ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

of the

JUNIPER BUTTE RANGE INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

August 2001

United States Air Force
Air Combat Command
Mountain Home Air Force Base

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Air Combat Command
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
AFB	Air Force Base
Air Force	United States Air Force
AFI	Air Force Instruction
AGL	above ground level
ANG	Air National Guard
APE	areas of potential effect
ATV	all terrain vehicle
AUM	animal unit month
BASH	Bird-Aircraft Strike Hazard
BDU	bomb dummy unit
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CAA	Clean Air Act
cc	cubic centimeters
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensations and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CO	carbon monoxide
CRMP	Cultural Resources Management Plan
CWA	Clean Water Act
DoD	Department of Defense
DOI	Department of the Interior
EA	Environmental Assessment
ESOHCAMP	Environmental Safety Occupational Health Compliance Assessment and Management Program
EIAP	environmental impact analysis process
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
E.O.	Executive Order
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ETI	Enhanced Training in Idaho
FIP	Federal Implementation Plan
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FY	fiscal year
GIS	geographic information systems
HMA	Wild Horse Herd Management Area
IDFG	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
JBRWA	Juniper Butte Range Withdrawal Act
Ldnmr	Onset Rate-Adjusted Monthly Day-Night Average Sound Level
MOGAS	gasoline
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
MOA	military operations area
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NCA	National Conservation Area
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NO_2	nitrogen dioxide
NPS	National Park Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
O_3	ozone
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act
P.L.	Public Law
PM_{10}	particulate matter equal or less than 10 micrometers in diameter
POL	petroleum, oils, and lubricants
Pb	lead
ROD	Record of Decision
SAC	Strategic Air Command
SCR	Saylor Creek Range
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SIG	Settlement Implementation Group
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SO_2	sulfur dioxide
SPCC	Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures
SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
SROD	Supplemental Record of Decision
SRT	Spill Response Team
TAC	Tactical Air Command
TSP	Total Suspended Particulates
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WSA	Wilderness Study Area

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

1.0 NAME OF ACTION

Implementation of Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) for the Juniper Butte Range, Idaho.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The United States Air Force (Air Force) proposes to implement the Juniper Butte Range INRMP for areas under Air Force management. Implementation of the INRMP will include instituting management strategies and component plan projects presented in the INRMP. The Mountain Home Air Force Base (AFB) Civil Engineer Squadron proposes to implement the INRMP beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2001. The Civil Engineer Squadron will review the INRMP annually for compatibility with base activities. As directed by the Juniper Butte Range Withdrawal Act (JBRWA) (Public Law [P.L.] 105-261, October 1998), the Air Force, in cooperation with the State of Idaho and the Secretary of the Interior, will review the adequacy of the provisions in the INRMP at least once every five years and will revise as needed.

In addition to evaluating the environmental consequences of the proposed action, this environmental assessment (EA) also considers the no-action alternative. The no-action alternative is not implementing the INRMP. The no-action alternative is included in this EA to meet the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). No-action would be inconsistent with Congressional directives contained in the JBRWA, as well as with Air Force expressed intent to work cooperatively with other agencies and organizations.

3.0 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This EA identifies and evaluates the potential environmental consequences associated with the implementation of the Juniper Butte Range INRMP. The INRMP addresses the management of the resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved by the JBRWA, as well as addresses mitigation and monitoring activities for state and federal lands affected by military training activities associated with the Juniper Butte Range. Impacts associated with the no-action alternative are also addressed. There are 178 management strategies and 17 component plan projects identified in the INRMP. These strategies are evaluated through seven resource categories in this EA to identify potential environmental consequences. As indicated in Chapter 4.0 of this EA, implementation of the proposed action will not result in significant impacts to any resources. The no-action alternative has the potential for environmental consequences by not following INRMP management strategies and component plan projects.

Implementation of the proposed action will result in transient and minor (not significant) impacts on the noise environment. The amount of vehicular traffic noise associated with travel on access roads or moving cross-country would not discernibly alter overall noise levels.

Implementation of the strategies and projects contained in the INRMP should have a beneficial effect of reducing the frequency and intensity of fires.

Implementation of the proposed action would minimize the generation of hazardous and solid waste and would reduce the effect of potential releases on the environment.

Implementation of INRMP management strategies and component plan projects may generate temporary fugitive dust emission increases as a result of vehicular traffic on access roads or moving cross-country over the range. These emissions of fugitive dust would not adversely affect air quality.

Implementation of the INRMP biological resources management strategies and projects will include monitoring of species, inspections of emitter sites, personnel training, implementing seasonal restrictions, and coordination with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and other agencies. These activities, while ensuring the long-range viability of the resources, may temporarily affect wildlife and disturb soils. The disturbance effects of these activities would be minor and not significant.

Impacts to cultural or traditional resources could occur during the course of range clean-up/decontamination activities and monitoring and inspection programs identified in the INRMP. The implementation of cultural resource management strategies will not result in significant impacts to cultural or traditional resources.

Finally, implementation of the INRMP management strategies would reduce the potential for recreational activities being affected by military aircraft operating in the airspace. The INRMP includes continuing flight restriction and posting of aircraft scheduling on the Mountain Home AFB web page.

4.0 CONCLUSION

On the basis of the findings of the EA conducted in accordance with the requirements of NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, and Air Force Instruction (AFI) 32-7061, and after careful review of the potential impacts of the proposed action, I conclude that implementation of the proposed action will not result in significant impacts to the quality of the human or natural environment. Therefore, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is warranted and an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required for this action.

JEFFREY W. EBERHART, Col, USAF
366th Vice Wing Commander

8 AUG 01
Date

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

of the

JUNIPER BUTTE RANGE INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Environmental Assessment (EA) describes the potential environmental consequences resulting from a United States Air Force (Air Force) proposal to implement the Juniper Butte Range Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) for areas managed by the Air Force. Implementation of the INRMP includes instituting management strategies and component plan projects presented in the INRMP.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS PROCESS

This EA was prepared by the Air Force, Headquarters Air Combat Command (ACC) and 366th Wing at Mountain Home Air Force Base (AFB), Idaho, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA, and Air Force Instruction (AFI) 32-7061 directing all Air Force NEPA efforts.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

The INRMP will serve as the primary management tool for natural resource areas managed by the Air Force on the Juniper Butte Range. Integrated plans allow coordinated management of different resources in a manner consistent with the principle of multiple use. Integration of resource management requires that the inter-relationships among different resources, as well as the military mission of the installation, be fully understood so that potential conflicts can be identified in advance and avoided or minimized, wherever possible.

The Juniper Butte Range INRMP supports Air Force sound stewardship goals for natural resources by defining the process and procedures for managing these resources. This plan was developed and implemented under the authority of Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 4715.3 (Environmental Conservation Program), Air Force Policy Directive 32-70 (Environmental Quality), and AFI 32-7064 (Integrated Natural Resources Management).

PROPOSED ACTION AND NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The proposed action is for the Air Force to implement the Juniper Butte Range INRMP for lands managed by the Air Force. Implementation of the INRMP includes instituting 178 management strategies and 17 component plan projects presented in the INRMP. The Mountain Home AFB Civil Engineering Squadron proposes to implement the INRMP beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2001. The Civil Engineering Squadron will review the INRMP annually for compatibility with base activities. As directed by the Juniper Butte Range Withdrawal Act (JBRWA), the Air Force, in cooperation with the State of Idaho and the Secretary of the Interior, will review the adequacy of the provisions in the INRMP at least once every five years and will revise as needed.

The no-action alternative is not implementing the INRMP. The no-action alternative is included in this EA to meet the procedural requirements of NEPA. No-action would be inconsistent with

Congressional directives contained in the JBRWA, as well as with the Air Force expressed intent to work cooperatively with other agencies and organizations in areas under Air Force management.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

All 178 management strategies from Chapter 6.0 and Annex C from the INRMP and the 17 component plan projects from Annex B from the INRMP were evaluated for their effect on environmental resources. For the purposes of analysis, these resources have been grouped into seven categories. As indicated in Chapter 4.0, implementation of the proposed action will not result in significant impacts to any environmental resources. The no-action alternative has the potential to impact environmental resources because the management strategies and component plan projects would not be implemented and resources would not be managed in an integrated manner.

Implementation of INRMP management strategies and component plan projects may generate temporary, transient noise increases. Vehicular travel on access roads and occasionally off road to inspect and/or monitor facilities and species as well as verbal communications between personnel would not discernibly alter overall noise levels. Implementation of the proposed action supports continued coordination with the Settlement Implementation Group (SIG) to define and implement a noise study in order to evaluate noise levels in areas under Air Force management.

The INRMP recommends the implementation of several fire management strategies to reduce the potential for the start and spread of fire. Implementation of these strategies should have a beneficial effect by reducing the frequency and intensity of fires.

Implementation of the INRMP management strategies would minimize hazardous and solid waste generation and would reduce the effect of potential releases on the environment. Range clean-up/decontamination management strategies would reduce compaction of soils, breakdown of vegetation, disturbance to wildlife, and potential disturbances to critical areas, such as slickspots, sensitive species habitat, and archeological sites.

Implementation of INRMP management strategies and component plan projects may generate temporary increases in fugitive dust emissions as a result of vehicular traffic on access roads or moving cross-country over the range. These emissions of fugitive dust would not adversely affect air quality.

Implementation of the INRMP biological resources management strategies and component plan projects will include monitoring of species, inspections of emitter sites, personnel training, implementing seasonal restrictions, and participating with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and other agencies in the management process. These activities, conducted by Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), contractors, and Air Force personnel, while ensuring the long-range viability of the resources, may temporarily affect wildlife or disturb soils. The disturbance effects of these activities would be minor and not significant.

Impacts to cultural or traditional resources could occur during the course of range clean-up/decontamination activities or monitoring and inspection programs identified in the INRMP. All field programs will be coordinated with the base cultural resources manager to ensure that unintentional site ground disturbance and vandalism do not occur as a result of INRMP implementation. The INRMP also identifies management strategies if unanticipated cultural resource discoveries are made during implementation of the INRMP. With the implementation of these field programs and management strategies, no significant impacts to cultural or traditional resources are anticipated.

The implementation of land use and recreation management strategies will assist in notifying the public when the range is in use. For those persons visiting areas in the vicinity of Juniper Butte Range, this information concerning military training operations in the region may be used to guide or support their recreational experience.

In summary, the proposed action will not result in significant impacts to any environmental resources. The no-action alternative has the potential for environmental consequences by not following INRMP management strategies and component plan projects.

1.0 PURPOSE AND NEED

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The United States Air Force (Air Force) proposes to implement the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) for Juniper Butte Range in Idaho. The Juniper Butte Range INRMP establishes guidelines for the management of natural resources on lands under Air Force management as identified in the Juniper Butte Range Withdrawal Act (JBRWA Public Law [P.L.] 105-261, October 1998). Figure 1.1-1 depicts the location of Juniper Butte Range, no-drop targets, and emitters. The Juniper Butte Range INRMP is to be used in conjunction with the Mountain Home Air Force Base (AFB) INRMP. The Mountain Home AFB INRMP guides natural resource management at the base and in public land areas under Mountain Home AFB management, including the Saylor Creek Range (SCR).

This Environmental Assessment (EA) identifies the potential environmental consequences associated with the implementation of the Juniper Butte Range INRMP in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (P.L. 91-190, 42 United States Code [USC] 4321 et seq.) as amended in 1975 by P.L. 94-52 and P.L. 94-83. This EA was prepared in accordance with Air Force Instruction (AFI) 32-7061 (Environmental Impact Analysis Process [EIAP], 32 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 989), which implements Section 102 (2) of NEPA and regulations established by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (40 CFR 1500-1508).

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

To support Air Force sound stewardship goals for natural resources, the purpose of the Juniper Butte Range INRMP is to help define the process and procedures for managing these resources. The INRMP serves as the primary management tool for natural resources in the areas under Air Force management and on associated access roads. Integrated plans allow coordinated management of different resources in a manner consistent with the principle of multiple use. Integration of resource management requires that the inter-relationships among different resources, as well as the military mission of the installation, be fully understood so that potential conflicts are identified in advance, and avoided or minimized wherever possible.

The Air Force needs the INRMP in order to support compliance with the JBRWA and the Sikes Act (16 USC 670a-6700). The Sikes Act provides for cooperation by the Department of Defense (DoD) with the Department of the Interior (DOI) and state agencies, in conserving, protecting, and managing fish and wildlife resources on military installations throughout the United States to include public lands withdrawn and reserved for military use.

