indicating the Bureau's preferred location. Designation does not mean that future rights-of-way are restricted to corridors, nor is it a commitment by the Bureau to approve all rights-of way applications within corridors - a corridor is not a withdrawal.

2. Corridor management involves encouraging prospective applicants to locate within corridors. This may limit other activities within corridors which are compatible with right-of-way use. Land disposals within corridors will be analyzed for their impact on future right-of-way activities.

3. All applicants for right-of-way grants, whether or not they are within corridors, are subject to standard approval procedures as outlined in the right-of-way regulations (43 CFR 2802). These procedures include: 1) Preparation of an environmental assessment in accordance with the National Environmental policy Acto of 1969, 2) A determination of compliance of the applicants proposed plan with applicable federal and state laws, 3) Consultation with federal, state, and local agencies, and 4) Any other action necessary to fully evaluate and make a decision to approve or deny the application and prescribe suitable terms and conditions for the grant or permit. Consultation with the public, including adjacent landowners, will occur throughout the process.

4. Corridors provide for a variety of right-of-way uses including powerlines, pipelines, railroads and highways. The major use expected in the Field Office area of jurisdiction is powerlines.

5. **Lahontan Reource Area**
   Future rights-of-way located in corridors crossing U.S. Navy withdrawals would be subject to review by the Navy. Powerlines over 50 feet in height are of particular concern.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. During the pre-construction and construction periods, the Bureau will make modifications to any rights-of-way necessary to maintain stability of geologic materials, fish and wildlife habitats, the environment, and the public interest.

2. The Bureau will, if necessary, suspend any construction or maintenance activity if there is an immediate threat to life (including wildlife and aquatic life), property, or the environment.

3. A right-of-way holder shall abate any conditions that could potentially cause irreparable harm or damage to any person or property.

4. Existing roads and trails will be used whenever possible during construction.

5. The right-of-way holder shall permit free and unrestricted public access to and upon the right-

of-way for all lawful and proper purposes, except in areas designated as restricted by the Bureau in order to protect the public safety or facilities constructed on the right-of-way.

6. The Bureau will approve the location of all rights-of-way prior to construction through an analysis of the proposed action in an environmental assessment unless the proposal is categorically excluded or adequately analyzed in a previously prepared NEPA document. The environmental assessment will include cultural resource clearances, evaluations of impacts to threatened and endangered species, visual resources and other issues raised during scoping.

7. The right-of-way holder will use every reasonable means to minimize erosion and soil damage in connection with construction, rehabilitation or maintenance operations under a grant, including (but not limited to) construction of water bars, cross ditches, or other structures.

8. Holder shall remove or dispose of all waste in accordance with a plan approved by the authorized officer and in a manner consistent with federal, state and local laws and regulations.

9. Revegetation of disturbed land will be required as specified by the Bureau. The appropriate seed mixture and proper planting techniques will be specified by the Bureau.

10. The right-of-way holder's activities in key fish and wildlife areas will be restricted by the Bureau, if necessary, during periods of fish and wildlife breeding, nesting, spawning, lambing or calving activity; and during major migrations of fish and wildlife.

11. All operations under right-of-way grants will be conducted in such a manner as will avoid: 1) Permanent blockage of any drainage system, 2) Changing the character, or causing the pollution or siltation of rivers, streams, reservoirs, ponds, water holes, or springs, and 3) Damaging fish and wildlife resources and habitat.

12. The right-of-way holder shall take such measures as are necessary to assure unrestricted passage and movement of fish and wildlife. No artificial structure or stream channel alteration that would cause a blockage to the movement of fish will be allowed.

13. Right-of-way holders shall construct, maintain, operate and/or modify structures or facilities as directed by the Bureau to protect and minimize adverse effects upon raptors and other wildlife. Raptors will be protected through the use of "Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection On Powerlines," Raptor Research Report No. 4, Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. (1981). Holder shall report any and all wildlife kills, including raptor electrocutions, discovered or reported on or near project facilities to the Bureau.

14. If the Bureau deems necessary, a complete intensive cultural resources survey (BLM Class III) will be completed prior to issuance of a grant. Known or located cultural sites would be

avoided within the corridors when locating roads, assembly areas and towers.

15. Holder will immediately bring to the attention of the authorized officer all antiquities or other objects of historic or scientific interest, including but not limited to historic or prehistoric ruins, fossils, or artifacts discovered as a result of operations under the grant and will leave such discoveries intact.

16. Materials and colors used in tower construction will visually blend with the surrounding landscape to meet the approval of the Bureau. Only non-reflective materials will be used for towers, lines, and insulators.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. LND-2 Rights-of Way and Communication Sites

COMMUNICATION SITES

NATIONAL POLICY:

1. None

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. None

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. **COMMUNICATION SITES RENO PLANNING AREA**

Allow new communication site development only when expansion of an existing site is not a reasonable alternative in the Reno Planning Area.

Pyramid Planning Unit		**Pine Nut Planning Unit**	
CS1	Warm Springs Mtn.	CS1	McClellan Peak
CS2	Virginia Peak	CS2	Como Pass
CS3	TV Peak (Red Hill)	CS3	Rawe Peak
CS4	Peavine Mtn.	CS4	Pinyon Hill
CS5	Beacon Peak		
CS6	McClellan Peak		

AREA COVERED BY CENTRAL NEVADA COMMUNICATION SITES MODIFIED FINAL PLAN AMENDMENT (1998)

2. Applications for rights-of-way for communication sites, including all military electronic warfare sites, will be considered in the area identified as permitted on the map (page 4). Any such applications for electronic warfare sites will be analyzed through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, within the context of a comprehensive Electronic Warfare Range Plan to be prepared and updated as needed by the Navy. The plan will address the comprehensive management of all Navy facilities on public lands in central Nevada, with provisions for establishing possible thresholds on reasonable numbers of sites on public lands (as determined through the NEPA process), annual assessments of the continuing need for individual sites, including alternative configurations to reduce numbers of sites without sacrificing training quality, and eventual clean-up, rehabilitation and relinquishment of sites no longer required to meet the Navy's mission.

3. Facilitate communication site processing and minimize surface disturbance by grouping future communication facilities at locations where existing facilities occur, access is reasonably available, terrain is appropriate for communication facility needs, and other resource values are limited. These preferred locations are Fairview Peak, New Pass, Mt. Moses, the north end of

the Fish Creek Mountains, and Mt. Lewis (map, page 4). Communication site applicants will be encouraged to locate in these areas. These areas will be available for all civilian and military sites.

4. With proper justification, continue to provide for the location of future civilian and military communication sites (including telemetry sites and threat emitters) on more than four million acres of central Nevada. Proper justification includes physical and economic factors.

5. Encourage additional Navy electronic warfare site development in the currently heavily used Dixie/Fairview Valleys Bell Flat/Middlegate area.

6. Protect important natural, recreation, wilderness, wildlife, watershed, visual, and Native American values by prohibiting future communication and electronic warfare sites of all types in the most sensitive areas. These include portions of the Clan Alpine, Desatoya, Stillwater, Gabbs Valley and Simpson Park Mountain Ranges, Bald Mountain and the Sand Mountain and Hickison Petroglyph recreation areas (map, page 4).

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. None

AREA COVERED BY CENTRAL NEVADA COMMUNICATION SITES MODIFIED FINAL PLAN AMENDMENT (1998)

2. Ensure that public health and safety on public lands are protected by including the following stipulation on all new and existing communication and electronic warfare sites: "No harmful levels of electromagnetic radiation from communication facilities will be permitted on open public lands."

3. Other than the electromagnetic radiation stipulation above, existing communication and electronic warfare sites will not be affected by this amendment.

4. Management decisions apply to all communication and electronic warfare sites and associated

facilities regardless of the type of authorization. this includes rights-of-way, withdrawals, and cooperative agreements.

5. Monitoring and evaluation: Communication and electronic warfare site development under the plan amendment will be periodically monitored and evaluated to determine the effectiveness of the decisions. The objective is to determine whether or not implementation of communication site management is achieving the desired results. Information obtained through the evaluation process will be used to adjust management, including any subsequent amendments if appropriate. Monitoring and evaluation will be consistent with the schedules identified in the appropriate RMP.

6. In response to concerns raised as a result of this plan amendment process, the Navy has agreed to drop radar avoidance chaff only over lands under the jurisdiction of the Navy.

