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IDAHO 179-40  
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BLM  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

FOR RELEASE  
CONTACT  
August 10, 1979  
Fred Cook  
Ph. 384-1770

# News Release

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724  
2.6 MILLION ACRES TO RECEIVE INTENSIVE WILDERNESS INVENTORY

One hundred and fifty units of public land in Idaho totaling 2,598,454 acres have been identified by the Bureau of Land Management to receive an intensive inventory for wilderness characteristics. This is 21.7% of the nearly 12 million acres managed by the BLM in the state. Some 8.7 million acres have been dropped from further wilderness consideration as they clearly and obviously lack wilderness characteristics.

These decisions on the initial BLM wilderness review in Idaho were announced by Ted Bingham, Acting State Director. This decision becomes final 30 days following publication in the Federal Register unless formally and publicly amended and published by the State Director based on new information received as a result of final publication. The intensive inventory will determine if the lands have sufficient wilderness characteristics to become Wilderness Study Areas.

The criteria for identifying units as Wilderness Study Areas are contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act.

Those units of BLM land that clearly and obviously do not meet the above criteria do not qualify as Wilderness Study Areas and thus are dropped from the inventory process.

Those units of BLM land that may possibly meet the above criteria are to receive more intensive inventory (the second major step in the inventory process) before a determination is made regarding Wilderness Study Area status.

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IDAHO

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FOR RELEASE  
CONTACT

Upon Receipt  
Dlek Lingenfelter  
Ph. 334-1771

BLM

News Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

INITIAL WILDERNESS INVENTORY DECISION COMPLETED ON DEFERRED  
UNITS ALONG STATE BOUNDARIES IN SOUTHWEST IDAHO

Idaho State BLM Director Bob Buffington said today that he has completed initial wilderness decisions on 211,769 acres of public lands in Southwest Idaho. Buffington said when initial wilderness inventory decisions were issued for the whole state on August 10, decisions were deferred for some units that bordered adjacent states and that it is for these areas that the present announcement is being made.

After analysis of public comment and coordination with BLM offices in Oregon, Nevada and Utah it was determined that 206,914 acres in 11 stateline units require intensive wilderness inventory, while 4,855 acres clearly and obviously did not contain wilderness values or meet wilderness criteria.

The intended final decision for the initial wilderness inventory for Idaho where inventory units extend into Oregon, Nevada and Utah is that 206,914 acres will be retained for more intensive inventory and 4,855 acres will be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

The intended final decision was forwarded to the Federal Register to be published on December 14, after which a 30-day protest period is initiated. Protests should be written and should address specific inventory units and must include a clear and concise statement of the reasons for protest. Protests which must be post marked or received on or before January 14, 1980, may be filed and/or information obtained at the Idaho State Office of the Bureau of Land Management or at the Boise or Burley District Offices; the addresses are:

Bureau of Land Management  
Boise District Office  
230 Collins Road  
Boise, ID 83702

Bureau of Land Management  
Idaho State Office  
550 W. Fort Street  
Federal Bldg., Box 042  
Boise, ID 83724

Bureau of Land Management  
Burley District Office  
Route 3, Box 1  
Burley, ID 83318

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IDAHO 80-10  
12/11/79  
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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

FOR RELEASE Upon Receipt  
CONTACT Fred Cook  
Ph. 334-1770

# News Release

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

## BLM ISSUES INTERIM MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR PUBLIC LANDS UNDER WILDERNESS REVIEW

Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus said that the Interim Management Policy for public lands under Wilderness review being announced today will stress continued existing use or new uses of the lands under review wherever possible.

"This policy and our entire wilderness review program are intended to evaluate wilderness potential honestly, to continue existing uses or allow new uses wherever possible, and to conclude the period of study and uncertainty as rapidly as possible," Andrus said.

The policy sets management rules and describes uses for the specific lands which will be Wilderness Study Areas, and for lands where the inventory to identify study areas is incomplete.

Two-thirds of the public lands in the contiguous western states (117 million acres) already have been found by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to lack necessary wilderness characteristics for further study, and are not subject to this policy. At present, the interim policy will apply to approximately 56 million acres, a number which is expected to be reduced still further when the inventory process is concluded October 1, 1980.

Within Wilderness Study Areas, the Interim Management Policy will continue to guide management as the studies are completed, and until Congress makes final decisions on which study areas will become wilderness and which will be allocated to other uses.