1.3 PUBLIC AND AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

This EA included public and agency involvement in order to ensure coordinated management of the resources identified in the INRMP. The public and agency involvement process included:

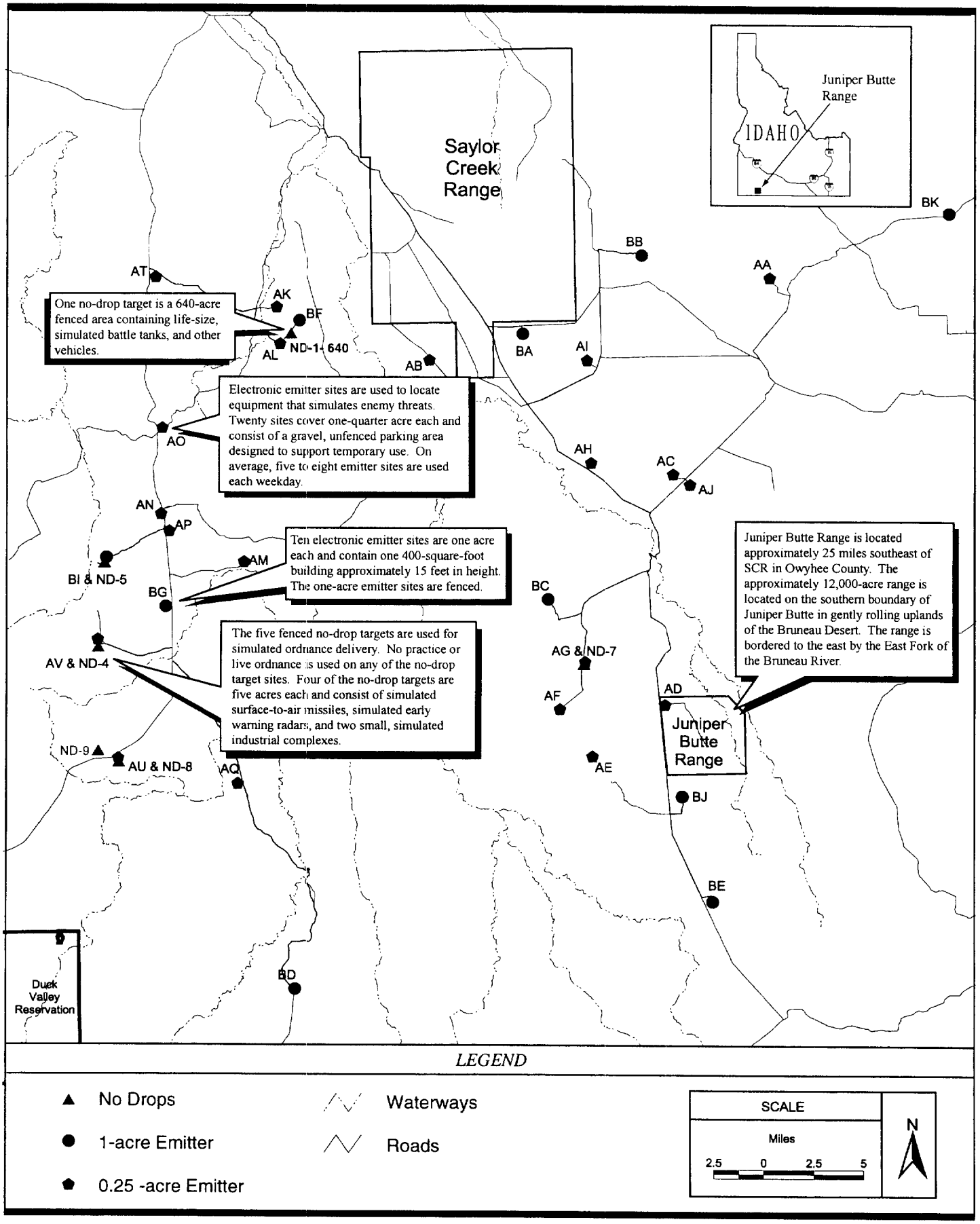


Figure 1.1-1
Location of Juniper Butte Range, No-Drop Targets, and Emitters

- Public notification and distribution of both a Draft and Revised Draft EA
- Formal public comment periods following the issuance of the Draft EA and Revised Draft EA.

In August 2000, public notices announced the availability of the draft EA in the local newspapers. Following the announcement and a 14-day comment period, no public comments were received; however, agency comments were received from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A 30-day public comment period followed the issuance of the revised draft. Comments were received from the BLM and the Western Watersheds Project.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE

2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

The Air Force proposes to implement the INRMP for lands managed by the Air Force starting in fiscal year (FY) 2001. Implementation of the INRMP will be accomplished through the execution of 178 management strategies and 17 component plan projects. A complete list is presented in Appendix A. This EA evaluates the INRMP management strategies and component plan projects.

Table 2.1-1 presents the resource issue areas addressed in the INRMP; the number of INRMP strategies or component plan projects associated with each resource issue area; and the actions resulting from those strategies or projects. For each resource issue area, INRMP strategies and component plan projects were reviewed to determine potential environmental consequences associated with the implementation of the management strategies or projects. Table 2.1-1 presents the total number of strategies and projects and the number of strategies and/or projects with the potential for disturbance. The actions with the potential for environmental consequences that would result from implementing the strategies and projects include: vehicular trips within the area, visits by range or agency personnel, transient noise associated with resource management activities, and ground disturbance. Those strategies and projects with the potential for meetings and consultations have also been noted in Table 2.1-1.

The INRMP management strategies and the component plan projects provide a framework for identifying resource management issues and a tool to direct day-to-day activities. These strategies provide procedures to assess, monitor, and evaluate potential consequences to natural resources. A complete list of these INRMP strategies and component plan projects is included in Appendix A of this EA, and in Chapter 7.0 and Annexes B and C of the INRMP.

Table 2.1-1. Summary of Proposed INRMP Management Strategies and Component Plan Projects

	INRMP				*Action Resulting from INRMP Strategies and/or Projects*[1]				
Resource Issue Areas[2]	*Total Number of Strategies*	*Number of Strategies with Potential for Disturbance*	*Total Number of Component Plan Projects*	*Number of Projects with Potential for Disturbance*	*Meetings/ Consultation*	*Vehicle Trips/Year*	*Human Presence (Days)*	*Transient Noise*	*Ground Disturbance*
Species with Conservation Status	25	3	0	0	Yes	9	18	Yes	Yes
Sage Grouse	5	0	3	3	Yes	3	4	Yes	Yes
Slickspot Peppergrass	1	0	1	0	Yes	0	0	No	No
California Bighorn Sheep	3	0	1	1	Yes	3	3	Yes	Yes
Total	**34**	**3**	**5**	**4**	**Yes**	**15**	**25**	**Yes**	**Yes**
Wetlands	1	0	1	0	Yes	0	0	No	No
Watershed Protection	3	0	0	n/a	No	9	18	No	No
Fish and Wildlife Management	6	0	2	1	Yes	8	8	Yes	Yes
Ground Maintenance and Pest Management (Weed Control)	5	0	1	0	Yes	0	0	No	No
Vegetation	1	1	3	2[3]	Yes	16	25	Yes	Yes
Outdoor Recreation and Public Access[4]	3	1	0	n/a	Yes	16	32	Yes	Yes
Grazing Outleasing	4	1	3	n/a[3]	Yes	9	18	Yes	Yes
Geographic Information System	3	0	1	1	No	0	0	No	No
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Wastes	46	5	0	n/a	No	29	59	Yes	Yes
Fire Management	29	2	1	1[3]	Yes	20	60	Yes	Yes
Coordination and Public Involvement	8	0	0	n/a	Yes	0	0	No	No
Seasonal Overflights and Avoidance	5	0	0	n/a	No	0	0	No	No
Emitter and No-Drop Target Sites Construction/Operations	24	2	0	n/a	Yes	1	2	Yes	Yes
Cultural and Traditional Resources	2	0	0	n/a	Yes	0	0	No	No
Noise[4]	1	1	0	n/a	Yes	8	16	Yes	Yes
Fire, Chaff, and Flares	4	0	0	n/a	Yes	0	0	No	No

Notes: 1. In order to accurately evaluate environmental consequences and since actions resulting from implementation of strategies and/or projects may affect multiple resource issue areas, the numbers generated as a result of this analysis are not duplicated.

2. The INRMP is organized by Resource Issue Areas; specific INRMP strategies and projects are listed in Appendix A.

3. Additional NEPA analysis will be performed on the Grazing Component Plan Projects in a Vegetation Management EA.

4. These resource issue areas include developing and conducting additional studies. These estimates are based upon comparable studies performed in the region.

The INRMP is the primary tool for managing natural resources on Air Force installations. Chapter 1.0 of the INRMP provides an introduction and outlines the purpose of the plan and how the plan will be used. Chapter 2.0 identifies the installation location and mission, and provides background information regarding the installation. Potential mission impacts on the environment are outlined in Chapter 3.0. Chapters 4.0 and 5.0 provide a description of the general physical environment and biotic environment, respectively. Chapter 6.0 provides overall management issues and concerns, goals and objectives, and implementation and monitoring strategies. Chapter 7.0 provides a summary of the implementation and monitoring strategies in relation to the installation natural resource management units. References and persons contacted are presented in Chapter 8.0. Applicable federal regulations and guidelines are provided in Chapter 9.0. Four annexes are also included as part of the INRMP. Annex A includes the Record of Decision (ROD), Supplemental ROD, the Settlement Agreement, and the JBRWA. In March 1998, the Enhanced Training in Idaho (ETI) ROD was signed. In April 1998, the BLM issued findings and recommendations identifying issues to be resolved by expanding some mitigation measures and operational commitments by the Air Force. The BLM recommendations resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Air Force and BLM in June 1998. In September 1998, the Supplemental ROD (SROD) was signed and the MOU was incorporated into the SROD. In November 1999, a Settlement Agreement was reached that resolved litigation associated with ETI. The terms of the Settlement Agreement called for the establishment of a Settlement Implementation Group (SIG) for continued dialogue between the parties.

Annex B includes five component plans: Threatened and Endangered Species Component Plan, Fish and Wildlife Component Plan, Vegetation Component Plan, Grazing Component Plan, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Component Plan. These component plans, as set forth in AFI 32-7064, include projects which contribute to the management goals and objectives outlined in Chapter 6.0 of the INRMP. Seventeen of these component plan projects have been analyzed as part of the proposed action. The Threatened and Endangered Species Component Plan includes the development of a slickspot peppergrass conservation plan. The Fish and Wildlife Component Plan includes projects which involve monitoring wildlife use on the range and remote sites; inspecting sites for sage grouse use; surveying for sage grouse leks; evaluating sage grouse habitat use along the eastern portion of the Owyhee Plateau; monitoring California bighorn sheep populations associated with area drainages; and long-term biological diversity tracking on the range. Long-term vegetation habitat monitoring on the range; vegetation rehabilitation after fires; and noxious weed identification and control make up the projects within the Vegetation Component plan. The GIS Component Plan includes development of an integrated data dictionary including data on the range and associated sites. The Grazing Component Plan will be further developed in a Vegetation Management EA. The Vegetation Management EA will address additional resource management opportunities for the Air Force.

Annex C identifies mitigation measures, corresponding implementation strategies, and monitoring measures, which comprise the mitigation and monitoring plan. A public affairs plan is included as Annex D of the INRMP.

2.2 NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The no-action alternative is not implementing the INRMP. The no-action alternative is included in this EA to meet the procedural requirements of NEPA. No-action would be inconsistent with Congressional directives contained in the JBRWA as well as with Air Force expressed intent to work cooperatively with other agencies and organizations in areas under Air Force management.

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This chapter presents information on environmental conditions for resources that may be affected by the proposed action and no-action alternative described in Chapter 2.0. Under NEPA, the analysis of environmental conditions addresses those areas and resources with the potential to be affected by the proposed action and no-action alternative. The Juniper Butte Range INRMP, addressed in this EA, includes the management of the resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved by the JBRWA (P.L. 105-261, October 1998) during their withdrawal and reservation under the JBRWA. Additionally, the INRMP addresses mitigation and monitoring activities by the Air Force for state and federal lands affected by military training activities associated with the Juniper Butte Range.

3.1 NOISE

The dominant sources of existing noise associated with the Juniper Butte Range are natural sources (e.g., wind) and human sources (e.g., noise associated with vehicular, aircraft, and human traffic). Established and tested noise models were used to compute noise levels for 13 locations within the area of Juniper Butte Range, the no-drop targets, and emitters (refer to ETI Final Environmental Impact Statement [EIS] (Air Force 1998a) sections 3.2 and 4.2). Figure 3.1-1 presents these locations and the estimated noise levels associated with range operations, including aircraft overflight. These values consider the highest use month and the difference in perceived sound during night hours as compared to day hours. Appendix K of the ETI Final EIS (Air Force 1998a) provides a description of the characteristics and metrics used to describe sound, as well as a discussion of noise and its effects on the environment and land use compatibility.

Noise is associated with all types of vehicular and human traffic. Within the Juniper Butte Range, medium duty roads have been used during facility construction and will continue to be used for routine maintenance. Use of medium duty roads may range from zero vehicles per week to as many as 32 trips per week. Use of light duty roads may be by one or two vehicles traveling each training day or between 1 to 5 trips per week.

3.2 SAFETY

This section describes the fire management and explosive safety requirements and the practices to be coordinated under the INRMP.

With the exception of ND-9, targets located on the no-drop areas are equipped with small propane heaters surrounded by concrete walls and covered by replicas of battle tanks or buildings. The small heaters provide a potential source of ignition if weeds were to build up in the area. This potential is minimized through target design and periodic weed control.

Maintenance vehicles that are driven and parked within the range provide some potential for igniting fires when grass contacts hot catalytic converters or exhaust systems. In addition, personnel who smoke cigarettes may provide an ignition source from matches and butts. Site maintenance includes repairs involving welding and other activities for range clean-up.