7. Current standard operating procedures for environmental analysis will be followed. Each proposal for an individual communication site or threat emitter will be further analyzed in a project specific environmental analysis.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. LND-2 Rights-of-Way and Communication Sites

RECREATION

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 8300 Recreation Management)
The Bureau of Land Management shall ensure the continued availability of Public Lands and related waters for a diversity of resource dependent outdoor recreation opportunities while maintaining its commitment to managing the Public Lands as a national resource in harmony with the principle of balanced multiple use.

1. In carrying out this policy, the BLM shall focus its efforts on two distinct management roles: 1) managing the majority of the Public Lands for traditional dispersed recreation use and 2) intensively managing certain areas of the Public Lands where outdoor recreation is a high priority.

2. To support its traditional role as a provider of dispersed recreation, BLM shall maintain the undeveloped, open character of a vast majority of the Public Lands. Within the bounds of legal requirements and sound management practices, efforts shall be taken to exercise minimal regulatory constraints to preserve the visitors freedom to choose where to go and what to do. Management shall ensure these lands continue to provide wide-open spaces where visitors can explore on their own and be away from crowds. Under these circumstances, visitors are expected to rely on their own skills, knowledge, and equipment in their recreational pursuits. Actions will be limited to basic custodial management such as providing information through signs and maps and securing public access. Public Land areas in which this management role shall predominate generally fall into the category of Extensive Recreation management Areas (ERMA).

3. In responding to the Bureau's second management role, the agency shall provide for more intensive visitor management, resource protection, and facility investments where: 1) the public has demonstrated its desire to use the Public Lands for outdoor recreation, 2) Congress has determined that the resources present in the area are of national importance, or 3) BLM has determined that outdoor recreation is a high priority. Efforts shall ensure the long-term availability of these areas for high quality outdoor recreation opportunities. Major investments in recreation facilities and visitor assistance shall be carried out to deal with identified issues and concerns related to these areas. Priority shall be given to reducing resource damage, mitigating user conflicts, and providing for visitor safety. Public Land areas in which this management role shall predominate generally fall into the category of Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMA).

4. Specific recreation management policies. To meet the objectives of BLM recreation policy, specific recreation program policies have been developed to provide additional guidance.....

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Provide a wide range of quality recreation opportunities on public lands under management by the Carson City Field Office.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. All Public lands under Carson City Field Office jurisdiction are designated open to Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use unless they are specifically restricted or closed.

2. Eliminate OHV use in the following locations
   A. Through or in the immediate vicinity (near enough to the water source that its water quality or water quantity may be affected) of any surface water source, such as a spring or seep.

   B. Any riparian area associated with meadows, marshes, springs, seeps, ponds, lakes, reservoirs or streams.

   C. Any channel bank, or streambed of a perennial stream.

   D. Threatened or Endangered Plant location.

3. The following areas are closed to OHV use:
   A. Grimes Point Archaeological Area 400 acres
   B. Steamboat Hot Springs 20 acres
   . . . . . OHV Limited to Designated Routes Federal Register Notice, September 15, 1988.
   C. Petersen Ridge 5,120 acres
   D. Sand Springs Desert Study Area 50 acres
   E. North End Prison Hill 1,480 acres
   F. Burbank Canyons Scenic Area 13,395 acres
   G. Middle Portion of Prison Hill Middle Portion

Post RMP Emergency Closures

H. Unnamed Canyon North of War Canyon, Clan Alpine WSA
. . . . . Completed Federal Register Notice, April 12, 1994.
I. Sand and Gravel Pit, Pine Nut Road No. 2.
. . . . . Completed Federal Register Notice, October 15, 1997.
J. Sagebrush Flat East of Petersen Mountain
. . . . . Completed Federal Register Notice, April 2, 1999.
K. Sand and Gravel Pit south of hungry Ridge and Fire Rehabilitation Areas.

. . . . . Completed Federal Register Notice, March 30, 2000.

L. Faye/Luther Canyon Area all BLM Public Lands

. . . . . Notice to Federal Register April, 2001

4. The following areas are subject to the non-impairment criteria outlined in the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (IMP). Essentially, this limits OHV use to existing roads and ways, except in emergency situations as defined in the IMP.

A. Gabbs Valley Range WSA 79,600 acres
B. Burbank Canyons WSA 13,395 acres
C. Slinkard WSA 6,350 acres
D. Carson Iceberg WSA 550 acres
E. Clan Alpine WSA 196,128 acres
F. Stillwater WSA 94,607 acres
G. Job Peak WSA 90,209 acres
H. Desatoya WSA 51,262 acres
I. Augusta Mountains WSA 51,000 acres

5. Restrict OHV use to designated roads and trails in the following areas:

A. Peavine Mountain

. . . . . Transferred to USFS

B. Red Rocks 700 acres
C. Incandescent Rocks & Virginia Mountains 67,500 acres
D. Steamboat Hot Springs 40 acres
E. Bailey-Jumbo Watershed 8,600 acres

. . . . . Completed Federal Register Notice, September 15, 1988.

F. East Walker River Scenic Area

. . . . . Transferred to USFS

G. Stewart Valley ACEC 16,000 acres
H. Bagley Valley 6,200 acres
I. Indian Creek/East Fork Carson River SRMA 6,065 acres
J. Pine Nut Mountain Crest 45,000 acres
K. McClellan Peak
L. "C" Hill
M. West Side of Walker Lake 2,640 acres
N. Sun Valley West
O. Sun Valley East

6. **Post RMP Designations of Roads and Trails**

Q. Sand Mountain Recreation Area 2,096 acres

. . . . . Completed Federal Register Notice, September 15, 1988.
R. Warm Springs-South Dogskin OHV Area 40,000 acres
. . . . . Completed Federal Register Notice, September 15, 1988.
S. American Flats Millsite 190 acres
. . . . . Completed Federal Register Notice, September 15, 1998.

7. Seasonal closures to OHV use apply in the following areas:
   A. Jacks Valley Wildlife Management Area; March 1 to May 1.
   . . . . . Transferred to USFS
   B. Sand Hill critical deer range; December 1 to April 30.
   C. Bedell Flat strutting ground; March 1 to May 30.
   . . . . . Strutting Ground Gone
   D. Area surrounding all occupied raptor eyries; March 1 to June 15.

8. Phase out Mullen Pass OHV Area. Develop a new area in the Hungry Valley/Warm Springs Mountain area, and a motocross course in Lemmon Valley.
   . . . . . Completed 1985

9. Maintain nationally important historic sites in public ownership. Provide for public interpretation of the following major historic trails:
   A. Pony Express
   B. Butterfield Overland Stage
   C. Transcontinental Telegraph
   D. California Emigrant Route
   E. John Fremont Trail
   F. Jumbo Water System Pipeline
   G. V&T Railroad
   H. Nevada-California-Oregon Railroad

10. Guarantee public access to the following fishable waters in case of public land disposal:
    A. Galena Creek . . . . . Transferred to USFS
    B. Whites Creek . . . . . Transferred to USFS
    C. Jumbo Reservoir . . . . . Reservoir Breached
    D. Truckee River
    E. East Fork Carson River
    F. Carson River
    G. Jones Canyon Reservoir . . . . . No Fish, Should be Breached

11. Allow development of a facility at Granite Mountain for use by hang-glider recreationists.

Designate a safety zone to discourage new above-ground structures on public lands.

12. Maintain the opportunity for the public to have panoramic views of the Truckee Valley - Reno area by controlling developments and allowing vehicle access to ridge points on existing roads and trails on Peavine Mountain. . . . . Transferred to USFS

13. Limit development of communication sites and access roads on Peavine Mountain to existing locations. . . . . Transferred to USFS

14. Identify the Jumbo Postpile on maps and construct an interpretive trail. Authorize no mineral material disposal in the 40 acre area.

15. Maintain the roaded natural, general recreation opportunities in Bedell Flat and Dry Valley areas by keeping the existing 2-wheel drive dirt road system, and limiting developments to those which do not alter the present undeveloped character of the landscape.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. Special Recreation Management Area designations will be maintained for the following areas:
   A. Indian Creek/East Fork of the Carson River
   B. Walker Lake

2. Designate 10,000 acres of the Petersen Ridge Area as "Recreation Lands" and manage for semi-primitive, non-motorized recreation. Acquire legal vehicle access to the Petersen Ridge trailhead. Develop facilities and a hiking trail system.
   . . . . . Completed November 1, 1984

3. Designate approximately 60,000 acres as the Pine Nut "Recreation Lands" under 43 CFR 2071. Manage the area to preserve both vehicle and non-vehicle recreation opportunities in a natural environment.
   . . . . . CFR 2071 No Longer Exists, These Lands Now Included in Walker Extensive Recreation Management Area.