"There is no escaping the fact that Congress constrained new resource development in wilderness review areas" Andrus said. "However, we have made every attempt to balance the Interim Management Policy in a number of important respects to avoid any unnecessary impact on development activities, especially for energy resources.

- We will complete the total review quickly; well before the 1991 deadline set by Congress;

- We are placing high resource conflict areas, particularly those with energy resources, at the very top of the agenda, to be resolved in the shortest possible time;
- The interim management policy itself continues substantial energy and mineral uses, even in areas under wilderness study. Valid existing rights, continuing uses, and even new ones will be permitted to the maximum extent provided by Congress in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA).
- We build into our process a substantial role for the public, and this will continue to expand."

The new policy allows activities that cause little or no surface disturbance, such as hunting, fishing, livestock grazing, and use of motor vehicles on existing roads. It requires reclamation of temporary impacts for such activities as new oil and gas and mineral exploration and construction of temporary access routes. It prohibits activities that would cause long-lasting or permanent impacts such as timber harvest, surface coal mining, and construction of power plants or permanent roads.

"The policy protects lands under review against long-term impacts that would impair their wilderness suitability. It allows new development if its impacts are temporary and will be reclaimed by the time the Secretary makes his recommendation," BLM Director Frank Gregg said.

"There are two important exceptions," Gregg said. "First, grazing and mineral uses that existed as of October 21, 1976, the date of FLPMA, may continue in the same manner and degree, even if they cause permanent impacts that would impair wilderness suitability. Mineral activities may qualify for this 'grandfather' provision in FLPMA in either the exploration or production if the added impacts are not of a significantly different kind than impacts existing in 1976.

"Second, mining claims on which a valid discovery was made before FLPMA may be fully developed, even if they would impair wilderness suitability."

The policy allows some energy exploration and development. Seismic survey methods generally are allowed. Deep drilling is permitted where impacts can be reclaimed before the area is scheduled for a recommendation. Also, deep drilling may be done in 'grandfather' uses. 'Grandfather' uses outside the boundary of a wilderness study area may be extended geographically into the area.

The draft Interim Management Policy was published in January. More than a thousand public comments were received for consideration in developing the final document, and public workshops were held nationally and in each State to solicit public critique of the draft document.

Extensive changes have been made in the policy since it was issued in a draft:

1. The basic 'non-impairment' policy better protects wilderness potential because it requires reclamation of temporary impacts by the time the Secretary is scheduled to report his recommendations so that no unreclaimed impacts will pre-empt Congress' decisions. The draft allowed impacts to remain unreclaimed until Congress acted or, in mineral activities, until 5 years later.
2. The final policy treats 'grandfather' mineral uses more liberally, allowing significantly more exploration and production.
3. It gives more recognition to valid existing rights of mining claimants.
4. It clarifies the policy on suspension of mineral leases during wilderness study.

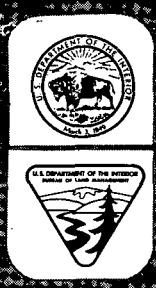
Regulations for mining on lands under wilderness review, issued in draft form January, 1979 with the draft Interim Management Policy, are being revised.

Copies of the Interim Management Policy are available from the Bureau of Land Management State Offices and from the Director (430) Bureau of Land Management, 18th & C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240.

The policy also appears in the December 12 Federal Register.

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IDAHO 780-13  
12/21/79

FOR RELEASE  
CONTACT  
Upon Receipt  
Dick Lingenfelter  
Ph. 334-1771

BLM  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

News Release

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

ADVANCE WILDERNESS DECISION ANNOUNCED  
FOR BLM LANDS IN IDAHO OVERTHRUST BELT

The intended final decision for identification of wilderness study areas on BLM lands in Eastern Idaho's Overthrust Belt was made December 28, 1979 by Robert Buffington, Idaho State Director for the Bureau of Land Management.

Buffington said 1,160 acres managed by the BLM in the Overthrust Belt qualify for wilderness study while 19,572 acres are dropped from further wilderness consideration because they do not meet the wilderness criteria.

According to Buffington the BLM conducted an "accelerated" intensive wilderness inventory in advance of the scheduled statewide timetable because of the potential demand for oil and gas exploration and development in the Overthrust Belt.