Wildfire Suppression

Juniper Butte Range is accessible for fire suppression activities through all gates. Roads are improved, which increases accessibility. Once inside the perimeter fence, fire suppression vehicles can access remote points by driving off-road on the relatively flat terrain. Although normally discouraged, off-road driving is allowed for emergency fire suppression.

Fire suppression equipment stationed at Juniper Butte Range includes a 1,200-gallon pumper truck, two 250-gallon slip-ons, a 3,000-gallon tanker truck, and a 50,000-gallon water tank at the maintenance facility. There are also 50,000 gallons of available water stored in a reservoir in the southwestern portion of the range. A minimum of seven contract fire personnel will be on site in accordance with Air Force fire management guidelines. Additional personnel, pumper trucks, slip-ons, air support tankers, and helicopters are available, as necessary, through the BLM. BLM response time from Boise is about 2.5 to 3 hours once a fire is reported to dispatch and assistance is requested. Response time from Bruneau is about 1.5 to 2 hours. A fire crew is also located in Rogerson, Idaho and responds to fires in the Jarbidge Resource Area; however, Juniper Butte Range is outside their normal response area, therefore, they will respond only at the request of the South Central District of the BLM (Casey 1999).

The Air Force Fire Protection Operation and Fire Prevention Program (AFI 32-2001) identifies the requirements for proper equipment, supplies, and training of firefighters. Fire response coordination between the BLM and the Air Force is conducted under the *Support Agreement Between 366th Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho Saylor Creek Gunnery Range and the United States Department of Interior Lower Snake River District* (1999) Memorandum of Agreement. The BLM will suppress any fires started near the emitter and no-drop targets. In addition, the BLM has agreed to assist with fires that extend off range. During periods of increased fire risk, training and maintenance activities may be modified or suspended.

Closely coordinated, prescribed fire for vegetation control is a common method for fuel and weed removal and reduction of fire ignition risks. However, the INRMP is designed to integrate factors such as timing, frequency, and intensity of burns with the mission and other management objectives for vegetation, sensitive species, and wildlife.

3.2.1 Fire Safety

3.2.1.1 Fire Management

Fire management for the Jarbidge Resource Area, where the Juniper Butte Range is located, is managed by the Lower Snake River District of the BLM, based in Boise, with additional fire suppression at Bruneau and Hammett. The Juniper Butte Range is part of the sagebrush-steppe ecosystem; however, frequent fires have removed most of the sagebrush and allowed invasion by non-native species such as cheatgrass. These annual grasslands provide fine fuels and reburn periodically, preventing the reestablishment of some native species, especially sagebrush. In addition, rehabilitation measures have introduced large monocultures of non-native seeded grasses such as crested wheatgrass, which provide forage and soil stabilization, but also reduce the biodiversity of the area.

Aggressive fire suppression usually begins in June and extends through August (BLM 1996). However, during dry years, the fire season can begin as early as May and last until November. Prior to the establishment of the Juniper Butte Range, fires were not reported until they were large enough to be seen by observers on Bennett Mountain, the nearest fire lookout, which is located north of the city of Mountain Home over 60 miles away. Fires could spread hundreds of acres before being seen because of poor visibility from Bennett Mountain to the Jarbidge area.

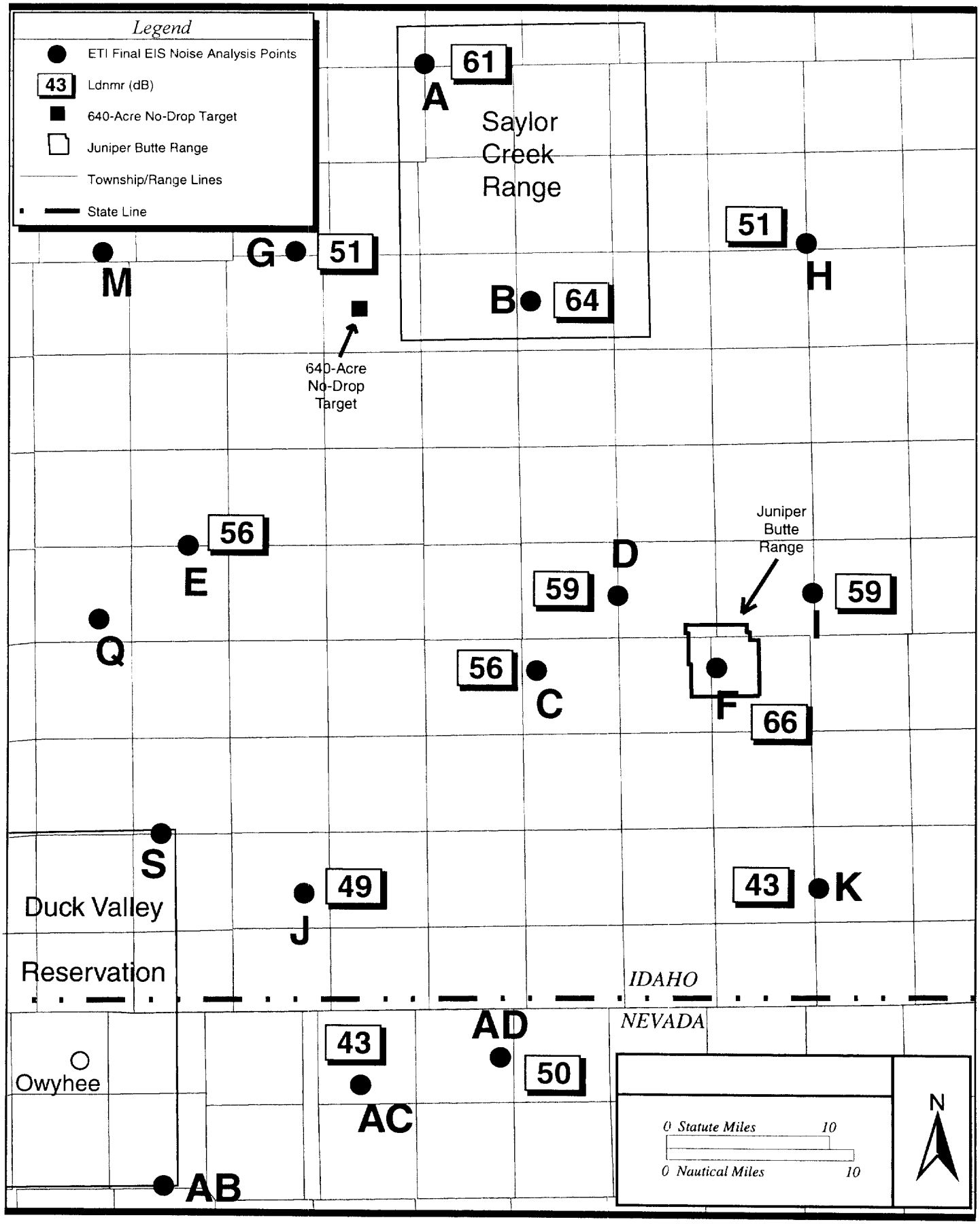
The BLM uses an interagency system (the National Fire Danger Rating System) for developing daily fire danger indices to predict ignition potential for specific areas. The fire rating is broken into five categories (1 to 5) ranging from low to extreme fire hazard (Table 3.2-1). This information is provided to Mountain Home AFB and is the basis for determining training and maintenance activities on that day for both the SCR and Juniper Butte Range.

Table 3.2-1. Fire Rating Classification

Rating Number	*Fire Hazard*
1	Low
2	Moderate
3	High
4	Very High
5	Extreme

Potential Ignition Sources

With the Air Force's proposal to use "cold spot" spotting charges in training ordnance on the Juniper Butte Range, the risk of fire associated with air-to-ground training is minimal. These small, 25-pound training ordnance are fitted with a spotting charge containing titanium tetrachloride that reacts with moisture in the atmosphere when discharged. This reduces the risk of fire ignition. The potential risk of fire ignition from ordnance use at the Juniper Butte Range is from the ordnance striking a surface and creating sparks.



Source: Air Force 1998a

Figure 3.1-1
Noise Levels at Noise Analysis Points

3.2.2 Explosive Safety

All training ordnance is handled and maintained by specifically trained personnel. Furthermore, Air Force safety procedures require safeguards on weapons systems and training ordnance to ensure that arming, launching, firing, or releasing does not inadvertently occur. All munitions mounted on aircraft, as well as the guns carried within the aircraft, are equipped with mechanisms that preclude release or firing without activation of an electronic arming circuit. During training missions at the range, only non-explosive training ordnance or inert munitions are carried. The most commonly used training munition is the bomb dummy unit (BDU)-33. This weighs approximately 25 pounds and is composed of ferrous metals, and equipped with a small spotting charge "cold spot." The cold spot, designated CXU-3A/B, contains 2 grams of gunpowder and approximately 17 cubic centimeters (cc) of titanium tetrachloride stored in a glass ampule (Air Force T.O. 11A4-4-7). The gunpowder, which detonates on impact, discharges the crushed ampule of titanium tetrachloride from the rear of the unit. The exposed titanium tetrachloride reacts with available moisture in the air to produce a smoke-like plume that persists for 15 to 30 seconds, depending on the moisture content of the air and wind velocity. Although this is a chemical reaction, it produces little or no heat. Titanium compounds are neither flammable nor combustible (Akzo Chemicals 1991).

3.3 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND SOLID WASTE

Hazardous materials and solid waste management actions to be coordinated through the INRMP are described below.

Hazardous materials are identified and regulated under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA); and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. Hazardous materials have been defined in AFI 32-7086, *Hazardous Materials Management*, to include any substance with special characteristics that could harm people, plants, or animals when released.

Range operations and maintenance, as well as many other activities, require the use and storage of a variety of hazardous materials which include flammable and combustible liquids, acids, corrosives, caustics, anti-icing chemicals, compressed gases, solvents, paints, paint thinners, pesticides, petroleum hydrocarbons, batteries, hydraulic fluids, fire retardant, and photographic chemicals. Mountain Home AFB inventories and tracks all hazardous materials and established waste streams. Waste minimization programs are mandated by law and Air Force policy. The Air Force has implemented a continuous process for minimizing waste, which includes identifying opportunities for substitution of non-hazardous materials.

Hazardous wastes are accumulated at storage facilities and handled according to state, federal, and Air Force policy and law. The Mountain Home AFB Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response Plan (Plan 3209-97 and subsequent amendments) addresses storage locations and proper handling procedures of all hazardous materials, to minimize potential spills

and releases. The plan further outlines activities to be undertaken to minimize the adverse effects of a spill, including notification, containment, decontamination, and cleanup of spilled materials.

Hazardous materials at Mountain Home AFB, and all of its associated properties, are managed under strict guidelines to ensure health and safety of people and the environment. Hazardous materials are purchased and tracked through HAZMART on base, which also maintains a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for each of these materials. Potentially hazardous materials stored at Juniper Butte Range and the one-acre emitter sites include diesel fuel, MOGAS (gasoline), oil, lead acid batteries, and propane.

Non-hazardous solid wastes associated with Juniper Butte Range include spent training ordnance and targets at Juniper Butte Range. Mountain Home AFB operates one solid waste landfill on base. Solid wastes generated at Juniper Butte Range, no-drop targets, and emitter sites by the Air Force personnel will be transported to the base landfill, at Mountain Home AFB, as appropriate, for disposal or recycling.

Range decontamination will be conducted by Mountain Home AFB Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), 366 CES/CED in a timely manner, as prescribed in AFI 13-212 as supplemented, to minimize impacts to the environment. Juniper Butte Range is characterized as a Class B range. Range de-contamination on Class B ranges consists of clearing the area around the targets of all unexploded ordnance and ordnance residue to a radius of 300 meters (1,000 feet) and clearing the area 30 meters (100 feet) on either side of the access way to the targets/target area. To satisfy this requirement on Juniper Butte Range, a complete clearance will be performed the first year and the target areas will be cleared annually. The range is divided into three pastures; one of the three pastures will be cleared every year. Pasture clearance will occur on a rotating basis so that each pasture will be completely cleared once every three years.

On the target areas, the range clearance will be conducted using trucks and a front end loader. For clearance in the 1,000-foot area around the target and the 100-foot area on either side of the roads, a front-end loader will be used to safely transport any unexploded ordnance to the target area. All terrain vehicles (ATVs) with properly reinforced trailers may be used to transport ordnance. Any ordnance with an intact spotting charge will be rendered safe in place or will be taken to a designated location within the target area to protect personnel and property.

All suspect ordnance will be rendered safe following approved technical order procedures. The amount of ordnance required to be rendered safe is expected to be low outside the target area, with less ordnance occurring at greater distances away from the target area. Safe ordnance is stored securely until recycled or disposed of according to munitions disposal regulations.

3.4 AIR QUALITY

Air quality in a given location is described by the concentration of various pollutants in the atmosphere. National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for criteria pollutants including ozone (O_3), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), particulate matter equal to or

less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM_{10}), and lead (Pb). NAAQS represent the maximum levels of background pollution that are considered safe, with an adequate margin of safety, to protect public health and welfare. Short-term standards (1-, 8-, and 24-hour periods) are established for pollutants contributing to acute health effects, while long-term standards (annual averages) are established for pollutants contributing to chronic health effects.