4. Designate the Virginia Mountains as "Recreation Lands" and manage the area to maintain, provide, and protect semi-primitive recreation opportunities for both motorized and non-motorized users. Encourage use by the public of the area for hiking horseback riding, hunting, and other semi-primitive activities that do not require substantial development.

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. Acquire legal access to the area on the west side of the Virginia Mountains, up Cottonwood, Hardscrabble, Big, and Black Canyons.

. . . . . Cottonwood Canyon easements acquired in 1970 (1) and 1990 (4) for access.

2. Acquire 2,200 acres along the East Carson River and at Prison Hill to improve recreation management. . . . . Silver Saddle Ranch (703 acres) Acquired 1997.
. . . . . Bernhard Exchange (32 acres) Acquired 2000.

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Develop day use facilities, and fisherman access near the boat takeout on the Carson River above Gardnerville. Develop hiking trails along the river between Horseshoe Bend and the day use area. . . . . Transferred to USFS

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Recreation Management Plans will be maintained for the following areas:
   A. Indian Creek . . . . . Operation Plan for Campground.
   B. Prison Hill
   C. Walker Lake
   D. East Fork of the Carson River
   E. Grimes Point Archaeological Area
   F. Sand Mountain Recreation Area
   G. Cold Springs Historical Area . . . . . Included in Churchill County SRMA.

2. On public land within areas identified as limited for off-highway vehicles, such use will be restricted to existing identified roads and trails. Exceptions may be allowed on a case- by-case basis in Wilderness Study Areas based on application of the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review. Portions of these may be closed seasonly or year long to all or specified types of vehicle use.

3. On public land identified as closed to off-highway vehicle use no such use would be allowed.

4. On public land designated open for off-highway vehicles there will generally be no restrictions on such use. Organized competitive off-highway vehicle events have been allowed in Mason Valley, Wilson Canyon, Hungry OHV Area, Moon rocks, Lemmon Valley MX area, Dead Camel Mountains, Salt Wells Area, Wassuk Range and in the Frontier 500 and Carson Rally OHV corridors. Organized events will be handled on a case-by-case basis through Special Recreation Permit review and Environmental review process. Organized activity is generally restricted to existing roads and trails. Casual OHV use is generally unrestricted, but occurs primarily on existing roads and trails.

   Exceptions to these general rules may be authorized after consideration of the following criteria:
   A. The need to promote user enjoyment and minimize use conflicts.
   B. The need to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, or other resource values.
   C. The need to promote user safety.

5. Revise existing management plan for Indian Creek Reservoir to meet new public demands for use of the recreation lands. Specifically evaluate methods to improve access and use of the picnic area, bring the hiking trail system up to standards by relocating steep sections, develop a group vehicle camping area, improve parking at the access to Summit Lake and the interpretative area, and improve interpretation of the area's values for the developed campground users.

6. Support South Tahoe Public Utilities District (STPUD) proposals to convert Indian Creek Reservoir to fresh water. Protect Stevens Lake for warm water fishery (catfish) by locating any new sewage storage reservoirs away from the lake. Enter into an agreement that will maintain adequate water quality and quanity.

7. The BLM will provide input to the United States Forest Service and National Park Service in support of the East Carson River to be studied for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System, and alternatives that will maintain the free-flowing, scenic and recreational values.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. A broad range of outdoor recreation opportunities will continue to be provided on all segments of the public land, subject to the demand for such opportunities and the need to protect other resources. Special Recreation Management Areas, areas of concentrated use and existing facilities will receive first priority for operation and maintenance funds. Investment of public funds for new recreation developments will be permitted only on land identified to remain in public ownership.

2. Recreation resources will continue to be evaluated on an individual basis as part of activity and project level planning. Such evaluations will consider sensitivity, and impacts on recreation resources in the affected area. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to assure the compatibility of projects with recreation management objectives.

3. All public lands that are not limited or closed in the RMP are open to all individual, commercial and competitive outdoor recreation uses. Opportunities for exploring the back-country by vehicle, hunting, camping, sightseeing, and hiking are encouraged.

4. All public lands designated as open for off highway use are subject to Conditions of Use in 43 CFR 8341 where no person shall operate an off highway vehicle in a manner causing, or likely to cause significant, undue damage to or disturbance of soil, wildlife, wildlife habitat, improvements, cultural, or vegetative resources or other authorized uses of the public lands. Additionally, competitive or commercial OHV use will remain subject to environmental review

and the discretionary authority of the authorized officer.

5. Where the authorized officer determines that OHVs are causing or will cause considerable adverse effects upon soil, vegetation, wildlife, wildlife habitat, cultural resources, historical resources, threatened or endangered species, wilderness suitability, other authorized uses, or other resources, the authorized officer shall close the areas effected to the type(s) of OHV causing the adverse effect until the adverse effects are eliminated and mitigating measures implemented to prevent recurrence (43 CFR 8341.2). Emergency closures and interim designations will not require a planning amendment.

6. Identification of "Designated Routes" in limited use areas will be made at the activity planning/travel management level. Within limited designations certain existing routes may be closed or relocated. These actions will not require a planning amendment where they carry out the intent of the land use plan decisions. Prior to completion of activity planning, OHV use may occur within areas identified as "Limited to Designated Routes" on existing routes shown on current USGS 1:24,000 topographic Maps.

7. River segments eligible for Wild and Scenic designation shall be accorded protective management, as necessary, to ensure that the qualities upon which eligibilty is based are not degraded. A river's outstanding remarkable values shall be afforded adequate protection, subject to valid existing rights. Until the eligibility determination is superseded, management activities and authorized uses shall not be allowed to adversely affect either eligibility or the tentative classification (43 CFR 8351). These requirements apply to Field Office lands in California along the East Fork of the Carson River.

8. Any areas designated by Congress as Wilderness under the Wilderness Act of 1964 will be closed to motorized vehicle use.

9. Recreation permits will be processed according to the Carson City Field Office's Recreation Permit Policy and National Special Recreation Permit guidance.

10. Recreation activities and planning will follow the Recreation Management Strategy Carson City District

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. Walker Lake Recreation Management Plan . . . . . December, 1979.
2. Recreation Project Plan for Walker Lake . . . . . April, 1992.
3. Sand Mountain Recreation Area Action and Implementation Plan . . . . . January, 1993.
4. Indian Creek Recreation Lands Operations and Maintenance Plan . . . . . January, 1974.
5. Recreation-Cultural Resources Project Plan, Grimes Point

Archaeological Area . . . . . June, 1989.
6. Master Plan for Grimes Point Archaeological Area . . . . . February, 1995.
7. Interdisciplinary Management Plan for the Silver Saddle Ranch and the Ambrose Carson River Natural Area (draft) . . . . . April, 2000.
8. Prison Hill Recreation Management Plan . . . . . 1977.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. Carson City Field Office Recreation Permit Policy . . . . . June, 2000.
2. Recreation Management Strategy Carson City District . . . . . September 1995.
3. Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) . . . . . 1990.

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. REC-1 Recreation Management Areas, Recreation Sites and OHV Designations

WILDERNESS

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 8560 Management of Designated Wilderness Areas 04/27/83)

1. Wilderness areas are managed so as to preserve their wilderness character, and for the use and enjoyment of the American people in a manner that will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. The wilderness areas may be devoted to the public purposes of of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical use.

2. The nonconforming but accepted uses specifically permitted in wilderness areas by the Wilderness Act and subsequent laws are allowed in a manner that will prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the area's wilderness character.

3. Wilderness areas are managed consistent with the policies above so as to augment multiple-use management of adjacent and nearby lands through protection of watersheds and water yield, wildlife habitat, natural plant communities, and similar natural values.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Wilderness designation is recommended for those study areas where wilderness values are capable of balancing other resource values and uses which would be foregone due to wilderness designation. Manage as wilderness those areas for which wilderness values are higher than other values and which have no existing or potential manageability problems. Whether or not an area can be effectively managed as wilderness over the long-term has also been considered.

2. Acreage with high quality wilderness characteristics and no major resource conflicts, major manageability problems, or significant combination of lesser conflicts or problems will be included in areas recommended as suitable. Manage any lands designated by Congress under the Wilderness Act of 1964 as provided for in enabling legislation and the BLM's wilderness Management Policy.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Designated wilderness areas would be closed to off-highway vehicle use unless it takes place as part of a valid existing right or is authorized in the wilderness management plan. Separate management plans tailored to the characteristics of each area would be developed through consultation with interested parties. They would be coordinated with other activity plans for their areas. Specific management objectives, requirements and decisions implementing administrative practices and visitor activities would be developed in each plan.