The following areas are identified as meeting wilderness criteria:

- Henry's Lake\* 350 acres
- Worm Creek\* 40 acres
- Islands 770 acres

\*Inventory area less than 5,000 acres dependent upon a contiguous Forest Service RARE II area to meet the size criteria.  
Islands do not have to meet a particular minimum size criteria.

The following units are identified as not meeting wilderness criteria and are thus dropped from further wilderness consideration:

- Game Creek 4,792 acres
- Big Spring 5,810 acres
- Mt. Naomi 240 acres
- Islands 250 acres
- Rattlesnake Point 8,365 acres

Upon publication of the intended final decision in the Federal Register on December 28, 1979 a 30-day protest period is initiated. Persons wishing to protest any of the intended final decisions should do so in writing within this period.

Protests should address specific inventory units and must include a clear and concise statement of reasons for the protest, including any supporting documents available. Protests may be filed with the Idaho State Office or the Idaho Falls District Office of the BLM and must be postmarked or received by the end of the 30-day period, January 28, 1980.

BLM office addresses for further information on this intended final decision are as follows:

Idaho State Office  
Bureau of Land Management  
Federal Bldg., Box 042  
550 W. Fort Street  
Boise, Idaho 83724

Idaho Falls District Office  
Bureau of Land Management  
940 Lincoln Road  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

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FOR RELEASE  
CONTACT

February 25, 1980  
George Weiskircher  
Ph. 334-1734

BLM  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

news Release

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

WILDERNESS INVENTORY DECISION BECOMES FINAL

Robert Buffington, Idaho State Director for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), announced today that the intensive wilderness inventory decision for 8 units of BLM managed lands is now final. This decision covers units in the Challis Area in BLM's Salmon District.

On January 4, 1980, an intended final decision was announced which indicated that four units, totalling 117,073 acres, were identified as Wilderness Study Areas:

46-11	Corral-Horse Basin	51,500 acres
46-13	Boulder Creek*	2,573 acres
46-14	Jerry Peak	48,000 acres
46-14a	Jerry Peak West	15,000 acres

\*Unit 46-13 is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II lands.

During the 30-day period permitted for protests, one letter was submitted by the Custer County Commissioners protesting the decision to identify the four units as Wilderness Study Areas. After analysis of the reasons for protest, the decision remains the same.

The intended final decision for the Challis Area is now final. It identifies the four units noted above as Wilderness Study Areas with the remainder of the acreage in the Challis Intensive Inventory dropped from further wilderness consideration.

The final decision, upon publication in the February 29, 1980, Federal Register is subject to appeal under Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 4.

This identification of Wilderness Study Areas completes the wilderness inventory process in the Challis Area. Areas identified as Wilderness Study Areas will continue to be managed under the wilderness interim management guidelines which generally permit continuation of existing land uses.

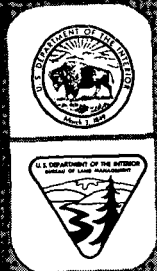
The next step in the wilderness review process is the study of the wilderness areas through the Bureau planning system, with reports on suitability or non-suitability for wilderness scheduled for completion late in Fiscal Year 1981. It is important to note that as wilderness recommendations are developed through the BLM planning system there will be a continuous reassessment, with public participation, before recommendations are finalized on the Wilderness Study Areas.

For further information, contact the BLM Idaho State Office or the Salmon District Office.

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FOR RELEASE

February 6, 1980

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

News Release

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

WILDERNESS INVENTORY DECISION BECOMES FINAL

Robert Buffington, Idaho State Director for the Bureau of Land Management, today announced that the initial wilderness inventory decision for eleven units of BLM land is now final.

On December 14, 1979, an intended final initial decision was announced which indicated that these eleven units in the southwest portion of the State were identified for intensive wilderness inventory in order to determine the presence of wilderness characteristics. Following that announcement, during the 30-day period permitted for protests, three letters of protest were received.

Buffington said the protest letters did not bring forward any new or specific information relating to wilderness characteristics; therefore, the final decision is to conduct intensive wilderness inventory on the units.