The USEPA Final Conformity Rule requires all federal agencies to ensure that any agency activity conforms with an approved State Implementation Plan (SIP) or Federal Implementation Plan (FIP). Conformity means compliance with a SIP or FIP for the purpose of attaining or maintaining the NAAQS. Specifically, this means ensuring the federal activity will (1) not cause a new violation of existing NAAQS, (2) not contribute to an increase in the frequency or severity of violations of existing NAAQS, or (3) not delay the timely attainment of any NAAQS, interim milestones, or other milestones to achieve attainment. The current ruling applies to federal actions in NAAQS nonattainment or maintenance areas only. The Final Conformity Rule applies to all federal agencies until the applicable state's SIP conformity requirements are approved by the USEPA.

Under the Clean Air Act (CAA) regulations, certain actions are exempted from conformity determinations, while others are assumed to be in conformity if total project emissions are below the *de minimis* levels established under 40 CFR Section 93.153. Total project emissions include both direct and indirect emissions that can be controlled by a federal agency.

A review of federally published attainment designations for Idaho (40 CFR Part 81.313) and discussions with the USEPA Region 10 staff indicate that the affected counties have air quality designated better than national standards for total suspended particulates (TSP) and SO_2, unclassifiable/attainment for O_3, CO, PM_{10}, not designated for Pb, and either cannot be classified or are better than the NAAQS for NO_2.

These areas include no significant ground-based activities that produce any appreciable amount of air emissions. Fires started by lightning or people have occurred in this area without resulting in any long-term adverse impacts on regional air quality. This area is also used by off-highway vehicles that produce exhaust emissions and fugitive dust. However, these activities have not degraded air quality to any measurable extent. The attainment status of the region substantiates the minor and transitory nature of these emissions.

Air quality in the vicinity of Mountain Home AFB, the city of Mountain Home, and Elmore County is generally considered very good. Consequently, ambient pollutant concentrations have rarely been monitored. The nearest monitoring stations are located in Boise, a highly urbanized area approximately 50 miles northwest of Mountain Home AFB. Particulate monitoring in the cities of Kimberly and Hansen, the next-nearest monitoring stations, was discontinued in 1992.

3.5 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Direct, integrated management strategies and component plan projects across the Juniper Butte Range and associated sites are designed to integrate training goals, biodiversity, and enhancement.

Actions of field personnel at the remote sites are more important to consider than the habitat conditions of the sites themselves. The sites represent small pieces of habitat and were selected because they do not generally contain high-quality wildlife habitat and will be used intermittently. Except where there are site-specific issues (e.g., sage grouse breeding or wintering near an emitter), these areas are not important to wildlife directly.

3.5.1 Historic Vegetation Cover

Juniper Butte Range and the associated no-drop targets and emitter sites are located within the regional landform and vegetation classification known as the Intermountain Sagebrush Province/Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystem (Bailey and Kuchler 1996). This ecosystem encompasses a wide range of landforms and vegetation types, ranging from large expanses of sagebrush-covered plateaus to rugged mountains blanketed with juniper woodlands and perennial grasslands. Historically, the most abundant vegetation type has been shrubsteppe. Vast stretches of Wyoming big sagebrush (*Artemesia tridentata wyomingensis*) covered the uplands in association with other native shrubsteppe species, such as bluebunch wheatgrass (*Agropyron spicatum*), Sandberg's bluegrass (*Poa secunda*), bottlebrush squirreltail (*Sitanion hystrix*), phlox (*Phlox* sp.), Lupine (*Lupinus* sp.), and Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja* sp.). Low sagebrush (*Artemesia arbuscula*) is a dominant shrub in the higher elevations and along the gravelly ridges in the western part of the region. Rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus* sp.) is another common shrub found in swales and disturbed areas.

3.5.2 Current Vegetation

Over the years, the upland vegetation has been altered by livestock grazing, fire, and range reseeding efforts. The landscape is currently a mosaic of shrubsteppe and non-native plant communities. The Jarbidge Resource Area has had numerous fires resulting in a conversion from sagebrush-perennial grassland vegetation to non-native perennial grasslands or exotic annual grasslands. The resulting grassland vegetation is now dominated by crested wheatgrass (*Agropyron cristatum*) and intermediate wheatgrass (*Agropyron intermedium*), which were seeded following fire. Exotic annual grasses such as cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) are dominant where post-fire seeding did not occur or failed. These altered habitats support a low diversity of native plants and animals.

The vegetation at Juniper Butte Range and the associated emitters and no-drop target areas reflects many of these regional vegetation changes. Juniper Butte has burned on several occasions and has been seeded with non-native grasses and forbs. Much of the range is composed of rabbitbrush shrubland with patches of seeded grass species. Common herbaceous species found throughout the range include clasping peppergrass (*Lepidium perfoliatum*), long-leaf phlox (*Phlox longifolia*),

Hood's phlox (*Phlox hoodii*), low pussytoes (*Antennaria dimorpha*), Sandberg's bluegrass, lupine (*Lupinus* sp.), and bottlebrush squirreltail (*Sitanion hystrix*). In general, the northern portion of the range is composed of crested wheatgrass seedings and the southern portion is composed of intermediate wheatgrass seedings. Pockets of sagebrush occur, primarily in the southern portion and on the low ridges that run north-south. Mixed stands of sagebrush and rabbitbrush occur throughout the range. Western juniper is found in low densities in Juniper Draw on the eastern portion of the range. Native perennial grassland is also found in association with western junipers in the draw (Air Force 1998a). Juniper Draw is rocky and contains slightly more mesic conditions than the rest of the range. This promotes a high diversity of native forbs and grasses.

The vegetation at the emitters and no-drop target areas is varied and ranges from shrubsteppe to exotic annual grasslands. Most of the sites experienced prior disturbances and are dominated by weedy vegetation such as tumble mustard (*Sisymbrium altissimum*), cheatgrass, and seeded crested wheatgrass.

3.5.3 Plant Species with Conservation Status

A rare plant survey performed on Juniper Butte Range during 1998 found approximately 1,000 slickspot peppergrass plants and more potential areas of habitat (Air Force 1999a). Since environmental conditions heavily influence yearly populations, simple above-ground plant counts may underestimate the potential population of slickspot peppergrass. Rare plant surveys were performed on emitters and no-drop sites during 1996 and 1999. No species of concern were located on the emitter sites; however, potential slickspot peppergrass habitat was observed near emitters BA, BJ, and AI, and a playa with *Lepidium davisii* was observed on or near the rights-of-way to emitter AM. Additional observations located slickspots at BJ, BE, AE, BC, and ND-7 (personal communication, Martin 2000 and Trent 2000).

3.5.4 Native Fauna

Native fauna includes terrestrial and aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates. Terrestrial vertebrates include species groups such as large and small mammals, birds, amphibians, and reptiles. Because of the history of fire, ground disturbance, habitat conversion, and lack of permanent water on Juniper Butte Range, animal species diversity is relatively low. Across the emitter and no-drop sites, animals typical of disturbed shrubsteppe and grassland habitats form the dominant wildlife communities. Authorities and jurisdiction for wildlife are governed by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and other relevant federal agency policies on the conservation of wildlife species. Wildlife is under the jurisdiction of IDFG. BLM manages permitted actions, such as rights-of-way, to ensure that the actions do not contribute to the need to list a species under the ESA.

This discussion of wildlife emphasizes the Juniper Butte Range because it has a broader, direct geographic influence, than the emitters and no-drop sites. General wildlife characteristics are considered to be similar across areas with similar habitat. Specific wildlife issues associated with emitter and no-drop sites are discussed when appropriate.

The landscape of Juniper Butte Range is a setting of disturbed habitat grass and shrublands, remnant juniper stands, rocky to silty soils, and varied topographic relief. Its dominant feature is Juniper Draw, which provides a wildlife access point to Clover Creek, and may serve as a wildlife movement corridor. Despite its history of disturbance and low species diversity, a wildlife community is discernable at the range.

Mammals

Mammal communities at Juniper Butte Range are dominated by an assortment of small mammals, including deer mice, jackrabbits, chipmunks, Great Basin pocket mice, bushy-tailed woodrats, Ord's kangaroo rats, and mountain cottontails. Mule deer use the higher relief of the draw and the junipers as cover. Pronghorn antelope are found year-round throughout Juniper Butte Range and use sagebrush habitat in the southern part of Juniper Butte Range during winter. During 1999, a cougar and two kittens were sighted within Juniper Draw in a rocky area with higher topographic relief. Coyotes and badgers also occur.

By design, no-drop targets are largely left intact with only the smallest necessary area disturbed. One-acre emitter sites are entirely graveled and fenced with 7-foot chain-link fence. Quarter-acre sites are fully graveled and unfenced. Overall these sites provide little wildlife habitat. Equipment and structures will intermittently support small numbers of disturbance-tolerant small mammals such as deer mice. Bushy-tailed wood rats, coyotes, and pronghorn antelope may occur on or near other remote sites.

California bighorn sheep are a USFWS species of concern, a BLM sensitive species, and an IDFG game species. California bighorn sheep are established in steep river canyons and other areas of severe relief in western Owyhee County and the Bruneau and Jarbidge Rivers. Established populations are not known from the Bruneau River or its tributaries (including Clover Creek) north of the confluence of the Bruneau and Jarbidge Rivers (Klott 1996). The species is not known to occur on the Juniper Butte Range.

Birds

Raptors. Raptors are commonly grouped according to habitat use: canyon and upland. Most raptor species observed within Juniper Butte Range are canyon/cliff-nesting species and may nest in the Clover Creek Canyon outside the eastern margin of the range. Upland raptorial species, the ferruginous hawk and the burrowing owl, have been observed at the Juniper Butte Range. Observed raptor species over Juniper Butte include golden eagle, red-tailed hawk, northern harrier, and prairie falcon. Although they provide no habitat, some no-drop and emitter sites have structures that provide perching opportunities for transient birds.

Upland Game Birds. The chukar, a medium-sized introduced partridge, occupies areas within Clover Creek Canyon with appropriate rocky escape habitat. These birds range onto the eastern areas of the Juniper Butte Range and Juniper Draw when foraging. Mourning doves, small upland game birds, are also found on Juniper Butte Range. Sage grouse leks and/or bird occurrences are

known on areas near Juniper Butte Range and some emitter locations. However, on Juniper Butte Range no active sage grouse leks are known.

Populations of sage grouse have declined throughout the species' range. Little is known about the seasonal movements and habitat use of sage grouse in the area. Individuals or groups may transit range-related sites. *Waterfowl and other birds.* Currently, the aboveground reservoir provides potential waterfowl habitat; however, measures will be taken to divert waterfowl from the reservoir in accordance with the Air Force Bird-Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) directives. Such small impoundments are common across the area and may be used by migrating waterfowl. Western meadowlarks, ravens, horned larks, and other passerine species are also found at the Juniper Butte Range.

Amphibians and Reptiles

The above-ground reservoir at Juniper Butte Range provides amphibian habitat. The dominant amphibian species is the Pacific treefrog. Typical reptiles species associated with upland habitats include desert horned lizard, side-blotched lizard, sagebrush lizard, gopher snake, and western rattlesnake. Species diversity is lowest in weedy exotic habitats and seeded monocultures. Western rattlesnakes occur most frequently near rocky areas associated with canyons, lava flows, and pressure ridges.

Critical Habitats

Juniper Butte Range contains no areas that have been designated as critical habitat under the ESA. Important wildlife habitats potentially found on Juniper Butte Range and associated sites include nesting, brood rearing, or wintering areas for raptors, sage grouse, pronghorn antelope, and mule deer. Specific areas include active sage grouse leks, nesting, and wintering habitat and potential nesting cliffs or trees for raptors in Juniper Draw.

Animal Species with Conservation Status

Species with conservation status include federally listed Threatened or Endangered; listed Species of Concern or Watched in Idaho by the USFWS; BLM sensitive species; and listed as Protected, Species of Concern, Threatened, or Endangered by the IDFG. No federally listed Threatened or Endangered species have been detected at the Juniper Butte Range or associated sites. Other species with conservation status covered by the INRMP include slickspot peppergrass, Davis peppergrass, ferruginous hawk, burrowing owl, sage grouse, and California bighorn sheep.

Wetlands

No United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdictional wetlands were found to occur on the Juniper Butte Range, emitter, or no-drop sites (Air Force 1998a). However, 63 miles of intermittent/ephemeral drainages fall within the boundaries of the range and may qualify as waters of the U.S., which are regulated by the USACE under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

(CWA). These drainages have negligible wetland values and are not vegetated with obligate wetland species.

Two impoundments exist on Juniper Butte Range. These areas are very small diked or excavated reservoirs, developed and maintained as a water source for livestock, and are not considered jurisdictional wetlands. One additional quarter-acre site is located within Juniper Draw. This site is a natural reservoir and seems to hold water during the spring. It does not meet the criteria for a jurisdictional wetland. A one-acre, above-ground water reservoir, located in the southwest corner of Juniper Butte Range, contains approximately 700,000 gallons. The remaining sites are less than one-quarter acre and dry most of the year. However, these sites are not considered wetlands or waters of the United States.