2. Designated wilderness areas would be segregated against appropriation and operation under the mining laws, mineral leasing laws, and other mineral disposal authorities subject to valid existing rights. These areas will also be closed to appropriations under the existing land disposal laws.

3. Designation would allow for continuation of livestock grazing permits.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. Burbank Canyons: Recommended as non-suitable for designation as wilderness. The entire area (13,395 acres) will be designated as a Scenic Area. The Scenic Area would be closed to OHV use except on designated existing roads.
. . . . . Completed June, 1986.

2. Carson Iceberg: The entire 550 acres are recommended as suitable for designation as wilderness.

3. Gabbs Valley Range: Manage the 79,600 acres in the Gabbs Valley Range WSA not suitable for wilderness designation under multiple use guidelines as outlined in the Management Decisions Summary. If this recommendation is accepted by Congress, this area will be managed for other multiple uses.

4. Slinkard: Entire area under CCFO jurisdiction (2,830 acres) recommended as non-suitable for wilderness designation. If this recommendation is accepted by Congress, this area will be managed for other multiple uses except that vehicles will be limited to existing roads and trails.

5. Clan Alpine Mountains: A portion (68,458 acres) of this unit is recommended preliminarily suitable. Wilderness values are high, the area can be managed as wilderness over the long term, and the great majority of resource conflicts have been eliminated.

6. Stillwater Range: This entire unit (94,607 acres) is recommended non-suitable. Wilderness values are not of sufficient quality to warrant designation. Major resource conflicts and manageability problems exist. The Geology, Energy, and Mineral (GEM) report evaluation finds it to be one of the best "...potential areas for future metallic mineral finds of all the WSAs studied in the Basin and Range province...".

7. Desatoya Mountains: A portion of this unit (43,053 acres) is recommended preliminarily suitable. Wilderness values are high and outweigh the relatively minor resource conflicts which remain. Fifty-one acres were added to the WSA to enhance manageability of the area. Further field analysis resulted in a boundary adjustment in response to the Governor's consistency review.

8. Job Peak: This entire unit (90,209 acres) is recommended non-suitable. Wilderness values are moderate to good in portions of the WSA, however; they are not sufficiently high to either outweigh resource conflicts and manageability problems or warrant designation.

	Suitable	**Non-suitable**
WSA Name	**Acres**	**Acres**
Burbank Canyons (NV-030-525a)	0	13,395
Carson Iceberg (NV-030-532)	550	0
Gabbs Valley Range (NV-030-407)	0	79,600
Slinkard (NV-030-531)	0	2,830
Clan Alpine Mountains(NV-030-102)	68,458	127,670
Stillwater Range (NV-030-104)	0	94,607
Desatoya Mountains (NV-030-110)	43,053	8,260
Job Peak (NV-030-127)	0	90,209
Total	**112,061** (21%)	**416,571** (79%)

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. All wilderness study areas will continue to be managed under BLM's Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review until designation or release from further consideration by the U.S. Congress. Wilderness recommendations made in the final wilderness environmental impact statement (EIS) are subject to change during administrative review.

2. A separate final Wilderness EIS will be prepared and filed by the Secretary of the Interior.
   . . . . . Completed, Walker Wilderness Recommendations Final EIS, July 1987.
   . . . . . Completed, Lahontan Wilderness Recommendations Final EIS, 1987.
   . . . . . Completed California Section 202 Wilderness Study Areas Final EIS, 1988.

3. A wilderness technical report describing each WSA in detail provides additional information in support of these documents. . . . . Completed 1979-80.

4. Following review of these documents, detailed mineral surveys will be conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines for each area recommended as preliminarily suitable for wilderness designation. . . . . Completed 1983-84.

5. After review of this data, those areas determined to be suitable would be recommended to Congress for designation. Those areas determined to be non-suitable would be recommended to Congress for elimination from wilderness consideration.
. . . . . Completed 1988-89

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. Wilderness study areas will be managed in accordance with Section 603(c) of FLPMA and the Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review (IMP), so as not to impair their suitability for preservation as wilderness. The IMP provides management policies for WSAs between the time of WSA designation (11/15/80) and final decisions of Congress regarding these areas. The IMP contains specific management direction for activities in WSAs which may occur or be authorized.

2. Management of areas designated as wilderness will be guided by the requirements of the Wilderness Act of 1964, specific enabling legislation, and the BLM's wilderness management procedures. While site-specific management objectives for wilderness areas will be included in future wilderness management plans, certain actions are non-discretionary, including closure to motorized vehicle use (except for valid existing rights and approved non-conforming uses by permit) and withdrawal from mineral entry.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. Wilderness Management Policy, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 1981
2. Nevada Wilderness Study Area Notebook, CCFO . . . . . April, 1997
3. Walker Wilderness Recommendations Final EIS . . . . . July, 1987
4. Lahontan Wilderness Recommendations Final EIS 1987
5. California Section 202 Wilderness Study Areas 1988

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. SMA-1 Special Management Areas

VISUAL RESOURCES (VRM)

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 8400 Visual Resource Management 04/05/84)

1. The Bureau has a basic stewardship responsibility to identify and protect visual values on public lands. The basic policy parameters for accomplishing this task are as follows:

   A. The Bureau shall prepare and maintain on a continuing basis an inventory of visual values on all public lands. Priority for new inventory shall be given to those areas where it is needed for issue resolution in RMPs or in those areas where a project is proposed and an inventory does not exist or needs updating. The goal is to have a completed VRM inventory for each RMP effort. The level of detail should vary with the relative value of the visual resources within the planning area.

   B. Visual management objectives (classes) are developed through the RMP process for all Bureau lands. The approved VRM objectives shall result from, and conform with, the resource allocation decisions made in RMPs.

   C. Interim visual management objectives are established where a project is proposed and there are no RMP (or MFP) approved VRM objectives. These objectives are developed using the guidelines in Manual Section 8410 and must conform with the land use allocations set forth in the RMP which covers the project area. The establishment of interim VRM objectives will not require a plan amendment unless the project itself requires one.

   D. The approved VRM objectives (classes) provide the visual management standards for the design and development of future projects and for rehabilitation of existing projects.

   E. Visual design considerations shall be incorporated into all surface disturbing projects regardless of size or potential impact. Emphasis shall be placed on providing these inputs during the initial planning and design phases of project design and development. Ensuring early visual design inputs into non-Bureau initiated projects in many cases is beyond Bureau control. However, every effort should be made to inform potential applicants of the visual management objectives so they can be adequately incorporate visual design considerations into their initial planning and design efforts.

F. The contrast rating process (Manual Section 8431) is used as a visual design tool in project design and as a project assessment tool during environmental review. Contrast ratings are required for proposed projects in highly sensitive areas or high impact projects, but may also be used for other projects where it would appear to be the most effective design or assessment tool. A brief narrative visual assessment is completed for all other projects which require an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

G. Ensure that project monitoring efforts include timely and thorough compliance evaluations, especially during the construction phase, to ensure that visual management provisions are effectively carried out.

2. Visual resource management is a management responsibility shared by all resource programs. (Section .04A.2).

3. VRM training shall be conducted in each District and Resource Area to maintain skill levels for VRM coordinators and project coordinators. Emphasis shall be placed on improving design skills so that visual design considerations will be incorporated into all project proposals beginning with initial planning and design.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Protect the visual resource values of Bureau managed public lands against unnecessary and undue degradation.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. None

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. Manage the following areas to achieve VRM Class II standards. Changes in the landscape caused by management activities should not be evident or attract attention.
   - A. Incandescent Rocks
   - B. Red Rocks
   - C. Mount Siegel
   - D. Burbank Canyons
   - E. East Fork of the Carson River
   - F. Indian Creek
   - G. Walker Lake
   - H. East Walker River

2. Manage the following areas to achieve VRM Class III standards. Activities may be evident in the landscape, but should remain subordinate to the existing landscape characteristics.

A. Virginia Mountains
B. Palomino Valley
C. Spanish Springs Valley
D. Winnemucca Ranch Valley
E. Pah Rah North
F. Truckee River
G. Fort Sage
H. Long Valley
I. Red Rock Road
J. Peavine . . . . . Transferred to USFS
K. Mount Rose . Transferred to USFS
L. Huffaker Hills
M. Orlean Hills
N. Virginia City
O. Flowery Ridge
P. Lower Carson River
Q. Carson City
R. Prison Hill
S. Rawe Peak
T. Pine Nut Mountains Crest
U. Highway 395 South
V. Markleeville
W. Bagley Valley

3. Manage the following areas to achieve VRM Class IV standards. Development may attract attention and even dominate the landscape as long as the changes repeat the basic elements found in the landscape character.