The eleven units included in this final decision are:

16-48a	Spring Creek	39,185 acres
16-48b	Owyhee River	33,708 acres
16-48c	Little Owyhee River	26,817 acres
16-53	South Fork Owyhee	47,516 acres
16-56a	Upper Little Owyhee River	4,309 acres
16-59	Juniper Basin	15,248 acres
16-70e	Oregon Butte	3,393 acres
17-19	Upper Bruneau River	22,797 acres
17-21	Jarbidge Addition	5,881 acres
17-26	Salmon Falls Creek	5,977 acres
22-1	Little Goose Creek	2,083 acres

All of the above units except 16-48c are contiguous to BLM land in Nevada or Oregon.

Upon publication of the final decision on these inventory units in the Federal Register on February 8, 1980, this decision is subject to appeal under the procedures of 43 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 4.

For further information, contact the BLM Idaho State Office or the District Office in Boise or Burley.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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02/04/80

FOR RELEASE  
CONFIDENTIAL

February 6, 1980

Dick Lingenfelter  
Ph. 334-1771

News Release

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

WILDERNESS INVENTORY DECISION ANNOUNCED FOR BLM LANDS

Robert Buffington, Idaho State Director for the Bureau of Land Management, announced today the intended final decision for initial wilderness inventory for eight parcels of BLM land in Idaho.

When the decision on these wilderness inventory units was originally announced on August 10, 1979, it was indicated that all eight units would be dropped from further wilderness consideration as they clearly and obviously did not meet the wilderness criteria.

This August 10 decision was appealed with the Wilderness Society stating that in the earlier decision there were incorrect interpretations of the wilderness criteria as well as vague arguments presented for the final decision.

After re-analysis, Buffington indicated that for four of the eight units it is not clear and obvious that the units are lacking in wilderness values. Therefore, an intensive inventory will be conducted on the following units in order to determine the presence of wilderness characteristics:

BURLEY DISTRICT

23-1	Jim Sage A	7,585 acres
	Jim Sage C	6,190 acres

IDAHO FALLS DISTRICT

35-3	Sand Mountain	27,670 acres
35-4	Black Knoll	7,095 acres
35-5	Big Sandy	10,735 acres

For the remaining four units, the decision will remain to drop the units from further wilderness consideration:

BOISE DISTRICT

18-5	Sugar Loaf	11,920 acres
18-9	Indian Creek	17,140 acres
18-11	Hog Creek	26,898 acres
18-12	Coonrod Gulch	9,210 acres

The release of this intended final decision initiates a 30-day protest period, during which persons wishing to protest any of the intended final decisions shall have 30 days to file a written protest.

Protests should address specific inventory units and must include a clear and concise statement of reasons for the protest, including any supporting data available. Protests may be filed with the Idaho State Office or the Boise, Burley and Idaho Falls District Offices of the BLM, and must be postmarked or received by the end of the 30-day period, March 10, 1980.

For further information on any of the inventory units, contact the Idaho State Office or the Boise, Burley and Idaho Falls District Offices.

# # # # # # #

U. S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

IDAHO STATE OFFICE

550 FORT ST.

P.O. BOX 042

BOISE, IDAHO 83724

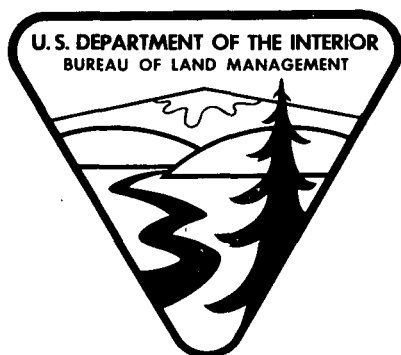
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

WILDERNESS COMMENTS ANALYZED BY BLM

The Idaho Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is reviewing more than 500 comments on which individuals expressed interest in the Bureau's wilderness program.

The task, coordinated by Fred Cook, Public Affairs Officer, and George Weiskircher, Wilderness Coordinator in the Idaho State Office, is to analyze the public's response to BLM's recommendation that 35 acres containing 803,836 acres in Idaho be identified as Wilderness Study Areas.

BLM made its recommendations after reviewing all the land it manages in Idaho. Most of the areas recommended as Wilderness Study Areas are in Southern Idaho.

Weiskircher said, "After analyzing the comments we have received, our District Wilderness Specialists will visit areas where new information has been introduced to determine whether changes should be made in the preliminary study area proposals."