An additional potential wetland, not noted on National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps, was discovered during 1998 in the northern part of the range. This small rock pool is located just east of Juniper Draw along a section of rimrock. This area was noted as containing both water and potential hydric vegetation, possibly indicating a jurisdictional wetland, or wetlands as defined by Executive Order (E.O.) 11990 (Protection of Wetlands).

3.6 CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL RESOURCES

Archaeological and traditional resources are included in the INRMP to ensure an integrated management of any actions that have the potential to impact such resources.

Archaeological Resources

Survey of the entire Juniper Butte Range area was completed in stages beginning with project-specific ranch development surveys (Ross 1990, 1992; Young 1984a, 1984b, 1987a, 1987b), a fire rehabilitation survey (Hjermstad and Hoffert 1996), and surveys by the Air Force in the late 1990s (Air Force 1998b, 1999b, 1999c). These surveys covered the range itself, as well as the outlying components of the range such as roads, no-drop zones, and emitter sites. Archaeological surveys in Juniper Butte Range areas of potential effect (APE) have recorded 80 archaeological or architectural resources during all surveys: 13 early Native American sites, seven historic sites, and 58 isolates. 16 resources have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The remaining sites and isolated artifacts have been determined ineligible. Eligibility determinations were made by the BLM or Air Force depending on land ownership.

Considering the results of all surveys, Juniper Butte Range contains an overall low density of archaeological resources. Complete survey of the range found a site density of 1.7 sites per 1,000 acres, fairly evenly divided between early Native American and historic sites. The Air Force is preparing a Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) for Juniper Butte Range in cooperation with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, the BLM and the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Traditional Resources

No traditional properties have been identified within the project area. However, representatives of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes have indicated that all archaeological sites in the project area may also be traditional resources. Many natural and cultural resources have spiritual value to traditional Shoshone-Paiute. They believe that many elements of the environment, whether living or not, may have spirits that play integral roles in the operation of the spiritual world. Shoshone-Paiute tribal members have identified a number of traditional cultural resources known to exist in southwestern Idaho, ranging from vision quest sites to abandoned living areas. Geologic resources, water resources, plants, and animals are also traditional resources. Information regarding the nature, location, or sensitivity of specific resources provided to the Air Force by the Tribes is confidential. Tribal representatives chose not to reveal the specific locations of most of these traditional resources.

3.7 LAND USE AND RECREATION

The INRMP has provisions to integrate the review and management of Juniper Butte Range with regional land use and recreation activities.

3.7.1 Land Use

Juniper Butte Range and associated sites are not located on or adjacent to any local, state, or federally designated natural areas. However, within the BLM's Jarbidge and Bruneau Resource Areas, other special use areas include eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers, Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs), Wild Horse Herd Management Areas (HMAs), National Conservation Areas (NCAs), Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs), and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs). In Owyhee County, WSAs are found within the Bruneau-Jarbidge River system, along Sheep Creek, between Shoofly and Big Jacks Creeks, along Deep Creek, and within the Owyhee River system. Juniper Butte Range is located east of the Bruneau-Jarbidge WSA and the Bruneau-Jarbidge Bighorn Sheep Habitat ACEC.

The Juniper Butte Range, which was part of the BLM's designated Juniper Draw grazing allotment, comprises approximately 12,000 acres. The Juniper Draw allotment, approximately 19,000 acres, was grazed for the past 10 years at a historical stocking rate of 3,921 animal unit months (AUMs) annually. Prior to the establishment of the range, the Juniper Draw allotment was divided into seven pastures. Water was provided to five of the pastures by a pipeline and water trough. The livestock in the other two pastures had access to water in the East Fork of the Bruneau Canyon. Livestock grazed somewhere on Juniper Butte throughout the year, and the lessee rotated livestock use of the seven pastures on an annual basis.

3.7.2 Recreation

In the past, Juniper Butte Range was used by hunters and primitive recreation users. There are no specially designated recreational areas on the range. In the region, recreational resources are

widely scattered and generally undeveloped. To fulfill the military mission and ensure public safety, the Air Force routinely restricts public access on military lands. Therefore, there is no public access to the 12,000-acre range without special permission and clearance from Mountain Home AFB.

Regional recreational activities include hunting, hiking, river-running, camping, nature viewing, rock-collecting, and photography. Although there are WSAs, SRMAs, and ACECs in the region, the Juniper Butte Range and associated sites are not located within these specially designated areas. No distinctive topographic features, which would distinguish this area from the surrounding area, are found on the range or sites, thus creating few distinctive recreation opportunities. The East Fork Bruneau Canyon (Clover Creek) is adjacent to the Juniper Butte Range and situated on lands managed by the BLM.

The Bruneau River, a popular kayaking and boating river, is located more than six miles from the range. The Bruneau-Jarbidge River system was recommended for wild and scenic river designation by the National Park Service (NPS) in 1979. While the river is not impacted by range operations, a road leading to the river traverses approximately six miles north of the range and may be used as an access route. Air Force personnel's use of the road during construction and operations will not preclude use of the river by visitors.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This chapter presents an assessment of the potential environmental consequences associated with implementation of the INRMP for Juniper Butte Range, Idaho. The analysis presented in this chapter is based on an examination of the potential impacts in context and intensity of the proposed action and no-action alternative (see Chapter 2.0) in relation to the baseline conditions (see Chapter 3.0). This was achieved by evaluating all management strategies from Chapter 6.0 and Annex C and the component plan projects from Annex B of the INRMP. These management strategies and component plan projects are identified in Appendix A of this EA. These strategies and projects, which include procedural, administrative, and on-the-ground activities, provide a tool to direct day-to-day activities and a means to minimize and monitor potential consequences to natural resources. The potential environmental consequences of these strategies and projects are evaluated as part of the proposed action.

The total number of relevant management strategies and component plan projects is presented at the beginning of each resources discussion in this section. The number of strategies or projects with the potential to affect the resource analyzed in the section is also identified. As appropriate, a table of management strategies or projects that may have the potential for disturbance is included. The EA section concludes with a discussion of the applicable management strategies and component plan projects and potential environmental consequences of the proposed action and no-action alternative.

4.1 NOISE

4.1.1 Proposed Action

Fourteen management strategies and eight component plan projects may generate temporary, transient noise increases on or near Juniper Butte Range. These strategies and projects are listed in Table 4.1-1 and primarily involve vehicular traffic noise. Vehicular traffic noise is associated with travel on access roads or off-road over the range to inspect and/or monitor facilities and species. Specific management strategies would include weed control actions, facility and target construction and maintenance, EOD clearances, vehicles transporting hazardous materials, wastes and recycled materials, slickspot monitoring, vegetation and visitor surveys, site inspections for Environmental Safety Occupational Health Compliance Assessment and Management Program (ESOHCAMP), sage grouse and ferruginous hawk monitoring.

It is estimated that 138 vehicle trips per year and 245 person-days would be needed to meet the requirements outlined in the INRMP. Many of these activities would occur on an occasional basis (less than once a month) and would occur near the dispersed no-drop targets and emitter sites. Some of these activities may be combined, reducing the number of trips and person-day requirements, once the programs are all activated. This level of activity, while interrupting the ambient noise conditions, would not discernibly alter overall noise levels on an average day.

As part of a separate strategy identified in Annex C of the INRMP, the Air Force has participated in the SIG, provided funds, and supplied a list of qualified noise experts to conduct a noise study. The Air Force will work with the SIG to define and implement a noise study.

4.1.2 No-Action Alternative

Failure to implement the INRMP would limit the level of survey and monitoring activity on the access roads and range. Noise levels would be reduced slightly from those anticipated under the proposed action.

4.2 SAFETY

4.2.1 Proposed Action

The INRMP presents 29 fire management strategies and 5 ground maintenance and pest maintenance strategies that are designed to enhance the prevention of fires through the facility and equipment design, establishment of emergency procedures, personnel training, and the control of weeds. Targets would be constructed to meet or exceed operational safety standards established by the National Fire Codes and published by the National Fire Protection Association. Personnel and contractors would be trained in wildland firefighting techniques. Range contractors and other range personnel would also be trained to identify noxious weeds and the proper reporting procedures. Application of herbicides would be performed by a State of Idaho

Table 4.1-1. Management Strategies and Component Plan Projects with the Potential to Generate Transient Noise (Page 1 of 2)	
Strategy/Project Number	*Management Strategy/Component Plan Project*
Species with Conservation Status Strategy 20	The Air Force will appoint a biologist to inspect ETI emitter sites using a standardized checklist (protocol) at critical times of the year.
Species with Conservation Status Strategy 21	The Air Force will survey emitter sites annually to review and establish the avoidance criteria shown in Table 6.2-1 of the INRMP and will consult with IDFG and BLM through participation in the sage grouse working group to determine nesting habitat, and wintering areas.
Species with Conservation Status Strategy 24	Ground emitter crews will inspect emitter sites for sage grouse and avoid breeding sage grouse in accordance with the guidelines in Table 6.2-1 of the INRMP.
Vegetation Strategy 1	To meet the aim of implementing ecosystem management, vegetation data will be collected on the majority of Juniper Butte Range, not just those habitats known to contain rare species. In the interest of ecosystem management, baseline vegetation data will be collected on an annual basis on the Juniper Butte Range. Long-term vegetation trends will be assessed and the management of Juniper Butte Range adjusted in accordance with the statistically and biologically significant findings of the vegetation monitoring and the mission of the range.
Grazing Strategy 2	To ensure proper livestock management, the vegetation communities on Juniper Butte Range will be monitored using a series of permanent vegetation sampling plots. The structure of these plots and monitoring methods are described in INRMP section 6.3.1.5.
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 1	Collect wastes at regular intervals for transport to the base CCF or an approved facility (e.g., accumulation site for hazardous waste or recycling facility for solid waste). Collected waste, such as rags from cleanup, will be analyzed at Mountain Home AFB to determine as hazardous or non-hazardous and disposed of according to the Hazardous Waste Management Plan (Plan 3208).

Table 4.1-1. Management Strategies and Component Plan Projects with the Potential to Generate Transient Noise (Page 2 of 2)

Strategy/Project Number	*Management Strategy/Component Plan Project*
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 2	Conduct annual EOD cleanup to remove munitions residue. EOD will incorporate the use of ATV's to mitigate impacts to environmental resources.
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 3	Conduct regular target maintenance to remove target residue for recycling.
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 18	Conduct Environmental Audits such as ESOHCAMP to ensure compliance.
Fire Management Strategy 15	A minimum of seven contract fire personnel will be on site to operate the equipment in accordance with Table 6.12-2.
Fire Management Strategy 20	Once on site, the BLM's Incident Commander will assume control of the fire until the fire is extinguished.
Fire Management Strategy 23	Firelines will be plowed only at the discretion of the BLM Incident Commander.
Species with Conservation Status Project 2	Site Inspection for Sage Grouse Use of Remote Sites and Environs
Species with Conservation Status Project 3	Sage Grouse Lek Surveys
Species with Conservation Status Project 4	Sage Grouse Habitat Use
Species with Conservation Status Project 5	Bighorn Sheep Population Monitoring
Fish and Wildlife Management Project 1	Monitoring Wildlife use of Juniper Butte Range and Remote Sites
Vegetation Project 2	Long-Term Monitoring of Vegetation Habitats at Juniper Butte Range
Vegetation Project 3	Rehabilitation After Fire/Fuel Build-Up Prevention Methodology
Fire Management Project 1	Rehabilitation After Fire/Fuel Build-Up Prevention Methodology

certified applicator. The Range Control Officer and the Base Fire Department would coordinate with Boise BLM Dispatch on the fire rating in order to evaluate the day's activities on the range. Many of these strategies are procedural and support the existing cooperative agreement between BLM and Mountain Home AFB.

Fire management and ground maintenance and pest maintenance strategies and component plan projects with the potential for disturbance are listed in Table 4.2-1 and include fire fighting and periodic weed removal from Juniper Butte Range targets. Weed removal would, in a typical year, occur at the start of the fire season in June and extend monthly through August. Weed removal would be performed in accordance with Mountain Home AFB's Pest Management Plan and may include pesticide and herbicide application as well as manual removal. In unusually wet years, weed removal may occur more frequently to reduce the potential for fire. Weed removal would have the potential to disturb the soil, wildlife and cultural resources (if present) and crush adjacent vegetation as a result of mowing large areas and hand work in smaller areas. All vehicles are anticipated to remain on the road surface or graveled areas when conducting weed removal activities at the no-drop targets. Weed removal will add an estimated four trips per mouth during the fire season to the road network. However, by design these strategies and projects include measures to protect area resources, and any impacts should be negligible and not adverse.

Table 4.2-1. Fire Management and Ground Maintenance and Pest Management Strategies and Component Plan Projects with the Potential for Disturbance

Strategy/Project Number	*Management Strategy/Component Plan Project*
Fire Management Strategy 15	A minimum of seven contract fire personnel will be on site to operate the equipment in accordance with Table 6.12-2.
Fire Management Strategy 23	Firelines will be plowed only at the discretion of the BLM Incident Commander.
Fire Management Project 1	Rehabilitation After Fire/Fuel Build-Up Prevention Methodology
Ground Maintenance and Pest Management Project 1	Noxious Weed Identification and Control

The use of cattle grazing reduces vegetation cover and serves as a fire management tool. Additional analysis of grazing as a tool for fire management will be addressed in a Vegetation Management EA. Other areas, such as those along fencelines and around targets, may be mowed to remove additional fuels. Implementation of these strategies should have a beneficial effect of reducing the frequency and intensity of fires.