A. Common hills and valleys north of Reno
B. Urban and congested lands around Reno
C. Pah Rah South
D. Jumbo
E. Highway 50 East
F. Pine Nut Foothills

4. Areas having outstanding (Class A) scenery will be protected if the Clan Alpine and Desatoya WSAs are designated as wilderness as recommended in this document.

5. Other areas in the Clan Alpine, Desatoya, Stillwater, and New Pass Ranges as well as Sand Mountain and the Carson River are ranked as having above average (Class B) scenery.

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Visual resource management objectives and mitigation will be established on a case-by-case basis through the environmental assessment process.

2. 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.

3. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to assure compatibility of projects with management objectives for visual resources.

4. Visual Resource Management refers to public lands only. Private lands will not be affected.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. Visual Resource Management objectives provide the visual management standards for the design and development of future projects and for rehabilitation of existing projects.

2. Interim Visual Management objectives will be established where a project is proposed and there are no approved VRM objectives. Objectives will be developed using the guidelines established in BLM Manual Section 8410 and will conform with land use allocations set forth in the RMP. The establishment of interim VRM objectives will not require a plan amendment unless the project itself requires one.

3. The contrast rating process (Manual Section 8431) is used in project design and to assess projects during environmental review. These evaluations will consider the significance of the proposed project and the visual sensitivity of the affected area. If the visual contrast of a project exceeds the requirements of Visual Resource Management objectives, the impact is considered significant and mitigating measures and alternatives will be examined.

4. The Field Office Manager may allow temporary projects to exceed VRM standards if the project will terminate within two years of initiation and be in compliance with VRM objectives immediately upon removal and initial rehabilitation efforts.

5. To comply with BLM policy for Wilderness Study Areas, these areas will be managed as Interim VRM Class II until Congress makes final decisions on wilderness suitability.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. VRM-1 Visual Resource Classes

SCENIC AREAS

NATIONAL POLICY: None (BLM Manual Section deleted)

1. None

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Protect and enhance the visual qualities of areas with outstanding scenic values.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. None

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. **Red Rocks Area**
   - A. Designate the Red Rocks Area (700 acres) as a Scenic Area. . . . . Completed November, 1984.
   - B. Manage the area under an agreement with mining claimants to protect the geologic features.
   - C. Develop a day-use picnic area, with 2-wheel vehicle access and interpretation geologic features in the Red Rocks Scenic Area.
   - D. Restrict OHV use to designated roads and trails. . . . . Completed
   - E. Ensure Mining Plans of Operations within the Red Rocks Scenic Area would protect the area's scenic quality and not impair recreation use.

2. **East Walker Scenic Area**
   - A. Expand the Scenic Area from 3,889 acres to 4,173 acres
   - B. Adjust the Scenic Area boundary in T. 8 N., R. 27 E., Sec. 34 by deleting lots 6 and 7 and adding lots 8 and 9 to correct an error in the legal description.
   - C. Manage the Scenic Area as a Class II Visual Resource Management Zone, where management actions can be evident but should not detract from the scenic quality of the area.
   - D. The exclusion from oil, gas and geothermal leasing in the East Walker Scenic Area will be adjusted to conform with the segregation from mineral entry. This will result in a net reduction of 334 acres in the exclusion area.
   - E. Limit vehicles to designated roads.

     . . . . . East Walker Scenic Area Transferred to USFS in 1988

3. **Burbank Canyons**
   - A. Designate 13,395 acres in the eastern Pine Nut Mountain Range as the Burbank Canyons Scenic Area. . . . . Completed June, 1986.

B. Motor vehicles will be limited to designated roads in this area.

4. **East Fork of the Carson River**

A. Designate the East Fork of the Carson River as a Scenic Area and develop specific management directives. . . . . Nevada Part Transferred to USFS in 1988. . . . . California Part Remains Under CCFO Administration.

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Scenic Areas are established to identify areas of outstanding visual quality. Scenic Areas will be managed to protect and enhance scenic qualities while allowing for appropriate recreation use. These lands are managed within Class II Visual Resource Management objectives where actions may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. None

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. SMA-1 Special Management Areas

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 1613 - Areas of Critical Environmental Concern09/29/88)

1. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) requires that priority shall be given to the designation and protection of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The ACECs are identified, evaluated, and designated through BLM's resource management planning process. An ACEC designation is the principal BLM designation for public lands where special management is required to protect important natural, cultural and scenic resources or to identify natural hazards. Therefore, BLM managers will give precedence to the identification, evaluation, and designation of areas which require "special management attention" during resource management planning. An ACEC designation will not be used as a substitute for wilderness suitability recommendations.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Provide a high level of protection for Incandescent Rocks, Steamboat Hot Springs, and Soda Lake while recognizing other resource values.

   . . . . . Soda Lake ACEC Designation Abandoned Due to Lack of Public Lands.

2. Provide protection and enhancement of natural and scientific values at Stewart Valley, while allowing public use and enjoyment and other resource uses.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. None

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. **Designate 1,075 acres in the Incandescent Rocks area as the Incandescent Rocks Natural Scenic Area of Critical Environmental Concern.** This action is being taken in order to protect the scenic quality of the area (Class A), plus the unique geologic features. Incandescent Rocks is within the foreground - middle ground viewing zone from the Pyramid Lake Highway, and contains critical raptor nesting sites.

   . . . . . Completed January, 1984.

   A. Plans of Operation will be pursued with the mining industry to protect portions of the unit for recreation use and scenic quality. Heavy reliance will be placed upon 43 CFR 3809 to mitigate impacts.

B. Provide the public legal access to Incandescent Rocks by obtaining an easement across a 40 acre parcel of private land in T. 23 N., R. 20 E., Section 6, NE1/4NE1/4. Completed 1994.

C. Limit OHV use to designated roads and trails. Existing roads will be be designated open to OHV use except where those roads and trails impact sensitive meadows, seeps, springs and other waters.
. . . . . Completed in RMP Recreation Decision No. 10.

D. Manage the area as a VRM Class II Area, according to the requirements established by BLM Manual 8400.
. . . . . Completed in RMP VRM Decision 1.

E. Designate Incandescent Rocks as a Scenic Area under 43 CFR 8352.0-6 and develop an ACEC management plan. . . . . Completed January, 1984.

2. **Designate 40 acres in the Steamboat Hot Springs Area as the Steamboat Hot Springs Area of Critical Environmental Concern.** This action is being taken in order to protect, manage, develop and interpret the 40-acre geyser field and other thermal features in the area. Steamboat Hot Springs is near a large population center and has easy access. Other public agencies have expressed interest in protecting and developing the site.Completed January, 1984

A. Acquire legal access to the Steamboat Hot Springs Area.

B. Acquire adjacent thermal features occurring on private land to the north and east of the geyser terrace, through voluntary exchange or purchase.

C. Complete the suspected occupancy and mining trespass proceedings, and rehabilitate degradation within the 40 acre Steamboat Springs ACEC.
. . . . . Completed

D. Classify 40 acres at Steamboat Springs for Recreation and Public Purposes.

E. Develop minimal recreational facilities within the area to protect the thermal features and the public and to allow for public enjoyment of the area.

F. Fence the 40 acre Steamboat ACEC. . . . . Completed by Washoe County

G. Close to OHV use.

H. Develop an ACEC Management plan for the Steamboat Hot Springs area.

3. **Designate 16,000 acres in Stewart Valley as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), and withdraw 1,420 of those acres from mineral entry.**
   A. Limit OHV use in the Stewart Valley ACEC to designated roads, trails and washes.

   B. Manage the Stewart Valley ACEC as a Research Natural Area. Establish special rules and permits for scientific research and field schools. No commercial or private collection will be allowed.

   . . . . . Stewart Valley Fossil Site ACEC Management Plan Completed September 1990.

4. Designate Soda Lake an Area of Critical Environmental Concern
   A. Support nomination of the Soda Lake factory site and buildings for the National Register of Historic Places.

