

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**Forest Service**  
**TEMPORARY SPECIAL - USE PERMIT**  
**AUTHORITY: Organic Administration Act of June 4, 1897**

The Researcher identified below is hereinafter called the Holder, and is hereby authorized to use, subject to the terms and conditions of this permit, Payette National Forest System lands to conduct the following identified research. The holder is authorized to conduct the following activities and/ or install the following temporary improvements on the permitted area for research purposes:

**RESEARCHER NAME:** Various undergraduate students supervised by Jim and Holly Akenson, Taylor Ranch field station (see summary below for a list of researchers/projects)

**Institution/School Sponsoring Research Project:** University of Idaho

**School/Institution Address:** Taylor Ranch Field Station  
HC83, Box 8070  
Cascade, Idaho 83611

**Contact phone & Email:** tavranch@direcpc.com, 1-888-842-7547

**Description of Research (attach Study Plan or Prospectus):** The following undergraduate studies are being conducted:

- a. **Jesse Davis**, "Impacts of Food Availability on Cutthroat Trout Growth and Density in Selected Streams of Similar Size in the Big Creek Drainage"
- b. **Javan Bauder**, "Movements and Habitat Selection of Prairie Rattlesnakes in the Big Creek Drainage of the FCRONR Wilderness"
- c. **Kate Lambert**, "Effects of Weather and Elevation on Bat Relative Seasonal Abundance and Activity in FCRONR Wilderness"
- d. **Mackenzie Shardlow**, "A Survey and Habitat Evaluation of American Marten and Fisher in the Big Creek Drainage, Central Idaho"
- e. **Jim and Holly Akenson**, "Taylor Ranch Wilderness Internship"

**Location of Research Project --include legals AND 1:24,000 or GIS Map:**  
Studies are based out of the Taylor Ranch field station and conducted in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness - specific locations are discussed in the study plan. If locations were not provided in the application, researchers will need to submit the study locations once they are determined.

Long term permitting mechanism is needed.  
MOUS  
Participating Agreements  
courses  
monitoring PIS, field  
Undergrads, Grads, TRS

Bedrock strength  
controls on the  
valley morphometry  
of Big Creek, Valley  
& Idaho Counties, Central  
Idaho, Zach Liffon  
5002 151



**Project Specific Conditions:** All studies are taking place within the FCRONR Wilderness and shall follow specific guidelines for research in the wilderness. The "research" activity section from the Plan is attached to this permit and shall be followed. Stipulations for each research activity is also attached to this permit as exhibit A.

**This Permit is not exclusive. That is, the Forest Service reserves the right to use or permit others to use any part of the permitted area for any purpose. I have read and understand the terms and conditions listed on back, and agree to abide by them.**

RESEARCHER

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Forest Service

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: C. QUINN CARVER, Krassel District Ranger  
(Authorized Officer)

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Use under this permit shall begin on 05/31/05 and end on or before 09/01/05. The permit shall not be extended.
2. Fees for this use have been waived by the authorized officer in accordance with 36 CFR 251.57(b).
3. The holder shall not install any improvements not specifically identified and approved above.
4. No soil, trees, or other vegetation may be destroyed or removed from National Forest System lands without specific prior written permission from the authorized officer.
5. The holder shall comply with all Federal, State, county, and municipal laws, ordinances, and regulations which are applicable to the area or operations covered by this permit.
6. The holder shall maintain the improvements and premises to standards of repair, orderliness, neatness, sanitation, and safety acceptable to the authorized officer. The holder shall fully repair and bear the expense for all damage, other than ordinary wear and tear, to National Forest System lands, roads and trails caused by the holder's activities.
7. The holder has the responsibility of inspecting the use area and adjoining areas for dangerous trees, hanging limbs, and other evidence of hazardous conditions which would pose a risk of injury to individuals.
8. The holder shall be liable for any damage suffered by the United States resulting from or related to use of this permit.
9. The holder shall hold harmless the United States from any liability from damage to life or property arising from the holder's occupancy or use of National Forest lands under this permit.
10. The holder agrees to permit the free and unrestricted access to and upon the premises at all times for all lawful and proper purposes not inconsistent with the intent of the permit or with the reasonable exercise and enjoyment by the holder of the privileges thereof.
11. This permit is subject to all valid existing rights and claims outstanding in third parties.
12. This permit may be revoked upon breach of any of the conditions herein or at the discretion of the authorized officer. Upon expiration or revocation of this permit, the holder shall immediately remove all improvements except those owned by the United States, and shall restore the site within 2 day(s), unless otherwise agreed upon in writing. If the holder fails to remove the improvements, they shall become the property of the United States, but that will not relieve the holder of liability for the cost of their removal and restoration of the site.
13. This permit is a license for the use of federally owned land. It does not grant any interest in real property. This permit is not transferable. The holder shall not enter into any agreements with third parties for occupancy of the authorized premises and improvements.
14. The holder must abide by all road and area closures as posted.
15. **The holder shall provide the authorized officer with a copy of all reports and publications resulting from the project including thesis, dissertations, articles, monographs, etc. The final report on work performed shall be submitted to the Payette National Forest Supervisor's Office, no later than 1 year following the completion of the research.**
16. Researchers are required to have a copy of this permit in possession when working on National Forest System Lands.
17. Appeal of any provisions of this permit or any requirements thereof shall be subject to the appeal regulations at 36 CFR, Subpart C, or revisions thereof.