4.2.2 No-Action Alternative

Failure to implement the proposed INRMP means that some management activities will continue, but some of the strategies and projects designed to reduce the frequency and intensity of fires

would not be implemented. Therefore, any beneficial consequences from implementation of the integrated plan will not occur.

4.3 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND SOLID WASTE

4.3.1 Proposed Action

4.3.1.1 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTE

Forty-six management strategies address the handling, storage, and transport of hazardous materials and hazardous and solid waste. Several of these management strategies address training requirements for personnel and contractors that use hazardous materials. Training would include the proper methods of handling and storing hazardous materials, processes to minimize hazardous material use, procedures to reduce risk of spills and the proper methods for spill response. Personnel that manage hazardous waste would be trained to maintain record keeping, ensure wastes are stored in proper containers, labeled correctly, and stored in designated areas. Spill response kits and spill containment systems would be available at facilities and aboveground storage tanks on vehicles that transport hazardous materials and wastes as outlined in the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) and in several management strategies.

Five strategies with the potential for disturbance are listed in Table 4.3-1. These strategies include training of personnel in use of hazardous materials, the proper methods of hazardous waste handling and storage, and the appropriate actions in response to potential spills. The management strategies also identify compliance with the existing Air Force Hazardous Waste Management Plan and other Air Force and 366th Wing requirements.

Maintenance activities from ground support equipment, infrastructure maintenance, and vehicle maintenance would result in the use of hazardous materials and the generation of hazardous wastes. Hazardous waste transport will amount to an estimated four trips per year. Solid waste transport will occur as part of the regular flow of personnel and supplies to and from Mountain Home AFB and will not add any additional trips to the road network.

Potential minor spills could occur due to use of diesel-powered generators for electricity, storage of fuels and refueling activities, use of petroleums, oils, and lubricants (POL), corrosive materials and solder for various maintenance activities, and during changing of anti-freeze in permanent on-site equipment. Due to the remote location of the facilities, there is an increased risk of environmental damage in the event of larger hazardous substances releases because secondary help, from a Spill Response Team (SRT) will be delayed by a long commute to the spill site.

Compliance with management strategies presented in the INRMP, along with existing federal, state and Air Force regulations, would minimize the impacts on the environment. Implementation of the INRMP would not result in significant hazardous material/waste-related environmental impacts.

Table 4.3-1. Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Management Strategies with the Potential for Disturbance	
Strategy/Project Number	*Management Strategy/Component Plan Project*
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 1	Collect wastes at regular intervals for transport to the base CCF or an approved facility (e.g., accumulation site for hazardous waste or recycling facility for solid waste). Collected waste, such as rags from cleanup, will be analyzed at Mountain Home AFB to determine as hazardous or non-hazardous and disposed of according to the Hazardous Waste Management Plan (Plan 3208).
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 2	Conduct annual EOD cleanup to remove munitions residue. EOD will incorporate the use of ATV's to mitigate impacts to environmental resources.
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 3	Conduct regular target maintenance to remove target residue for recycling.
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 16	Use non-explosive training ordnance, consisting of 25-pound BDU-33s or equivalent, on the range to minimize the amount of land and ground disturbance. Maximize use of new, recyclable targets.
Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste Strategy 18	Conduct Environmental Audits such as ESOHCAMP to ensure compliance.

4.3.1.2 RANGE RESIDUE CLEAN-UP/DECONTAMINATION

Ten management strategies address range decontamination activities and the storage, recycling and disposal of training ordnance residue and targets. Range cleanup would occur in accordance with AFI 13-212 and would incorprate the use of ATVs in unroaded areas. Efforts will be made to minimize disturbance to soil and vegetation. ATVs will drive around, rather than over, slickspots, sagebrush, and rabbitbrush to the extent possible. Range decontamination will take place each year from April through June to minimize impacts to slickspots and prevent ruts from forming in the soil.

For each pasture, clearance will be conducted using trucks that remain on designated routes, and ATVs towing reinforced trailers in the unroaded areas of the range. ATVs will transport only safe ordnance to the trucks. These strategies would potentially reduce compaction of soils, break down of vegetation, disturbances to wildlife, and potential disturbances to critical areas, such as slickspots, sensitive species habitat, and archeological sites.

4.3.2 No-Action Alternative

4.3.2.1 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTE

Without implementation of the proposed INRMP, some of the strategies that could reduce the frequency and intensity of spills will not be implemented. Existing hazardous and solid waste management plans would continue to be followed, along with existing federal, state, and Air Force requirements, but they would not be integrated with other range management activities.

4.3.2.2 RANGE RESIDUE CLEAN-UP/DECONTAMINATION

Failure to implement the proposed INRMP means that range decontamination will follow existing Air Force procedures regarding ordnance disposal. The benefits of those strategies that extend beyond current regulations and requirements would not be obtained, nor would those strategies necessarily be integrated with other range management activities.

4.4 AIR QUALITY

4.4.1 Proposed Action

Fourteen management strategies, including eight component plan projects, may generate temporary air emission increases on Juniper Butte Range. Refer to Table 4.1-1 for a list of these strategies and projects. The activities include vehicular traffic associated with travel on access roads or moving cross-country to inspect and/or monitor facilities and species. Specific actions would include weed control actions, facility and target construction and maintenance, EOD clearances, vehicles transporting hazardous materials, wastes and recycled materials, slickspot monitoring, visitor surveys, site inspections for ESOHCAMPs, sage grouse and ferruginous hawk monitoring.

Vehicles traveling along paved and unpaved roads would generate fugitive dust emissions. These emissions would not have a measurable effect on ambient air quality for three reasons: (1) the total quantity is limited; (2) the locations are individually small and dispersed throughout a vast, remote area characterized by good air quality; and (3) scheduling of the activities is likely to occur over the entire year, so the concentration of fugitive dust would be limited at any one time.

Based upon USEPA standards of estimates, approximately one-half of the fugitive dust emissions would be considered PM_{10}. Considering ultimate dispersion throughout the area encompassed by the range, the emitter sites and no-drop targets, this estimated volume constitutes less than 0.1 percent of the NAAQS and would not adversely affect air quality.

4.4.2 No-Action Alternative

Failure to implement the INRMP would limit the level of survey and monitoring activity on the access roads and range. Emission of fugitive dust would be slightly less than that expected under the proposed action.

4.5 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.5.1 Proposed Action

The following resource areas of the INRMP relate to biological resources: species with conservation status including sage grouse, slickspot peppergrass, and California bighorn sheep; wetlands; watershed protection; fish and wildlife management; vegetation; and emitter and no-drop target site construction operation. Table 4.5-1 lists the strategies and projects related to biological resources with the potential to cause disturbance. Also refer to Table 4.1-1 for those activities which may cause transient noise and/or ground disturbance.

The activities involve personnel and vehicles moving cross-country to inspect and/or monitor facilities and species. Specific management strategies would include weed control actions, facility and target construction and maintenance, EOD clearances, slickspot monitoring, vegetation surveys, site inspections for ESOHCAMP, sage grouse and ferruginous hawk monitoring.

It is estimated that 94 vehicle trips per year and 227 person-days would be needed to meet the requirements outlined in the INRMP. Many of these activities would occur on an occasional basis (less than once a month) and would occur near the dispersed no-drop targets and emitter sites. Some of these activities may be combined, reducing the number of trips and person-day requirements, once the programs are all activated. These activities, conducted by IDFG, BLM, contractors, and Air Force personnel, designed to ensure the long-range viability of the resources, may temporarily affect wildlife and disturb the soils.

While conducting weed removal within Juniper Butte Range itself, vehicles may have to traverse up to 300 feet off established roadways to access targets. Tire tracks from one off-road trip are estimated to disturb approximately 1,000 square feet of soil and vegetation while accessing the targets.

The inspection of emitter sites for sage grouse activity will amount to approximately 15 trips to the range and/or associated sites yearly. Monitoring of emitter sites will not involve any off-road vehicle use; however, biologists observing these areas may crush vegetation, or disturb soils, cultural resources and wildlife. These impacts are considered negligible and not adverse.

Many of the management strategies associated with the species with conservation status, fish and wildlife management, and wetlands resource issue areas include training range personnel and emitter site crewmembers, implementing seasonal restrictions, and participating with the USFWS in resource management activities. Range personnel would complete environmental training to improve their understanding of the regional ecosystem, wildlife presence habitat requirements,

Table 4.5-1. Biological Resources Related Management Strategies and Component Plan Projects with the Potential for Disturbance
(Page 1 of 2)

Strategy/Project Number	*Management Strategy/Component Plan Project*
Species with Conservation Status Strategy 20	The Air Force will appoint a biologist to inspect ETI emitter sites using a standardized checklist (protocol) at critical times of the year.
Species with Conservation Status Strategy 21	The Air Force will survey emitter sites annually to review and establish the avoidance criteria shown in Table 6.2-1 of the INRMP and will consult with IDFG and BLM through participation in the sage grouse working group to determine nesting habitat, and wintering areas.
Species with Conservation Status Strategy 24	Ground emitter crews will inspect emitter sites for sage grouse and avoid breeding sage grouse in accordance with the guidelines in Table 6.2-1 of the INRMP.
Vegetation Strategy 1	To meet the aim of implementing ecosystem management, vegetation data will be collected on the majority of Juniper Butte Range, not just those habitats known to contain rare species. In the interest of ecosystem management, baseline vegetation data will be collected on an annual basis on the Juniper Butte Range. Long-term vegetation trends will be assessed and the management of Juniper Butte Range adjusted in accordance with the statistically and biologically significant findings of the vegetation monitoring and the mission of the range.
Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction Strategy 2	The contractor will provide on-site monitoring of slickspot peppergrass and slickspot peppergrass habitat during construction thus insuring that the minimum amount of habitat is destroyed during construction. The number of slickspots and number of plants lost to placement of site facilities should be documented. In addition, the contractor should flag all sites that are on the periphery of the construction site to reduce construction impacts outside the ROW.
Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction Strategy 13	To reduce the establishment of undesirable non-native plants, the contractor will re-seed areas of exposed soil after construction with a seed mixture approved by Bureau of Land Management botanists.

Table 4.5-1. Biological Resources Related Management Strategies and Component Plan Projects with the Potential for Disturbance (Page 2 of 2)

Strategy/Project Number	*Management Strategy/Component Plan Project*
Species with Conservation Status Project 2	Site Inspection for Sage Grouse Use of Remote Sites and Environs
Species with Conservation Status Project 3	Sage Grouse Lek Surveys
Species with Conservation Status Project 4	Sage Grouse Habitat Use
Species with Conservation Status Project 5	Bighorn Sheep Population Monitoring
Fish and Wildlife Management Project 1	Monitoring Wildlife use of Juniper Butte Range and Remote Sites
Vegetation Project 2	Long-Term Monitoring of Vegetation Habitats at Juniper Butte Range
Vegetation Project 3	Rehabilitation After Fire/Fuel Build-Up Prevention Methodology

and restrictions on disturbance. Site crews would be trained to identify and report sitings of numerous sensitive plant and wildlife species. Range management through the implementation of these strategies will lessen the consequences of range activities and improve management of the biological resources. Implementation of the INRMP will result in no significant adverse environmental impacts to biological resources.

4.5.2 No-Action Alternative

Failure to implement the proposed INRMP means that existing management activities will continue, but not be supplemented by the INRMP management strategies and component plan projects. Without the ecosystem-level management principles built into the INRMP, edge effects (including enhanced opportunities for weed invasion) could lead to greater landscape-level effects on regional vegetation communities. Therefore, any potentially beneficial impacts from implementation of the plan are less likely to occur.

4.6 CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL RESOURCES

4.6.1 Proposed Action

Archaeological Resources

Two INRMP management strategies relate to cultural and traditional resources. These strategies seek to protect resources and do not have the potential to disturb resources. Management strategies and/or projects that may have the potential to disturb surface and subsurface cultural resources are included in Table 4.1-1. The activities include personnel and vehicles moving cross-country over the range to inspect and/or monitor facilities and species. Specific management strategies would include weed control actions, facility and target construction and maintenance, EOD clearances, slickspot monitoring, vegetation surveys, site inspections for ESOHCAMP, sage grouse and ferruginous hawk monitoring.

All field programs are coordinated with the base cultural resources manager to ensure that site ground disturbance and vandalism impacts do not occur as a result of INRMP implementation. The INRMP identifies management strategies if unanticipated cultural resource discoveries are made during implementation of the INRMP. Mitigation and monitoring plans for cultural resources will be addressed in the Draft CRMP. Compliance with these management strategies, along with existing federal and Air Force regulations, would minimize the impacts on the environment.

Traditional Resources

As identified in Annex C of the INRMP and presented under the Coordination and Public Involvement resource issue area, the Air Force will continue to meet, on a regular basis, with the affected Tribes to fulfill the Air Force's commitment to government-to-government consultation.

4.6.2 No-Action Alternative

Failure to implement the proposed INRMP means that cultural resources will continue to be managed in compliance with federal law and Air Force regulations. However, the benefits of those integrated management strategies and projects that extend beyond current regulations and requirements would not be obtained. No impacts to cultural resources are expected under this alternative.

