

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Nezperce National Forest
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

8200
October 4, 1977



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Dr. Kenneth M. Sowles
962 N. Cleveland
Moscow, ID 83843

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Dear Ken:

This is to confirm our October 8 meeting of the Technical Review Panel (postponed from September 17). The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. here in our office in Grangeville.

The agenda remains the same as before:

1. An update on the planning process to date, and critique.
2. A presentation of our final selection criteria.
3. A presentation and discussion of "bare bones" alternatives.

I'll see you on Saturday.

Ed
ED LAVEN
Chief, Planning Branch

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Local Economy

Economic impacts as measured by jobs and incomes of basic industries should not range beyond + 20% of present contributions from the planning unit, as currently measured by all functional plans for surface resources.

2. Wilderness Study

Analysis units with a rating higher than the Slusher rating of 76 should be studied for wilderness classification, provided that lesser value units could be added, and higher value units could be subtracted to arrive at practical boundaries. However, if this direction should preclude recreational or economic criteria as described herein, then these latter criteria shall prevail.

3. Grazing

Presently permitted numbers should be retained unless resource damage can be documented as being a result of excessive numbers, not present management techniques. However, increases that come about through other resource allocations would be permissible. Bighorn sheep needs will take priority within presently established bighorn ranges, as defined by Lauer's study.

4. Anadromous Fish

Select alternatives that produce the lowest sediment increases possible in achieving other planning goals, but accept no alternatives that allow mortality rates in excess of 25%.

5. Wildlife Habitat

All proposed activities must, on the average, allow for maintenance of present big game habitat at least to present levels. Bighorn sheep range must be maintained or improved. Roads and domestic grazing will not be allowed on bighorn range.

6. Recreation

Increased dispersed recreational use must be allowed within the following parameters:

- Trail bike access will be provided to at least 10 lakes.
- At least 150 miles of snowmobile trail will be provided, with at least 5000 acres of off-trail travel available to snowmobilers.
- At least the present mileage of four-wheel drive roads will be allocated.

7. Minerals

No recommendation will be made for wilderness classification without adequate minerals study, and the results of that study will be used to measure wilderness values against minerals values, as determined by the prudent man concept. Access corridors will be allowed for areas of proven mineral value.