In November, BLM's Idaho State Director, Bob Buffington, plans to formally identify Wilderness Study Areas. At that time, the lands natural resources and all other possible land uses will be studied through the Bureau's Land Use Planning System to arrive at recommendations as to which study areas should be recommended for designation as wilderness. The recommendations will be forwarded to Congress through the Secretary of the Interior and the President. The President must submit his recommendations on study areas to Congress by October 21, 1993. Only Congress can designate a wilderness area. BLM is planning on submitting its recommendations well before the 1993 deadline. Cook said, "During the wilderness studies we will continue to seek the public's participation in determining whether or not an area's appropriate use is wilderness."

While areas are being studied, the land will be managed to protect its suitability for wilderness. The study area lands will remain under this interim management policy until Congress either designates them as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System or decides against wilderness designation.

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Wilderness Comments Analyzed

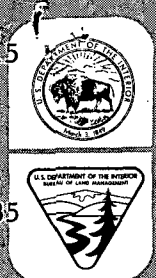
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BLM's wilderness program in Idaho began in 1978 with a general review to eliminate public lands which were obviously not of wilderness quality. Idaho State Office, Federal Building, P.O. Box 042, Boise, ID 83724. The next step was an intensive inventory of the remaining land, resulting in the current recommendations for wilderness study areas.

The Bureau earlier identified 26 wilderness study areas containing 820,078 acres; recommended 8,983,106 acres be dropped from further study; and recommended 322,450 acres in the Great Rift area be considered for wilderness designation.

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**IDAHO** #80-34  
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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
**UNITED STATES**

FOR RELEASE Upon Receipt  
CONTACT Fred Cook, Phone 334-1770 or  
George Weiskircher, Phone 334-1748

# News Release

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

WILDERNESS INVENTORY PROPOSED DECISIONS RELEASED

Robert Buffington, Idaho State Director for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), today announced the proposed decision for the Statewide Intensive Wilderness Inventory. The release of this decision marks the beginning of a 90-day public review of the proposals beginning April 4, 1980 and ending July 3, 1980.

During the intensive wilderness inventory, 107 inventory units containing over 1,924,000 acres of BLM land were examined in detail to determine the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. As a result of the intensive inventory field work, it has been determined that 35 inventory units totalling 803,836 acres contain wilderness characteristics and are proposed as Wilderness Study Areas (WSA's), and that 72 inventory units and 1,120,508 acres do not contain characteristics and are proposed to be dropped from further consideration. (The attached detailed list of inventory units shows the status of the proposed decision for each of the 107 units.)

The proposed Wilderness Study Areas by BLM District are as follows:

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>PROPOSED AS WSA's</u>		<u>NOT PROPOSED AS WSA's</u>	
	<u># UNITS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>	<u># UNITS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>
Boise	7	316,343	24	486,901
Burley	1	11,358	4	45,173
Idaho Falls	6	157,630	18	227,027
Salmon	3	53,002	7	86,499
Shoshone	11	222,458	16	264,501
Coeur d'Alene	7	43,045	3	10,407
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>803,836</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1,120,508</b>

"This stage of the wilderness process is extremely critical," Buffington said. "We need the public's ideas on the adequacy of our inventory data and the correctness of our recommendations on both sides of the issue; either areas being dropped from wilderness consideration or areas identified as Wilderness Study Areas for eventual consideration by Congress.

"Comments on the decisions should address the presence or absence of those wilderness characteristics as described in the Wilderness Act, namely: size, naturalness, outstanding solitude or outstanding primitive recreation opportunities, and supplemental values.

"Thorough review by those interested in this issue is critical to the program's success," Buffington said.

Documents describing the Bureau's findings and recommendations along with maps have been sent to everyone indicating an interest in the Bureau's wilderness program. Maps and a summary document are available at no cost in the BLM State Office and in BLM District Offices. Intensive inventory reports on each area can be reviewed in both State and BLM District Offices.

The BLM will host open houses, workshops and meetings throughout the State from April 15, 1980 through May 22, 1980. These will include presentations on the review process and will provide the opportunity for exchange of information with the public. (A detailed list of the meetings is attached.)

All comments must be received by the BLM Idaho State or District Offices no later than 4:15 p.m. July 3, 1980 to be utilized in the final decision on which units will become Wilderness Study Areas.