*According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0082.*

*This information is needed by the Forest Service to evaluate requests to use National Forest System lands and manage those lands to protect natural resources, administer the use, and ensure public health and safety. This information is required to obtain or retain a benefit. The authority for that requirement is provided by the Organic Act of 1897 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, which authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to promulgate rules and regulations for authorizing and managing National Forest System lands. These statutes, along with the Term Permit Act, National Forest Ski Area Permit Act, Granger-Thye Act, Mineral Leasing Act, Alaska Term Permit Act, Act of September 3, 1954, Wilderness Act, National Forest Roads and Trails Act, Act of November 16, 1973, Archeological Resources Protection Act, and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to issue authorizations for the use and occupancy of National Forest System lands. The Secretary of Agriculture's regulations at 36 CFR Part 251, Subpart B, establish procedures for issuing those authorizations.*

*The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) govern the confidentiality to be provided for information received by the Forest Service. Public reporting burden for collection of information, if requested, is estimated to average 1 hour per response for annual financial information; average 1 hour per response to prepare or update operation and/or maintenance plan; average 1 hour per response for inspection reports; and an average of 1 hour for each request that may include such things as reports, logs, facility and user information, sublease information, and other similar miscellaneous information requests. This includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.*



## **Exhibit A – Taylor Ranch field station research activities for 2005**

Following are stipulations that shall be followed when conducting research activities:

### **a. Impacts of Food Availability on Cutthroat Trout Growth and Density in Selected Streams of Similar Size in the Big Creek Drainage.**

Effects to listed fish species and habitat from this work are covered by a "Not Likely to Adversely Affect" determination from the 2001 Ongoing Consultation for the Middle Fork Salmon River Tributaries (Wagoner and Burns 2001), as long as the following conditions are met. Relevant sections of the Ongoing BA area appended.

- Electrofishing is not covered under the research permit/consultation from the Payette NF, electrofishing for this project must be conducted only with individuals with existing permits for this activity (ie Steve Achord).
- Angling to capture cutthroat is not covered under the research permit/consultation from the Payette NF, angling must be conducted within regulations of the Idaho sport fishing license
- Any handling of fish outside of "catch and release" regulations (such as gastric lavage) must be covered by a IDFG scientific collection permit
- Macroinvertebrate collection and snorkeling must follow mitigation measures outlined in the appended BA.
- Sample sites (not including angling locations which are covered by IDFG permit) must be a mile away from sites already established or permitted by the Payette NF (see map which designates these sites)
- Wilderness ethics and restrictions such as removing flagging, not permanently marking sites or equipment with obtrusive materials, Leave No Trace camping, etc. should be followed.
- No caching of structures or materials incidental to study activities.

### **b. Rattlesnakes – 2005 Instrumentation & 2006 Monitoring**

- Submit a copy of the collectors permit to FS.

### **c. Bats**

- Do not enter old mine adits.

### **d. Martens and Fishers**

- Locate transects well away from trail & provide locations of camps & transects to FS.



**Excerpts from 2001 Ongoing BA (Wagoner and Burns 2001, pg 35-37):**

**A. FEDERAL ACTION: FISH HABITAT AND RIPARIAN SAMPLING**

**PURPOSE AND NEED:** To conduct fish habitat and riparian surveys to gain fuller knowledge of existing conditions and trends through December 31, 2006. This work may be contracted to private firms.

