

DEC 23 1986



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Intermountain  
Region

324 25th Street  
Ogden, UT 84401

Reply to: 2320

Date: NOV 28 1986

[ HOLLY & JIM  
Mr. Ernst Ables  
Wilderness Research Center  
University of Idaho  
Moscow, ID 83843  
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Dear Mr. Ables:

Enclosed are the amendment to the Frank Church--River of No Return Wilderness Management Plan and the Categorical Exclusion. The amendment is the result of the Chief's August 15 decision on the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association's appeal of the Management Plan. Pages 60 and 61 of the Plan should be replaced with the amendment.

Because implementation of the appealed portion of the Plan was delayed during the appeal process, we will not begin phasing out caches until 1987 rather than 1986, as stated in item (g) on page 60; however, the amended portion of the Plan is effective immediately.

Sincerely,

*J. S. Tixier*  
for J. S. TIXIER  
Regional Forester

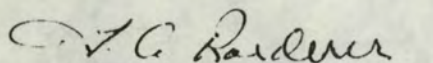
Enclosures (2)



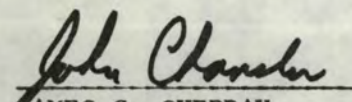
Categorical Exclusion  
for the  
Amendment to the Frank Church--River of No Return Wilderness Management Plan  
Bitterroot, Boise, Challis, Nezperce, Payette, and Salmon National Forests

The Frank Church--River of No Return Wilderness Management Plan is being amended in accordance with the August 15, 1986, decision by the Chief of the Forest Service on the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association's April 25, 1985, appeal of the Plan. We have determined this to be a non-significant amendment in accordance with 36 CFR 219.10(f) and FSM 1922.33. The decision does not have an important effect on the entire plan or affect land and resource throughout a large portion of the Wilderness. The relief requested in the appeal was that certain portions of the Plan dealing with outfitter base camps, transfer camps, and spike camps be changed to allow outfitters to continue using their camps as they had in the past. See Appendix A for amendment.

We have determined, based on environmental analysis and past experience, that this is not a major Federal action that would significantly effect the quality of the human environment; therefore, we are categorically excluding it from documentation in either an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment. This determination is based on the following factors: (a) the actions will have no adverse effect on the area, (b) there are no irreversible or irretrievable commitments of the resources associated with the changes, (c) biological effects are all positive, and (e) there are no threatened or endangered plant or animal species within the effected area.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. S. TIXIER  
Regional Forester  
Intermountain Region

11/18/86  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES C. OVERBAY  
Regional Forester  
Northern Region

11-19-86  
Date

PLAN AS AMENDED BY THE CHIEF'S 8/15/86 DECISION ON THE IDAHO OUTFITTER AND GUIDE ASSOCIATION APPEAL.

The number and location of camps are to be determined by the operating plan and/or environmental assessment.

(2) Base Camp: (Reserved site.) These are ~~main~~ camps located on sites approved in advance by the District Ranger. Campsites are reserved, posted, and regularly used during the permitted season by the designated permittee. They are generally not located at road ends or airstrips. Improvements are limited to those necessary for the safe and sanitary conduct of the business and protection of the wilderness resource.

- (a) Facilities and improvements must be temporary in nature; i.e., capable of being readily dismantled.
- (b) Must be dismantled when not in use (within 15 days before - 10 days after allowed). Reusable poles may be cached vertically and inconspicuously against trees outside camp perimeter.
- (c) All camp facilities and improvements should be at least 200 feet from trails, streams, and lakes, where terrain permits. Consider relocating, if possible, to where terrain permits.
- (d) Camps will be relocated from overused degraded sites.
- (e) Ground logs for tents may be allowed on case-by-case basis.
- (f) Permanent hitchracks and/or corrals may be authorized, if necessary, to solve a continuing resource problem. Temporary electric fence, rope hitchlines, or rope corrals are preferred. If permanent facility is needed, hitchracks are preferred over corrals.
- (g) No new caches will be permitted. Existing caches will be phased out at the rate of one per year per outfitter beginning at the end of the 1986 season.

for the humane treatment of stock or

(i) Issue direction to Wilderness Managers that the permanent piping of water from boxed-in springs is not an allowable improvement permitted in operating plans.

(h) Maximum group size is 20 people, without prior approval.

(3) Transfer Camp: (Reserved site.)  
These camps are generally located near roads, road and trail junctions, or airfields. They should be located inconspicuously and allow adequate space for non-outfitted facilities and use. They are used primarily for holding pack stock and equipment and serve as jumpoff points to trails, but hunting, fishing, or other activities may be permitted from these camps. Campsites may be posted for the exclusive occupancy of the permittee. The site may provide for parking space, toilet, corral, hitchrack, and tent space. When within the Wilderness, the standards for base camps will also apply to transfer camps.

(4) Spike Camp: Such campsites <sup>are</sup> ~~may be either reserved or~~ unreserved. They are approved by the District Ranger for use by the permittees and those he/she serves on a temporary basis in conjunction with the permitted operations. Spike camps will meet the standards as base camps, except:

(a) They may be available for use on a "first come, first served" basis for either outfitted or non-outfitted camping purposes.

(b) Unless otherwise approved by the District Ranger, camps cannot be set up more than three days in advance of use and are to be removed within three days after use. ~~if these is not to be made within ten days, they are reserved sites!~~

(c) A permittee will be normally limited to not more than three spike camps in addition to a transfer camp and/or base camp!

(d) Temporary corrals or permanent hitchracks may be permitted with

Occupancy shall not exceed 14 consecutive days, beginning with camp setup and ending with removal of camp.