This final decision on Wilderness Study Area status is scheduled for late September. With the exception of several inventory units where release of the intensive inventory has been deferred due to protests or appeals, this announcement completes the intensive inventory phase of BLM's wilderness review for Idaho. All areas identified as Wilderness Study Areas in the final decision will be further analyzed through the Bureau's Planning Process to determine which areas should receive a suitable or non-suitable recommendation for wilderness designation. These recommendations will eventually be forwarded to Congress for the final decision on possible designation of areas into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

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DETAILED LIST OF INVENTORY UNITS

	<u>Acres Proposed As WSA</u>	<u>Acres Not Proposed As WSA (Proposed To Be Dropped)</u>
<u>Boise District</u>		
11-17		6,420
14-19		13,226
14-21		11,162
16-2		8,301
16-9		14,650
16-49c		10,316
17-1a		20,077
17-1b		10,178
17-6		26,208
17-7		6,314
17-10		22,287
17-11	75,340	35,670
17-12		13,532
18-1		7,472
19-1		21,380
110-91a	428	
		Box Creek (Unit dependent on contig- uous RARE II area to meet criteria)
111-5		30,742
111-6	41,143	33,776
111-7a		12,924
111-7b		10,005
111-7c	54,833	10,301
111-12		19,702
111-17	107,020	27,042
111-18	24,509	7,247
111-19a		19,347
111-19b		33,150
111-20a		5,342
111-20b		17,787
111-21		17,625
111-36a	13,070	2,306
111-36b		12,412
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	Boise District Total	486,901
	316,343	
<u>Burley District</u>		
26-1		20,615
26-3		6,615
27-1		9,609
27-2		6,646
28-1	11,358	1,688
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	Burley District Total	45,173
	11,358	



		Acres Proposed As WSA	Acres Not Proposed As WSA (Proposed To Be Dropped)
<u>Idaho Falls District</u>			
31-10	Illinois		11,150
31-11	Deadman Canyon		23,000
31-13	Timbered Dome		10,240
31-14	Appendicitis Hill	24,870	630
31-15	Dry Hollow		17,800
31-17	White Knob Mountains	9,950	
32-2	Sands Canyon		8,010
32-3	Hawley Mountain	15,510	640
32-4	Taylor Mountain		11,134
32-9	Black Canyon	5,400	
32-16	Pass Creek		1,220
33-4	Cedar Butte	35,700	3,120
33-5	Skull		8,650
33-6	Rye Grass		8,000
33-7	Cottontail		9,300
33-12	Split Top		18,080
33-13	Bear Point		20,650
33-14	Mosby Butte		35,720
33-15	Hell's Half Acre	66,200	2,720
33-16	Morgan		9,420
33-22	Cox's Place		12,790
33-23	Bear Trap		13,860
33-24	Firth Quad Islands		86
33-25	Moreland Quad Islands		807
	Idaho Falls District Total	157,630	227,027
<u>Salmon District</u>			
41-3	Geertson Creek		10,720
42-6	Baldy Basin		10,720
43-3	Eighteen Mile	24,922	
44-2	King Mountain		12,602
44-3	Hat Creek		9,707
44-4	Ellis Creek		28,040
44-9	Cronks Canyon		7,470
45-5	Mill Creek		1,330
45-12	Burnt Creek	24,980	5,130
47-4	Borah Peak (Unit dependent on contiguous RARE II area to meet criteria)	3,100	780
	Salmon District Total	53,002	86,499

	Acres Proposed As WSA	Acres Not Proposed As WSA (Proposed To Be Dropped)
<u>Shoshone District</u>		
54-3		8,827
54-4		11,355
54-5	5,875	95
54-6	10,371	10,589
54-7		7,542
54-8	21,030	2,440
54-9		8,455
54-10	7,487	1,394
54-11		16,968
54-12		23,644
54-13		9,420
56-2	23,680	1,913
56-3	--	--
57-2	15,968	5,930
57-3		12,271
57-4		8,138
57-5		10,934
57-6		21,544
57-7		33,116
57-8	20,792	15,953
57-9	--	--
57-10	67,110	190
57-11	33,531	9,443
57-12		9,868
57-13		16,180
57-14	9,700	4
57-15		7,398
57-16		7,876
59-7	6,914	3,014
	222,458	264,501
<u>Coeur d'Alene District</u>		
61-1	720	440
61-6c		170
61-9		6,960
61-10	9,027	
61-15a	10,339	
61-15b	6,790	