**LOCATION:** Streams within the MFSR and MSSE watersheds.

**DATES OF PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE:**

- USFWS: No previous consultation in these watersheds, however this action has received concurrence elsewhere on the Forest (e.g., North Fork Payette, May 3, 1999)
- NMFS: No previous consultations in these watersheds.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Payette National Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP, USFS 1988), as amended by PACFISH, specifies that monitoring of aquatic species and habitats will occur to evaluate implementation of standards and the effectiveness of these standards in achieving RMOs. Section 4 (c) 2 A of the Endangered Species Act directs the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to review the status of species listed under the Act. Other federal agencies are directed under 50 CFR 402.01 (a) to "utilize their authorities to further the purposes of the Act by carrying out conservation programs for listed species". Among the purposes of the Act specified in Section 2 (b) is "to provide a program for the conservation of each endangered and threatened species". Conservation programs, to be successful, must monitor the effectiveness of measures taken to protect listed species and their habitats. To monitor the habitat and population trends of aquatic species on the Payette National Forest, the actions described below will be carried out annually in many streams on the Forest.

This federal action includes sampling activities that may be performed by the Boise Adjudication Team. Examples are found on: Current  
CD\support\_documents\miscellaneous\BAT\_sampling.pdf.

- **Aquatic habitat surveys**—Some streams will be surveyed to produce quantitative assessments of fish habitat. Survey methods are similar to those described in Overton et al. (1997) and Burton et al (1992). Habitat surveys involve walking and snorkeling within stream channels, measuring channel and habitat dimensions and qualities, using stadia rods, measuring tapes, or surface fines grids. Methods to measure substrate composition and quality that may be used include determination of cobble embeddedness, percent surface fines, free matrix measures, and core sampling. Measurement of cobble embeddedness involves removing cobble-sized rocks from the stream bottom. The cobbles are returned to the site after measurements are taken. Percent surface fine determination is a visual estimate that involves no disturbance other than that caused by the presence of the crews in the stream channel. Determination of free matrix measures involves randomly placing a sampling hoop and counting the number of non-embedded rocks within the hoop;



this action requires disturbing all loose rocks within the hoop. Core sampling requires removing from the stream all substrate within the substrate samples, which may be taken from any part of the habitat. Most core samples will be done with a hollow cores sampler; some freeze sampling may occur.

- **Aquatic invertebrate sampling**—Aquatic invertebrate sampling will occur on some streams. Invertebrates will be sampled with a Hess sampler, Surber sampler, or kick nets.

***ASSUMPTIONS:***

- Chinook, steelhead, and bull trout rearing and spawning occur in some of the streams to be sampled.
- Crews are able to recognize and avoid chinook, steelhead, and bull trout redds.

***REQUIRED MITIGATION:***

- Crews will be trained in redd identification, likely redd locations, and methods to minimize the likelihood of stepping on redds or delivering fine sediment to redds.
- Crews will avoid redds and spawning chinook, steelhead, and bull trout while walking within or near stream channels to the extent possible. Avoidance will be accomplished by examining pool tail outs and low gradient riffles for clean gravel and characteristic shapes and flows prior to walking or snorkeling through these areas.
- If redds or spawning chinook, steelhead, or bull trout are observed at any time, the habitat surveyors will step out of the channel and walk around the habitat unit on the bank at a distance from the active channel.
- If continuing to survey while avoiding chinook, steelhead, or bull trout is not possible the crew will step out of the active stream channel and walk around the habitat unit at a distance from the stream.
- While conducting free matrix substrate measurements or core samples, and while sampling aquatic invertebrates, redds and areas immediately above redds will not be sampled in order to minimize the chance of killing eggs or delivering sediment to redds.



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest Service

Intermountain  
Region

November 2003



# The Frank Church- River of No Return Wilderness Management Plan





## **XVII. Research**

### **A. Background**

The Wilderness Act recognizes that scientific values in wilderness and the gathering of information regarding their use and enjoyment is an appropriate activity in wilderness. Scientific study of the wilderness is also a purpose articulated in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Appendix B).

The FC-RONR Wilderness' vast array of diverse ecosystems, topography, geology, fire history, wildlife populations, and cultural history provides an excellent tapestry for study and observation in a near-natural environment. There has been considerable research activity in the past; more is expected in the future.

The University of Idaho maintains a wilderness research center on the 65-acre Taylor Ranch in lower Big Creek. The University uses this facility for a wide range of wilderness-related research.