   B. Acquire via transfer, exchange, or fee title purchase, all land in T19N, R28E, Section 7, exclusive of the N1/2NW1/4 (TCID & Churchill County); Section 8, exclusive of the E1/2E1/2 and NW1/4 or NE1/4(TCID);Section 18, NE1/4 of NE1/4 (TCID); and Section 17, N1/2 of NW1/4 (Bureau of Reclamation). These lands totaling 619 acres will be added to the ACEC when acquired.

   C. Implement a minor level of facility development including signs, underwater markers, trails and other recreational facilities as needed.

   D. Establish cooperative agreements with adjacent landowners for the protection and management of Soda Lake.

   . . . . . Soda Lake ACEC Designation Abandoned Due to Lack Of Public Lands.

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Designation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern does not by itself preclude any activities allowed under the public land laws. The ACEC designation is a recognition of the special resources of an area and a commitment to provide management which protects and/or enhances the area. No action that is inconsistent with the terms of an ACEC designation or that would adversely impact an ACEC protected resource will be permitted, unless it is found through the plan amendment process that the public benefits of such an action outweigh the public benefits of continuing the ACEC protection and that there is no feasible alternative to the

proposed inconsistent action. Protection of an ACEC is accomplished through management actions developed specifically for each individual area.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. All mining operations, other than casual use, occurring in an ACEC area are approved through a Plan of Operations filed pursuant to 43 CFR 3809, so as to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. Area of Critical Environmental Concern Management Plan
   Stewart Valley Fossil Site . . . . . September, 1990.
2. Management Plan Incandescent Rocks Scenic ACEC . . . . . January, 1988

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. SMA-1 Special Management Areas

MINERALS AND ENERGY

NATIONAL POLICY: (43 CFR 3809.0-6 - Surface Management -Policy)

1. Consistent with section 2 of the Mining and Mineral policy Act of 1970 and section 102(a) (7), (8), and (12) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, it is the policy of the Department of the Interior to encourage the development of federal mineral resources and reclamation of disturbed lands. Under the mining laws a person has a statutory right, consistent with Departmental regulations, to go upon the open (unappropriated and unreserved) federal lands for the purpose of mineral prospecting, exploration, development, extraction and other uses reasonably incident thereto. This statutory right carries with it the responsibility to that operations include adequate and responsible measures to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the federal lands and to provide for reasonable reclamation.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Encourage development of energy and mineral resources in a timely manner to meet national, regional and local needs consistent with the objectives for other public land uses.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. Public lands in the Field Office area of jurisdiction are open to mineral and energy development activity with the following exceptions:

2. **Areas Closed to Mineral Entry and Energy development:**
   - A. Lands Classified under the Classification and Multiple Use Act. (Approximately 8,000 acres in Sun Valley, Washoe Valley, Steamboat and Peavine Mountain).
   . . . . . Peavine Mountain Transferred to USFS.
   - A. Within the Walker Planning Area about 11,000 acres is either segregated against mineral entry under the Classification and Multiple Use Act or withdrawn from mineral by through formal withdrawal processes.
   - A. The Carson City Urban Interface Plan Amendment states; Withdraw 17,892 acres from operation of the locatable mining laws and close these lands to mineral exploration and leasing to protect open space and other public land values. these are discretionary actions.

3. **Areas Closed to Mineral Entry (22,672 Acres)**
   - A. Grimes Point Archaeological Area 400 acres
   - B. Cold Springs Historic Area 200 acres
   - C. Sand Mountain Recreation Area 2,760 acres
   - D. Stewart Valley ACEC (sensitive areas) 1,420 acres
   - E. Carson City Urban Interface 17,892 acres

4. **Areas Where Mineral Entry and Development is Restricted to Valid Existing Rights (582,191 Acres)**

The following areas are Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) and are subject to the provisions of the Wilderness Interim Management Policy. These provisions restrict mining and energy development activities to those that are allowed under valid existing rights and do not impair wilderness quality. WSA designated as wilderness by Congress will be closed to mineral entry.

A.	Clan Alpine WSA	196,128 acres
B.	Stillwater WSA	94,607 acres
C.	Job Peak WSA	90,209 acres
D.	Desatoya WSA	51,262 acres
E.	Augusta Mtns. WSA	51,000 acres
F.	Gabbs Valley Range WSA	79,600 acres
G.	Burbank Canyons WSA	13,395 acres
H.	Slinkard WSA	5,440 acres
I.	Carson-Iceberg WSA	550 acres

5. **Areas Where Existing Withdrawals and Segregation From Mineral Entry Will be Maintained (22,500 acres)**

A. Key Watershed and Wildlife Areas
   1. Alkali Lake
   2. Antelope Valley
   3. Pine Nut Mountains
   4. Topaz Lake

B. Major Recreation and Scenic Areas
   1. East Walker River
   2. Wilson Canyon
   3. Walker Lake
   4. Prison Hill

6. Areas Closed to Oil, Gas and Geothermal Leasing (45,392 acres)

A. Key Scenic, Wildlife, Recreation, and Historic Areas
   1. Jack's Valley . . . . . Transferred to USFS, 1988.
   2. East Walker River . . . . . Transferred to USFS, 1988.
   3. Walker Lake
   4. Indian Creek
   5. Virginia City
   6. Aurora (680 acres) . . . . . Transferred to USFS, 1988.
   7. Prison Hill
   8. Alkali Lake

9. Wilson Canyon . . . . . South of River Transferred to USFS, 1988.
10. Sand Mountain 1,960 acres

B. Carson City Urban Interface 17,892 acres

7. **Areas Closed to Oil, Gas, Sodium and and Potassium Leasing**
   A. Key Areas In the Reno Planning Area
      1. Galena Creek
      2. Whites Creek
      3. Jumbo Reservoir
      4. Truckee River
      5. E. Fork Carson River
      6. Carson River
      7. Jones Canyon Reservoir

8. **Areas Where Some Restrictions Apply to Oil and Gas Leasing**
   A. No Surface Occupancy (NSO)
      1. Within 500 feet of any water (Lahontan MDS)
      2. Within 300 feet of any water (Walker MDS)
      3. Cold Springs Pony Express Station 40 acres
      4. Grimes Point 960 acres

   B. Seasonal Restrictions on Activities
      1. Spring Restrictions
         A. Six Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds 56,320 acres
         (Fort Churchill/Clan Alpine Goethermal EAR 1975)
         B. All Occupied Raptor Eyries

      2. March 1 to July 30 Restrictions
         A. Sage Grouse Habitat 85,300 acres
         B. East Walker River Area
         C. Pine Nut Mountains

      3. February 1 to September 1 10,240 acres
         A. Prairie Falcon Habitat
         B. Excelsior Mountains

9. **Areas Closed to Geothermal Leasing Only**
   A. Key Areas
      1. Cold Springs Pony Express Station 40 acres
      2. Grimes Point 640 acres

10. **Areas Where Some Restrictions Apply to Geothermal Leasing**

A. No Surface Occupancy (NSO)

1. Within 500 feet of any water

B. Seasonal Restrictions on Activities

1. Spring Restrictions

A. Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds 9,920 acres

B. North of Cold Springs

(Fort Churchill/Clan Alpine Geothermal EAR 1975)

2. March 1 to July 30 Restrictions

A. Sage Grouse Habitat 85,300 acres

B. East Walker River Area

C. Pine Nut Mountains

3. February 1 to September 1 10,200 acres

A. Prairie Falcon Habitat

B. Excelsior Mountains

11. No mineral material sales or disposal will be authorized within the 40 acre Jumbo Postpile area.

12. The Navy has proposed to withdraw an additional 181,323 acres in Churchill County. These areas are segregated from operations under the mining law, mineral leasing laws, and the Material Sales Act pending a decision on the proposed withdrawal.
. . . . . Completed "Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999" October 1999.

13. Keep areas with geothermal potential (in the Reno Planning Area) open to leasing, exploration, development and production through applicable law, policy and procedure.

14. In the Reno Planning Area, Keep 46 mineral material sites open for sales and free use, restructure use of the sites to accommodate Visual Resource Management (VRM) and monitor to insure compliance.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. Public Water Reserves will be maintained on key streams and springs to protect public water rights. These areas are open to mineral leasing and mineral entry for metallic minerals but are closed to non-metalliferous minerals.

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. Identify hazards to the public around inactive and active mine claims through signing, fencing or other appropriate means. Priorities for hazard reduction will be established and carried out by the minerals program, in cooperation with the State Mine Inspector and claimants.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. Continue to provide mineral material commodities to the using public, following these general criteria:
   A. Avoid duplication of pits within the same general area.
   B. Examine hauling distances and place sites according to acceptable VRM classification where possible.
   C. Use existing sites to the greatest extent possible.
   D. For major transportation R/Ws, place sites a minimum of 10 miles apart.
   E. Determine life expectancy of sites and set rehabilitation requirements in advance.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

Salable Minerals

1. Each mineral material disposal is a discretionary action with appropriate terms and conditions implemented to guard against undue or unnecessary degradation of existing resources.