		Acres Proposed As WSA	Acres Not Proposed As WSA (Proposed To Be Dropped)
Coeur d'Alene District (continued)			
62-1	Snowhole Rapids	5,068	238
62-2	Confluence (Unit dependent on contiguous RARE II area to meet criteria)	4,577	533
62-4	Big Canyon		1,100
62-10	Marshall Mountain (Previously called Gospel Hump)	6,524	966
	Coeur d'Alene District Total	43,045	10,407
	STATE TOTAL	803,836	1,120,508

DETAILED LIST OF MEETINGS

Public meetings, open houses, and workshops will be held at the following locations throughout the State for discussion of the BLM Wilderness Review, to answer questions, and to obtain input from the public on these proposed decisions:

April 15, 7:30 P.M.	Idaho Falls	Westbank Motel
April 16, 11:30 A.M.-8:30 P.M.	Arco	County Courthouse
April 22, 11:30 A.M.-8:30 P.M.	Aberdeen	High School
April 23, 7:00 P.M.	Salmon	Salmon BLM District Office
April 29, 7:30 P.M.	Pocatello	Holiday Inn
April 30, 12:00-8:00 P.M.	Twin Falls	Little Tree Inn
May 1, 7:30 P.M.	Moscow	Travelodge - Clark Room
May 6, 12:00-8:00 P.M.	Bruneau	American Legion Hall
May 6, 12:00-8:00 P.M.	Shoshone	Shoshone BLM District Office
May 6, 7:30 P.M.	Lewiston	Lewis & Clark State College Spalding Hall - Conference Rm.
May 7, 12:00-8:00 P.M.	Murphy	Owyhee County Courthouse
May 8, 12:00-8:00 P.M.	Boise	Boise BLM District Office
May 8, 12:00-8:00 P.M.	Gooding	County Courthouse - Commissioners Room
May 8, 7:30 P.M.	Coeur d'Alene	North Shore Convention Center - Room 3
May 12, 12:00-8:00 P.M.	Hailey	New Blaine County Courthouse
May 14, 7:30 P.M.	Grangeville	Idaho Bank and Trust Building- Meeting Room
May 15, 12:00-8:00 P.M.	Rupert	Judicial Building (adjacent Minidoka County Courthouse)
May 22, 7:30 P.M.	St. Maries	Federal Building - Conference Room

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BLM

News Release

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Idaho State Office Federal Building P.O. Box 042 Boise, ID 83724

BLM NOTES COMPLETION OF WILDERNESS INVENTORY IN IDAHO

BLM's State Director for Idaho, Bob Buffington, said today his office has completed the inventory phase of the wilderness review of Federal public lands in Idaho. "As a result of the intensive field work and the evaluation of public comments on preliminary reports," Buffington said, "I have determined that 818,206 acres contain wilderness characteristics and 1,120,049 acres do not."

According to Buffington more than 1,938,000 acres of roadless public lands in Idaho were examined in detail to determine the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics.

Buffington said over 3,200 responses were received in his office from individuals and organizations during the inventory period. He said the information contained in these public responses was of considerable value to him in the formulation of his decision.

"After analyzing and evaluating the comments received," Buffington said, "I made the final decision on which areas do or do not contain wilderness characteristics. Those which do are identified as Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) and are to be studied through the Bureau planning system and are presently being managed under interim wilderness management procedures. By October 21, 1991, the Secretary is to have all areas inventoried and provide his recommendation as suitable or unsuitable for wilderness designation to the President. The President has 2 years from the date of the Secretary's report to advise Congress."

Inventory units that are dropped from further wilderness consideration will be returned to the Bureau's multiple use planning program.

Persons wishing to protest the decision must file a written protest with the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Federal Building - Box 042, 550 W. Fort Street, Boise, Idaho 83724. The protest period will be open until December 15, 1980.

In making the report of his wilderness decision public, Buffington noted they also contain his final decision on the protest to the accelerated wilderness inventory decision in the Owyhee Planning Area.

Following the announcement of the Owyhee wilderness intensive inventory on January 16, 1980, protests were received challenging the identification of all ten of the Owyhee WSAs. Several protests were also received on the decision to drop four units lacking in wilderness characteristics.

Buffington's decision upheld wilderness identification on seven of the challenged units and made some adjustments on the remaining three. In addition, the State Director's decision upheld the original proposal to drop four other units.

Buffington said the final decision on the Owyhee area is subject to appeal. Appeals must be directed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

Maps, books and other information are available at District and State Offices for anyone with questions about either decision.

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