4.7 LAND USE AND RECREATION

4.7.1 Proposed Action

Management strategies and component plan projects related to land use and recreation include five strategies related to seasonal overflight and avoidance, three strategies associated with outdoor recreation and public access, eight strategies concerning coordination and public involvement, four management strategies and two component plan projects related to grazing, and three strategies and one component plan project associated with Geographic Information Systems. These strategies, as described below, are procedural in most instances and support the overall interest in balancing the operational needs of the Juniper Butte Range and associated sites with traditional land uses and current recreational activities. Implementing the INRMP will not result in significant adverse environmental impacts to land use and recreation.

In order to assist the public, including civilian aviators and recreationalists, in anticipating the effect of military training operations on activities in the vicinity of the Juniper Butte Range, the INRMP identifies procedures for the 366th Wing to post, on the Mountain Home AFB web page, airspace scheduling along with a phone number for contacting the Public Affairs Office. Noise complaints from aircraft will be logged and responded to by this office. The Airspace Manager will continually update aircrews with any airspace changes and restrictions.

To ensure that there will continue to be no significant training effects on recreational activities, flight restrictions will continue to be in place, absent compelling national security circumstances, military contingencies, or hostilities. These restrictions include no military overflights during April, May, and June below 5,000 feet above ground level (AGL) within selected airspace over Little Jacks Creek WSA. Also, the airspace managed by Mountain Home AFB will be closed to military training activities, except for transiting aircraft during weekends associated with Memorial Day, Labor Day, and the 4th of July holidays. The implementation of these management strategies supports recreational activities for those persons visiting areas in the vicinity of Juniper Butte Range.

As identified in Annex C of the INRMP and presented under the Outdoor Recreation and Public Access resource issue area, the Air Force will conduct a Visitor Survey to collect demographic data on recreation users, current levels and types of recreation use, and perceived effects of aircraft overflights on visitor experience. The Air Force will inform the public of range activities by the placement of signs at all facilities.

Implementation of INRMP grazing management strategies include the use of livestock grazing as a management tool on the range. One strategy (Grazing Strategy 2) will result in vehicular trips and ground disturbance on the range. The strategy reads, "To ensure proper livestock management, the vegetation communities on Juniper Butte Range will be monitored using a series of permanent vegetation sampling plots. The structure of these plots and monitoring methods are described in INRMP section 6.3.1.5." The Grazing Component Plan will be further developed in a Vegetation Management EA.

4.7.2 No-Action Alternative

The no-action alternative results in not implementing management strategies or component plan projects to assist recreationalists and livestock monitoring. This has the potential for greater impacts to biological resources and recreationalists as a result of independent rather than coordinated actions.

5.0 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS AND IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

5.1 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

This section provides (1) a definition of cumulative effects, (2) a description of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions relevant to cumulative effects, and (3) an analysis of cumulative effects potentially resulting from these interactions.

5.1.1 Definition of Cumulative Effects

CEQ regulations stipulate that the cumulative effects analysis within an EA should consider the potential environmental impacts resulting from "the incremental impacts of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions" (40 CFR 1508.7). Recent CEQ guidance in *Considering Cumulative Effects* affirms this requirement, stating that the first steps in assessing cumulative effects involve defining the scope of the other actions and their interrelationship with the proposed action. The scope must consider geographic and temporal overlaps among the proposed action and other actions. It must also evaluate the nature of interactions among these actions.

Cumulative effects are most likely to arise when a relationship or synergism exists between a proposed action and other actions expected to occur in a similar location or during a similar time period. Actions overlapping with or in close proximity to the proposed action are expected to have more potential for a relationship than actions that are geographically separated. Similarly, actions that coincide, even partially, in time would tend to offer a higher potential for cumulative effects.

To identify cumulative effects, this EA analysis addresses three questions:

1. Does a relationship exist such that elements of the proposed action might interact with elements of past, present, or reasonably foreseeable actions?

2. If one or more of the elements of the proposed action and another action are expected to interact, would the proposed action affect or be affected by impacts of the other action?

3. If such a relationship exists, does an assessment reveal any potentially significant impacts not identified when the proposed action is considered alone?

In this EA, an effort was made to identify all actions considered and in the planning phase at this time. To the extent that details regarding such actions exist and the actions have a potential to interact with the proposed action in this EA, these actions are included in this cumulative analysis. This approach enables decisionmakers to have the most current information available so they can evaluate the environmental consequences of the proposed action.

5.1.2 Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Actions

This EA applies a stepped approach to provide decisionmakers with not only the cumulative effects of the proposed action but also the incremental contribution of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions.

PAST ACTIONS AND PRESENT ACTIONS RELEVANT TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

Ranching and grazing have been the primary activities in the Juniper Butte Range area from the late 19th to the late 20th centuries. Ranchers settled in some of the well-watered locations, although population density in this region was, and remains, low. Traditionally, Juniper Butte Range was used by some modern ranchers, hunters, primitive recreational users, and some Native Americans from the Duck Valley Reservation.

In 1943, the U.S. Army established Saylor Creek Bombing Range (now SCR) to the north of Juniper Butte Range. At the end of World War II, Mountain Home AFB was deactivated. Mountain Home AFB was reactivated as a Strategic Air Command (SAC) installation in 1949. The Tactical Air Command (TAC) assumed control of the base and SCR in 1966. In 1992, ACC assumed control of both Mountain Home AFB and SCR.

An EIS, *Proposals for the Air Force in Idaho*, analyzed the environmental consequences of establishment of a composite wing at Mountain Home AFB. A ROD implementing this action was issued in March 1992. The 34th Bomb Squadron Relocation to Mountain Home AFB relocated 11 B-1B aircraft from Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota, to Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, reducing the total number of annual sorties flown but increasing the use of local airspace. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the B-1B relocation was issued in May 1996. Also in 1996, a FONSI was issued for converting the 124th Wing of the Idaho Air National Guard (ANG) in Boise, where

24 F-4G aircraft were replaced with 15 A-10 close air support aircraft and five C-130E transport aircraft, resulting in an overall decrease from then-current activities at Gowen Field, but increased usage of general aviation airspace and SCR. In a separate proposed action, the Idaho ANG prepared an EA to modify military training ranges to reduce operation constraints stemming from noise avoidance areas, airports, and Duck Valley Reservation, and to enhance route utilization efficiency.

Subsequent to the ETI EIAP, Congress established Juniper Butte Range with the JBRWA in 1998 in order to augment the existing SCR and to enhance the 366th Wing's ability to conduct realistic training close to Mountain Home AFB. Military facilities are also located on non-withdrawn lands where use is permitted by state land leases and rights-of-way from the BLM.

REASONABLY FORESEEABLE ACTIONS THAT INTERACT WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Air Force has prepared the Juniper Butte Range INRMP and five component plans, some of which have multiple projects to coordinate management of Juniper Butte resources. Four of these component plans, have been fully analyzed in this EA. The Grazing Component Plan will be further developed in a Vegetation Management EA. The Vegetation Management EA will address additional resource management opportunities for the Air Force. The Air Force is in the process of preparing an EIS to assess the potential environmental consequences of locating, or bedding down, the Initial F-22 Operational Wing. The F-22 is the designated replacement for the current air superiority fighter, the F-15C. The proposed action includes the beddown of three squadrons (72 operational aircraft), personnel, and construction of facilities to support the F-22. Training would be accomplished within the existing airspace and ranges utilized by the F-15C. The Air Force's proposed location is Langley AFB, VA. Alternative locations are Eglin AFB, Florida; Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Mountain Home AFB, Idaho; and Tyndall AFB, Florida. Each of these bases hosts a current F-15C mission, has access to airspace and training ranges, possesses quality training opportunities, available infrastructure, existing communication links, and established support for fighter aircraft. None of the alternatives under consideration, including Mountain Home AFB, would require expansion of existing airspace.

5.1.3 Analysis of Cumulative Effects

The following analysis considers whether, and to what extent, the reasonably foreseeable actions could result in cumulative environmental consequences when considered with the potential consequences of implementing the INRMP. Implementation of vegetation management, including the Grazing Component Plan, may have the potential for disturbance to the vegetation, cultural resources, and wildlife present on Juniper Butte Range. However, by design, vegetation management would include measures to protect area resources, therefore the cumulative environmental consequences are expected to be negligible and not adverse.

If the Initial Operational Wing of theF-22 aircraft (72 operational aircraft) were located at Mountain Home AFB, daily use of the Juniper Butte Range is not projected to change. Increased

use of the Jarbidge Military Operations Area (MOA) above the range would have minimal effect to the ground operations at the range.

Subsonic noise levels would increase slightly, about 1 dB. Supersonic activity and accompanying sonic booms in the adjacent MOAs (Owyhee/Jarbidge) would increase from 17 to 72 booms per month. Depending on where these sonic booms occur within the Owyhee/Jarbidge MOAs, between 0 and 55 additional sonic booms per month could be heard on the range which is located on the eastern side of the MOAs. The F-22 would adhere to Air Force seasonal, altitude, and locational restrictions for flight activity in the MOAs. Most of these restrictions are implemented to reduce overflight noise during specific times of the year or to avoid Native American traditional activities as defined through ongoing government-to-government relations with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes in southwest Idaho. Supersonic flight would continue to be performed with restrictions, including avoiding portions of the MOAs.

5.2 IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

NEPA requires that environmental analysis include identification of "...any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved in the proposed action should it be implemented." Irreversible and irretrievable resource commitments are related to the use of nonrenewable resources and the effects that the uses of these resources have on future generations. Irreversible effects primarily result from the use or destruction of a specific resource (e.g., energy and minerals) that cannot be replaced within a reasonable time frame. Irretrievable resource commitments involve the loss in value of an affected resource that cannot be restored as a result of the action (e.g., extinction of a threatened or endangered species or the disturbance of a cultural site).

Implementation of the Juniper Butte Range INRMP will involve the consumption of nonrenewable resources, such as fuel, oil, and lubricants used in vehicles to support the mitigation and monitoring activities. None of these activities are expected to significantly decrease the availability of minerals or petroleum resources.

5.3 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY.

Short-term uses of the environment associated with the proposed action would include minor environmental impacts to the physical environment during the operation of the range and the implementation of the INRMP management strategies. Maintenance activities, including range residue clean-up/decontamination, along with inspection and monitoring activities supporting INRMP management strategies would produce a short-term increase in fugitive dust emissions, personnel and vehicular traffic noise, and vehicular disturbance. None of these uses would significantly impact the long-term productivity of the natural resources of the area.

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Appendix A
INRMP Management Strategies and Component Plan Projects

APPENDIX A

This appendix categorizes the management strategies and component plan projects contained in the Juniper Butte Range INRMP. Table A-1 includes the management strategies and presents five columns. The first and second columns list the number of strategies in each resource category and the resource category from Chapter 6.0 and Annex C of the INRMP where the management strategy appears. The third column presents the strategy, the fourth column lists the section where the management strategy is located in the INRMP, and the fifth column notes the potential for disturbance as analyzed in the appropriate sections of this EA.

Table A-2 includes the component plan projects and presents five columns. The first two columns list the number of projects in each resource category and the resource category from Chapter 6.0 of the INRMP, respectively. The third column presents the component plan, the fourth column lists the project analyzed, and the fifth column notes the potential for disturbance analyzed in the appropriate sections of this EA.