The CIWA specifically provides that management shall encourage scientific research into man's past use of the wilderness and the Salmon River corridor (Section 8(a)(3)(A)).

### **B. Desired Future Condition**

Wilderness-dependent research will continue following the intent of the Wilderness Act. The wilderness resource will continue to be shaped by natural forces and processes, while providing an opportunity to further the state of our knowledge of ecosystems and social aspects of wilderness management.

### **C. Goals**

1. Wilderness and its ecosystems will continue to be valuable as benchmarks. The benchmarks provide a basis where managers and scientists can better understand and compare natural processes and systems.

### **D. Objectives**

1. Provide for and encourage scientific study that:
  - a. Depends on the wilderness setting or upon natural systems not readily found outside wilderness.



- b. Seeks to explain or understand ecosystems found in wilderness or resolve wilderness management problems to provide managers with knowledge needed to better manage wild lands.
- c. Is conducted in a non-obtrusive manner consistent with preserving the wilderness character and minimizes conflicts between wilderness users and researchers.

## E. Standards and Guidelines

### *General*

1. Research projects that benefit the protection objectives of the FC-RONR Wilderness will be given highest priority. (S)
2. Research projects not dependent on wilderness will be directed to alternative areas outside the wilderness. (S)
3. Research methods that temporarily infringe on the wilderness resource should be limited or restricted, with the adverse effect(s) mitigated to the extent possible. (G)
4. All proposed research structures will be analyzed through the Minimum Requirements Analysis process. If approved, these research structures shall be situated and constructed to be as unobtrusive as possible. (S)
5. Data collected for management purposes, such as use figures and resource inventories, should be made available to scientists for research purposes. (G)
6. The use of helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft for research purposes outside of public airstrips will be analyzed through the Minimum Requirements Analysis process. (S)
7. Aircraft use, including helicopters, outside of the public airstrips should be considered only when other methods are not possible and not appropriate for the research objectives. If aircraft use is approved, time of day, season of year, elevation, route of flight, and location of landings will be considered to minimize impacts. (G)
8. Research projects must be approved by the Forest Supervisor and authorized by special use permit. (S)

### *Research Proposals*

1. Proposed research projects will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the managing unit as to the project's desirability, priority, and compatibility. Project proposals that extend across administrative boundaries will be jointly reviewed with a coordinated response. (S)



2. Research projects on wildlife and fish resources, recreational use, human carrying capacities, cultural resources, and methodologies for monitoring ecological and sociological carrying capacity, will be permitted in the Wild River corridor. (S)
3. Written research proposals should be submitted to the Forest Service at least 6 months before anticipated fieldwork. (G)

### *Specimen Collection*

1. No personal flora or fauna collection is permitted. Collections are for scientific or educational purposes only, dedicated to public benefit, and may not be used for personal or commercial profit. (S)
2. All collections for scientific purposes must be approved. (S)
3. No archaeological or vertebrate paleontological materials may be collected. Upon location of any historical or archaeological remains, fieldwork will cease and the site shall be reported immediately. No disturbance of such a site is permitted. (S)

### *Marking Samples and Locations*

1. Measuring and recording methods must be sensitive to the generally undisturbed character of the area and leave as few signs of disturbance as possible. Field measurements in the FC-RONR Wilderness will follow the guidelines in the Forest Inventory and Assessment and Wilderness Program MOA, namely:
  - a. The practice of painting or scribing trees will not be used. Instead, marked nailed tags will be used.
  - b. Marking tags/nails may be used minimally, if painted an approved color, and faced away from obvious trails and roads.
  - c. Tags/nails may only be used at the base of the tree. Markers may not protrude from the ground more than one inch.
  - d. Flagging may not be attached to the marker.
  - e. Any flagging used to facilitate entry and exit from the plot area will be removed upon completion of the plot measurements.
  - f. Boring or drilling will be done on representative non-tally trees and only when absolutely necessary to estimate site, age, or growth.
  - g. Destructive sampling will not be done.



**Site Condition**

1. All refuse associated with field operations will be removed from the site and returned to the condition in which it was found, except as authorized by the project work plan. (S)
2. Soil disturbance is prohibited, except as specifically authorized in the project work plan. (S)
3. Temporary markers, such as flagging, may not remain in place for more than one week when study teams are not present on a site. (S)
4. Paint, or similar semi-permanent markers, may not be applied to rocks, plants, or other natural surfaces. (S)

**F. Monitoring**

No monitoring identified