2. Mineral material disposal will not occur in Wilderness Study Areas, ACECs or areas deemed unsuitable by Washoe County.

3. Mineral material sales in the Reno/Sparks market area that are for quantities in excess of 30,000 cubic yards will be advertised and sold competitively.

4. Common-variety mineral material disposal is not made where there is a valid existing mining claim. Mining claimants are prohibited from selling mineral material from their unpatented mining claims.

Leasable Minerals

5. Oil, gas, and geothermal exploration and production upon BLM land are conducted through leases with the Bureau and are subject to terms and stipulations to comply with all applicable federal and state laws pertaining to various considerations for sanitation, water quality, wildlife, safety, and reclamation. Stipulations may be site specific and are derived from the environmental analysis process.

6. Geophysical exploration permits for oil, gas or geothermal resources may be obtained prior to leasing of the lands. Mitigation of any resource conflicts identified in the review process will be stipulated in the permit.

7. Wilderness Study Areas are closed to mineral leasing.

Locatable Minerals

8. Pursuant to the mining laws, BLM lands are available for mineral entry, location, exploration, and operations which will not cause undue or unnecessary degradation of the public lands.

9. The authorized officer will be notified by the operator prior to conducting surface disturbance other than casual use and cumulative disturbance under 5 acres within the project area. These disturbances will be reclaimed in a timely manner so as not to cause undue or unnecessary degradation, and prior to the authorization of additional surface disturbance to maintain the notice level of activity.

10. Where cumulative surface disturbance of a project area is greater than five acres, a Plan of Operations and a Reclamation Plan are required of the operator. These plans will be reviewed in conjunction with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Reclamation and Regulation to ensure that all state permits are obtained and all state regulations are followed. Plans of Operation may be revised to ensure that federal and state regulations are complied with to prevent undue or unnecessary degradation.

11. Plans of Operation will require adequate bonding to guarantee that reclamation will be accomplished at mine closure or project completion.

12. Reclamation is required of all levels of activity so as not to cause undue and unnecessary degradation.

13. All mineral exploration roads on cut and fill slopes will be reclaimed by recontouring unless they are within or part of a pre-1981 mining disturbance.

14. All levels of activity, casual use, notice, or plan of operation, will comply with federal and state regulations regarding air quality, water quality, solid wastes, wildlife and its habitat, archaeological and paleontological resources.

15. Mining claim validity examinations will be conducted under these circumstances:
    A. Mineral patent applications.

    B. Where a mining claim conflicts with a land-use or mineral material disposal application and it is deemed in the public interest to void the claims if possible. If the mining claims are determined to be valid, the disposal action could not be executed.

    C. Where the land is needed for a federal program.

D. Where there is unauthorized use of the mining claim such as occupancy or removal of saleable minerals.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. Nevada Cyanide management Plan . . . . . August, 1991.
2. Bureau of Land Management Solid Minerals Reclamation Handbook, BLM Manual handbook H-3042-1 . . . . . April, 1992.
3. Nevada Abandoned Mine Lands Report, State of Nevada . . . . . September, 1999.
4. Interim Guidance On Mine Closure Carson City Field Office 1999
5. Nevada Bureau of Land Management's Closure Policy for Water Management for Hardrock Mining Activities . . . . . August 3, 2000

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. MIN-1 Mining
2. MIN-2 Minerals and Energy (Oil and Gas)

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 1703 Hazardous Materials Management 10/20/95)
The BLM will manage hazardous materials based on the following principles.

1. And request funds to correct or prevent noncompliance with federal and state hazardous materials laws and regulations.

2. Comply with applicable federal and state environmental laws and regulations with available funding.

3. Minimize wastes and prevent pollution generated or released on public lands and BLM facilities, consistent with executive policy.

4. Manage all releases or threatened releases on or affecting public lands or BLM facilities, giving immediate priority based on hazard and risk. Priority shall be given to the control of all releases or threatened releases that pose an imminent health, safety or environmental danger.

5. Base decisions and timing of longer term remedial action on hazard and risk; judicial, statutory and regulatory requirements; approved interagency and intergovernmental orders or agreements; and consistency with current funding and workload.

6. Develop and maintain contingency plans for both CERCLA and EPCRA.

7. Take the lead in site evaluations and remediation for public land sites in a cost effective and timely manner.

8. Unless the State Director approves an exception, do not use public lands for hazardous waste treatment, storage or disposal (TSD) facilities (RCRA Subtitle C).

9. The State Director must approve entry by qualified BLM personnel onto hazardous materials sites subject to OSHA and other requirements.

10. Maintain an inventory of hazardous materials sites.

11. Dispose RCRA, Subtitle C, hazardous wastes generated by BLM only at TSD facilities that are on the EPA's most recent list of approved facilities.

12. Provide funding and training to maintain and support a qualified cadre of employees to implement hazardous materials management.

13. Integrate hazardous materials management into other BLM functions.
14. Coordinate hazardous materials management with local, state and federal agencies.

15. Prepare and maintain the necessary documentation, including retention of all necessary hazardous materials management-related case and personnel files.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. None

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. None

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. None

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. None

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. No disposal of hazardous materials on public lands will be authorized. When hazardous materials are located on public lands, the following sequence of actions will occur: reporting, necessary site security, coordination of procedural clean-up, and monitoring results of clean-up. Actions taken by the BLM can also include prosecution of those responsible for illegal dumping.

2. Initiators of actions which use hazardous materials on public lands will be required to have the necessary permits, from the State of Nevada and (if necessary) the Environmental Protection Agency, which are designed to protect the environment. These permits become conditions of approval by the BLM for actions on federal lands.

3. Authorized public land users shall comply with the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, as amended (15 U.S.C. 2601. Et seq.) With regard to any toxic substances that are used generatedby or stored on the authorized area or facilities. See 40 CFR, Part 702-799 and

especially, provisions on polychlorinated biphenyls, $0 CFR 761.1 - 761.193. Additionally, any release of toxic substances (leaks, spills, etc.) In excess of the reportable quantity established by 40 CFR, Part 117, shall be reported as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, Section 102b. A copy of any report required or requested by any federal agency or state government as a result of a reportable release or spill of any toxic substances shall be furnished to the authorized officer concurrent with the filing of the reports to the involved federal agency or state government.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. None

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. None

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. None

CULTURAL RESOURCES

NATIONAL POLICY: (BLM Manual Section 8100 cultural Resource Management 12/06/89)

1. Cultural resources are recognized as fragile, irreplaceable resources with potential public and scientific uses, representing an important and integral part of our Nation's heritage.

2. The BLM manages cultural resources under its jurisdiction or control according to their relative importance, protecting against inadvertent loss, destruction, or impairment, and encouraging and accommodating the uses determined appropriate through planning and public participation.

3. Apart from certain considerations derived from specific cultural resource statutes, management of cultural resources on the public lands is primarily based on FLPMA and is fully subject to the same multiple use principles and the same planning and decision making processes as are followed in managing other public land resources.

RMP LEVEL DECISIONS

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Cultural and paleontological resources will be protected to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with other resource values.

2. The objective of the Bureau's cultural resource program is to manage cultural resources 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 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

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

1. The Sand Springs and Cold Springs Pony Express Stations have been scientifically excavated, stabilized, and developed as public interpretive sites.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

1. **National Register of Historic Places**
   - A. Grimes Point Petroglyph Site.
   - B. Hidden Cave Archaeological Site.
   - C. Rock Creek Stage and Telegraph Site.
   - D. Cold Springs Pony Express Station.
   - E. Sand Springs Pony Express Station.
   - F. Lahontan Dam and Power Station.
   - G. Carson River Diversion Dam.

2. **Areas of Critical Environmental Concern**
   A. Stewart Valley Fossil Site.

3. **National Historic Landmark**
   A. Virginia City

LAND TENURE DECISIONS

1. None

IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL DECISIONS

1. None

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

1. A Cultural Resource Management Plan is in effect for the Grimes Point Archaeological Area. The plan has guided research and interpretation at this highly significant locality. Major features are interpretive trails at Grimes Point Petroglyph Site and at Hidden Cave. Hidden Cave has been developed as an in situ interpretive center with scheduled tours which have proven to be quite popular. A cooperative Management Agreement (CMA) has been established with the Churchill County Museum Association to provide volunteer tour guides for the public tours.

2. A management plan has been written for the Sand Springs Desert Study Area. Included are a self-guided interpretive trail and informational signs.

3. Monitor the Trailer Park cultural resources site at least bi-monthly to measure any degradation.

4. Monitor the Tule Ridge cultural resource site complex at least semi-annually to measure any degradation and to create a BLM presence in the area.

5. Post a minimum of two historic sites per year which have been evaluated as highly significant, using positive protection signing.

6. Coordinate with the Nevada Department of Transportation in order to explore the feasibility of installing an interpretative panel (at BLM cost). The panel would be located on Interstate 80 east of Reno to point out this highly significant complex of (petroglyph) sites and their relationship to regional prehistory.
   . . . . . Site located on private property not under BLM jurisdiction.

7. Cultural resources will continue to be inventoried and evaluated as part of project level planning. 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.

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

A. Scientific Use: This category applies to any cultural resource determined to be available for consideration as the subject of scientific or historical study at the present time, using currently available research techniques. Study includes methods that would result in the resource's physical alteration or destruction. This category applies almost entirely to prehistoric and historic archaeological properties, where the method of use is generally archaeological excavation, controlled surface collection, and/or controlled recordation.

B. Conservation for Future Use: This category is reserved for any unusual cultural property which, because of scarcity, a research potential that surpasses the current state of the art, singular historic importance, cultural importance, architectural interest, or comparable reasons, is not currently available for consideration as the subject of scientific or historical study that would result in its physical alteration. Cultural resources within this category are deemed worthy of segregation from all other land or resource uses, including cultural resource uses, that would threaten the maintenance of its present condition or setting, as pertinent, and will remain in this use category until specified provisions are met in the future.

C. Traditional Use: This category is to be applied to any cultural resource known to be perceived by a specified social and/or cultural group as important in maintaining the cultural identity, heritage, or well-being of the group. Cultural properties assigned to this category are to be managed in ways that recognize the importance ascribed to them and seek to accommodate their continuing traditional use.

D. Public Use: This category may be applied to any cultural property found to be appropriate for use as an interpretive exhibit in place, or for related educational and recreational uses by members of the general public.

E. Experimental Use: This category may be applied to a cultural resource judged well-suited for controlled experimental study, to be conducted by BLM or others concerned with the techniques of managing cultural resources, which would result in the property's alteration, possibly including loss of integrity and destruction of physical elements.

F. Discharged from Management: This category is assigned to cultural properties that have no remaining identifiable use. Most often these are prehistoric and historic archaeological properties, such as small surface scatters of artifacts or debris, whose limited research potential is effectively exhausted as soon as they have been documented. Also, more complex archaeological properties that have had their salient information collected and preserved through mitigation or research may be discharged from management, as should cultural resources destroyed by any natural event or human activity.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. Paleontological resources are managed for preservation, protection, scientific use, recreational use, and educational use. The BLM must insure that authorized land uses do not inadvertently damage or destroy important paleontological resources on public land. Relevant laws, regulations and policy include the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-579), National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190), 43 CFR 8365, 43 CFR 8200, 43 CFR 8364, 43 CFR 8365.1-5, 43 CFR 8360.0-7, 18 USC Section 641, Secretarial Order 3104, Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 1 and 43 CFR 3162, Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-691) and 43 CFR 37.

2. Cultural resources are preserved and protected on public lands; the BLM must ensure that proposed land uses, initiated or authorized by BLM, avoid inadvertent damage to cultural resources on both federal and non-federal lands. Relevant laws, regulations, and policy include the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-579), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P. L. 91-190), National Historic Preservation Act of 1969 and its subsequent amendments (P.L. 89-665), Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (P.L. 86-523), American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-431), Executive Order 1193, Executive Order 13007, Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (P.L. 96-95), Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-601), Antiquities Act of 1906 (P.L. 59-209), 43 CFR 3, 43 CFR 60, 43 CFR 800, 43 CFR 7, 43 CFR 8365.1-5(a)(1), and 43 CFR 10, Subpart B.

3. Cultural resources will be managed for a variety of purposes depending upon the nature of the property. Management categories and their appropriate treatments are defined in BLM Manual 8110, *Identifying Cultural Resources*.

4. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the federal agency to consider the effects of an undertaking on cultural resources eligible to, or listed on, the National Register of Historic Places. This mandate extends federal responsibility to cultural resources located on private lands.

5. Identification and evaluation of cultural resources, determination of project effects, and development of treatment plans for eligible resources will be conducted in accordance with 36 CFR 800 and the procedures within the Nevada State Protocols, BLM Manual 8110, *Identifying Cultural Resources*, BLM Manual 8120, *Protecting Cultural Resources*, the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation, BLM supplements to the Nevada State Protocols and SHPO written guidance. Class III cultural resource inventory will generally be conducted for all undertakings unless special exemption is obtained on a case-by-case basis or if the undertaking will take place in an area that has previously received an adequate inventory that is less than 10 years old and has previously received SHPO review.

6. Cultural resources managed by the BLM Carson City Field Office in California will be subject to the State Protocol Agreement between the California State Director of the Bureau of land Management and the California State Historic Preservation Officer.

7. Cultural properties without National Register eligibility determinations will be treated as eligible properties until such determinations can be made.

8. Avoidance of cultural properties is the preferred treatment. However, avoidance may be inappropriate or insufficient if, 1) the project will create on-going activity in the area, 2) the project will greatly increase access into the area, or 3) the project will alter the visual, audible or atmospheric characteristics of the cultural properties setting. These conditions could lead to increased vandalism and/or accidental damage, or detract from the overall significance of the property.

9. If eligible properties cannot be avoided, a treatment plan will be developed pursuant to the Nevada State Protocols which will set forth appropriate mitigation to reduce the effect of the project upon the properties. If the effect is still adverse, consultation with the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is required. The treatment plan must be approved and, if necessary, consultation must be completed prior to authorization of the undertaking.

10. If in the event that previously unidentified cultural properties are encountered during the course of construction, development, or activation of a BLM undertaking, all activity in the immediate vicinity of the cultural resource will cease and the appropriate BLM Authorized Officer will be notified. The Authorized Officer will than take such action as to comply with Section 106 of NHPA prior to the resumption of the undertaking activity in the vicinity of the cultural property.

11. The views of Native Americans will be considered prior to BLM decisions or approvals that could result in changes in land use, physical changes to lands or resources, changes in access, or alienation of lands. Consultation with Native American religious and secular leaders will be conducted pursuant to the American Indian Religious Freedom Act and the National Historic Preservation Act to identify geographic areas which may be associated with traditional lifeway/religious practices. Executive Order 13007 directs the federal agencies to protect Native American sacred sites. Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) shall be identified through the guidance in National Register Bulletin 38: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties. Significant TCPs are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. When identified TCPs are significant to Native Americans, consultation with Tribes to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act will be guided by BLM Manual 8160, *Native American Consultation and Coordination*, and BLM

Handbook H-8160-1, *General Procedural Guidance for Native American Consultation.*

12. Whenever possible, Native American human remains will be preserved in place. Human remains inadvertently displaced from original burial locations will be collected and treated in the following manner: 1) In-situ human remains and funerary objects on the surface shall be removed when the burial site cannot be protected, and 2) Human remains or associated funerary items not associated with an in-situ burial site will be collected. Such items will be held by the Nevada State Museum pending appropriate disposition or repatriation to the tribe identified as the genetic or cultural descendants according to 43 CFR 10 Subpart B.

ACTIVITY PLANS:

1. Area of Critical Environmental Concern Management Plan
   Stewart Valley Fossil Site September,1990

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

1. BLM Cultural Resources Inventory General Guidelines, January 1990, Fourth Edition, Revised.
2. 43 CFR 3622, 43 CFR 3221, 43 CFR 3610
3. BLM Manuals 8100, 8110, 8120, 8130, 8160 and 8170
4. Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement between BLM and the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, January 14, 1980
5. National Programmatic Agreement between the BLM, the National Council of State Historic Preservation Offices, and the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
6. National Register Bulletins
7. Paleontological Instruction Memorandums WO 95-51 and WO 96-67
8. Paleontological Resource Management Handbook H-8270-1, *General Procedural Guidance for Paleontological Resource Management.*
9. Revised 36 CFR 800 Regulations
10. Treatment of Archaeological Properties - A Handbook (President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation)

GIS MAP REFERENCE:

1. None