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
(Page 1 of 23)

Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
1	Species with Conservation Status	Participate in Slickspot Peppergrass Working Group.	6.2	
2	Species with Conservation Status	Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the USFWS regarding the management of slickspot peppergrass.	6.2	
3	Species with Conservation Status	Train all ground personnel in raptor identification and report any sightings of ferruginous hawks at any Air Force site to the Environmental Flight (208-828-6351) who will report the data to the ICDC.	6.2	
4	Species with Conservation Status	Avoid the use of herbicides on or near occurrences of Davis' peppergrass.	6.2	
5	Species with Conservation Status	Emitter site crew members will follow weed and fire management programs prescribed in section 6.6 and 6.12.	6.2	
6	Species with Conservation Status	Emitter site crew members will receive noxious weed identification training and handbooks for use in the field and will report noxious weed sightings to the Base Environmental Flight (208-828-6351).	6.2	
7	Species with Conservation Status	Emitter site crew members will receive training to identify sage grouse and recognize sage grouse habitat. Procedures for training emitter site crew members and inspecting ETI emitter sites is based on consultation with the IDFG and BLM.	6.2	
8	Species with Conservation Status	Establish annual monitoring of ferruginous hawk nest sites in Juniper Draw.	6.2	
9	Species with Conservation Status	Ensure that ground emitter crews limit ground emitter activities in accordance with the guidelines in Table 6.2-1.	6.2	
10	Species with Conservation Status	In the interest of interagency cooperation, the Air Force plans to develop a memorandum of understanding with the USFWS regarding management of slickspot peppergrass and its habitat on Air Force lands.	6.2	
11	Species with Conservation Status	Instruct personnel to not harass or molest burrowing owls at any time of the year. These owls may perch on fence posts and other structures.	6.2	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
12	Species with Conservation Status	Avoid Juniper nest sites for ferruginous hawks within Juniper Draw at critical times of the year.	6.2	
13	Species with Conservation Status	Minimize disturbance by ground crews on Davis' peppergrass populations by limiting off-road travel.	6.2	
14	Species with Conservation Status	Protect juniper groves. Do not drive through, cut, or otherwise damage the junipers. Groves, such as the ones found along Juniper Draw, are rare features in the desert ecosystem and are a necessary part of the environment.	6.2	
15	Species with Conservation Status	Report burrowing owl observations at Juniper Butte Range to Environmental Flight (208-828-6351). This information will help build an understanding of burrowing owl occurrence and habitat use at the range and permit adaptive management of this species and be passed on to ICDC.	6.2	
16	Species with Conservation Status	Report sage grouse observations made at any Air Force controlled site to the Base Environmental Flight and passed on to ICDC.	6.2	
17	Species with Conservation Status	The Air Force agrees to implement seasonal restrictions on the use of the sites BD, AU, AQ, ND-4 and AV in consultation with the Settlement Implementation Group (SIG) and ETI EIS cooperating agencies. Note: These restrictions were developed at the time of the Settlement Agreement. Subsequent data and consultation with IDFG and BLM have resulted in new restrictions. Restrictions are included in Table 6.2-1 of the INRMP. These restrictions will be reviewed and updated annually.	6.2	
18	Species with Conservation Status	The Air Force is committed to balance military operations with the environment and traditional land uses as set forth in the ROD, SROD, and Settlement Agreement.	6.2	
19	Species with Conservation Status	Develop a Monitoring Methodology in cooperation with the Slickspot Peppergrass Working Group.	6.2	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
20	Species with Conservation Status	The Air Force will appoint a biologist to inspect ETI emitter sites using a standardized checklist (protocol) at critical times of the year.	6.2	X
21	Species with Conservation Status	The Air Force will survey emitter sites annually to review and establish the avoidance criteria shown in Table 6.2-1 of the INRMP and will consult with IDFG and BLM through participation in the sage grouse working group to determine nesting habitat, and wintering areas.	6.2	X
22	Species with Conservation Status	Train emitter crews to identify and report Davis' peppergrass.	6.2	
23	Species with Conservation Status	If listed by the USFWS, a slickspot peppergrass conservation plan will be developed. The plan will be designed and implemented by the Air Force in cooperation with the USFWS to emphasize maintaining the Juniper Butte Range population of slickspot peppergrass. The conservation plan will help to ensure the viability of the species.	6.2	
24	Species with Conservation Status	Ground emitter crews will inspect emitter sites for sage grouse and avoid breeding sage grouse in accordance with the guidelines in Table 6.2-1 of the INRMP.	6.2	X
25	Species with Conservation Status	Emitter site crew members will report sage grouse observations at any Air Force controlled site to the Base Environmental Flight, who will pass on to IDFG. An understanding of seasonal occurrence and habitat use will help the Air Force adapt to sage grouse concerns in the area.	6.2	
1	Wetlands	The Air Force will coordinate with USACE on 404 CWA permits prior to any disturbance of potential waters of the U.S., in support of the above-stated objective.	6.3	
1	Watershed Protection	Apply fire prevention strategies (see INRMP section 6.12).	6.4	
2	Watershed Protection	Use grazing management systems to control vegetation composition and quantity on Juniper Butte. Monitor grazing for effectiveness (see INRMP section 6.9).	6.4	
3	Watershed Protection	Follow the fuel spill plan.	6.4	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
1	Fish and Wildlife Management	Requires all range personnel to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Natural Resource Manager at 208-828-6351.	6.5	
2	Fish and Wildlife Management	Avoid destroying habitat (avoid breaking sagebrush). Maintenance and operations require an assortment of activities that may affect habitat, but use care to minimize effects.	6.5	
3	Fish and Wildlife Management	Follow prescribed weed and fire management programs.	6.5	
4	Fish and Wildlife Management	Conduct off-road driving only when requirements set forth in Mountain Home AFB Instruction 32-7003 have been met.	6.5	
5	Fish and Wildlife Management	Protect Juniper Draw from human disturbance except during authorized, mission-related activities and monitoring.	6.5	
6	Fish and Wildlife Management	Complete appropriate environmental training by all range personnel. This will improve understanding of the regional ecosystem, animals present, habitat requirements, and restrictions on disturbance.	6.5	
1	Ground Maintenance and Pest Management	All pesticide and herbicide applications will be performed by a state-certified applicator in accordance with applicable state and federal laws on an as-needed basis, and no chemicals will be stored on site. Chemicals and application methods will follow the *Pest Management Plan Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho* (Air Force 1996).	6.6	X
2	Ground Maintenance and Pest Management	In addition to noxious weeds, other weed species such as cheatgrass, tumble mustard, Russian thistle, and kochia may need to be controlled to prevent fire hazards or maintenance problems.	6.6	
3	Ground Maintenance and Pest Management	Range contractors and other range personnel will be trained to identify noxious weeds and the procedure for reporting them.	6.6	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
4	Ground Maintenance and Pest Management	Range contractors will be instructed to look for noxious weeds. Noxious weed removal will be performed in accordance with Mountain Home AFB's Pest Management Plan. The Environmental Flight will coordinate with Owyhee County Weed Control (208-337-5696) on noxious weed removal plans.	6.6	
5	Ground Maintenance and Pest Management	For the greatest effectiveness, control efforts should be done in the spring and early summer, prior to the plants producing seed. Herbicide application will be carefully controlled due to the presence of slickspot peppergrass on the Juniper Butte Range. Aerial herbicide application should be avoided and application should only occur under calm wind conditions to avoid drift of spray into slickspots.	6.6	
1	Vegetation	To meet the aim of implementing ecosystem management, vegetation data will be collected on the majority of Juniper Butte Range, not just those habitats known to contain rare species. In the interest of ecosystem management, baseline vegetation data will be collected on an annual basis on the Juniper Butte Range. Long-term vegetation trends will be assessed and the management of Juniper Butte Range adjusted in accordance with the statistically and biologically significant findings of the vegetation monitoring and the mission of the range.	6.7	X
1	Outdoor Recreation and Public Access	The public will be informed of range activities by the placement of signs at all facilities.	6.8	
2	Outdoor Recreation and Public Access	The Air Force and BLM will work closely to notify the public about low-level crossings of the river canyons and periods of military training activities. Airspace scheduling is publicized on the Mountain Home AFB web page. Kiosks may be utilized at river recreation sites to inform the public of activities in the area.	Annex C	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
3	Outdoor Recreation and Public Access	The BLM and Air Force are currently preparing a Recreation Study including a visitor survey. The first phase includes a visitor survey to collect demographic data on recreation users, current levels and types of recreation use, and perceived effects of aircraft overflights on visitor experience. In addition to support funding for this study, the Air Force has committed funds to conduct a noise study.	Annex C	
1	Grazing	The Juniper Butte Range grazing system, as proposed in the component plan, will be implemented through a lease agreement between the Air Force and lessee. Monitoring the effects of the grazing system implementation is also described in the grazing Component Plan.	6.9	
2	Grazing	To ensure proper livestock management, the vegetation communities on Juniper Butte Range will be monitored using a series of permanent vegetation sampling plots. The structure of these plots and monitoring methods are described in INRMP section 6.3.1.5.	6.9	X
3	Grazing	The proposed grazing management plan is included as a component plan in Annex B.	Annex C	
4	Grazing	Decisions were made by the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior to transfer AUMs, issue grazing permits, and approve projects needed to facilitate the removal of cattle from the withdrawn acres to a new allotment. The existing permit holder has the first right of refusal for a grazing lease on the withdrawn acres.	Annex C	
1	Geographic Information System	Require that all data collection and future survey results be provided in a form compatible with ArcView®.	6.10	
2	Geographic Information System	Notify incoming key personnel in appropriate areas (i.e., range squadron or past management) of availability and usefulness of data.	6.10	
3	Geographic Information System	Refine and update all pertinent GIS databases, if new information becomes available.	6.10	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
1	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Collect wastes at regular intervals for transport to the base CCF or an approved facility (e.g., accumulation site for hazardous waste or recycling facility for solid waste). Collected waste, such as rags from cleanup, will be analyzed at Mountain Home AFB to determine as hazardous or non-hazardous and disposed of according to the Hazardous Waste Management Plan (Plan 3208).	6.11	X
2	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Conduct annual EOD cleanup to remove munitions residue. EOD will incorporate the use of all terrain vehicles (ATV) to mitigate impacts to environmental resources.	6.11	X
3	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Conduct regular target maintenance to remove target residue for recycling.	6.11	X
4	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that contractors account for all hazardous materials they propose to use and mitigation measures to minimize risk of contamination to the environment in their work plans.	6.11	
5	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Designate personnel to be responsible for hazardous waste storage areas at each generating facility. Inform and train designated personnel in the proper handling of the materials. Document training and keep in the appropriate personnel files.	6.11	
6	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Conduct EOD in a timely manner to minimize impacts to the environment.	6.11	
7	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	EOD will be conducted for the entire 12,000-acre Juniper Butte Range, including the primary target areas.	6.11	
8	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Equip all vehicles, facilities and aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) with proper Spill Response Kits.	6.11	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
9	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Follow guidelines established in the Solid Waste Management Plan for Mountain Home AFB.	6.11	
10	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Conduct EOD clearance for each pasture using trucks that remain on designated routes, and ATVs towing reinforced trailers in the unroaded areas of the range.	6.11	
11	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Manage and transport hazardous waste in accordance with applicable Air Force Regulations, RCRA, and 366th Wing requirements.	6.11	
12	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Incorporate Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) procedures, methods, and equipment to be used into the 366th Wing Disaster Readiness Plan.	6.11	
13	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that personnel who handle hazardous materials or wastes are properly trained in hazardous waste management procedures.	6.11	
14	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Use secondary containment systems, such as double walled storage containers, spill mats, and dumpsters to prevent release of hazardous materials, POL, hazardous wastes, or solid wastes to the environment.	6.11	
15	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Collect wastes and store in separated, waste-compatible and properly labeled containers. Do not combine hazardous wastes; store each in a container that is resistant to the properties of the hazardous waste (e.g., corrosive wastes should be stored in a container resistant to corrosion by the material).	6.11	
16	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Use non-explosive training ordnance, consisting of 25-pound bomb dummy unit (BDU)-33s or equivalent, on the range to minimize the amount of land and ground disturbance. Maximize use of new, recyclable targets.	6.11	X

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
17	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Use approved transport.	6.11	
18	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Conduct Environmental Audits such as Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program (ECAMP) to ensure compliance.	6.11	X
19	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that facilities handling hazardous materials or waste meet minimum federal, state and local regulations compliance standards as outlined in this document.	6.11	
20	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that each contiguous site associated with ETI generates less than 220 pounds of hazardous waste and/or less than 2.2 pounds of acute hazardous waste per calendar month in order to maintain CESQG generator compliance status.	6.11	
21	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Manage hazardous materials in accordance with applicable Air Force Regulations, OSHA, NEPA and 366th Wing requirements.	6.11	
22	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Minimize hazardous materials used and hazardous waste generated at proposed training sites.	6.11	
23	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Limit parts washers to self-contained steam cleaners.	6.11	
24	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Identify alternatives to hazardous materials.	6.11	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
25	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Contact the Installation Hazardous Waste Program Manager (Building 1297, Mountain Home AFB) if a hazardous waste accumulation point is deemed necessary at Juniper Butte for the collection and containment of any generated hazardous and solid wastes.	6.11	
26	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Secure collection containers to prevent unintentional exposure to a hazardous material by personnel. Collect and transport all hazardous wastes to the Mountain Home AFB CCF. Ensure the waste is market with an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identification number and is accompanied with all appropriate MSDS.	6.11	
27	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Manage containerized wastes in accordance with specific management practices. Identify and label all storage containers of hazardous waste and keep in a designated storage area.	6.11	
28	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure empty containers that have previously held hazardous waste meet the regulatory definition of "empty" before they are exempted from hazardous waste requirements (40 CFR 261.7).	6.11	
29	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that contractors outline their responsibilities in their contracts for the joint liability of the hazardous waste generated, in accordance with federal and state laws.	6.11	
30	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that personnel at all facilities who generate waste determine if those wastes are hazardous. Accomplish that determination through the use of MSDS, laboratory analysis, or personal knowledge. Maintain documentation in the facility records. Contact CEV for assistance, if needed.	6.11	
31	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that contractor-generated waste not directly associated with Air Force activities and maintenance is removed from the site on a daily basis. Domestic waste or hazardous substances not specifically derived from operations and maintenance procedures is the responsibility of the contractor.	6.11	

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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
32	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Manage solid waste in a manner that controls odor, prevents vector problems, and does not create an eyesore or litter problem.	6.11	
33	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Store certified collected munitions residue in dumpsters for annual removal from the range. Collect other solid wastes in designated, labeled bins for removal as needed.	6.11	
34	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Recycle training ordnance and target residue annually or when most economical.	6.11	
35	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Transport non-hazardous, solid waste products to Mountain Home AFB for recycling or disposal on a regular basis.	6.11	
36	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Separate solid wastes requiring special treatment for appropriate processing. Dispose of domestic solid waste in a permitted sanitary landfill. Collect recyclable or reusable solid wastes, including fluorescent lights, used oil, lead acid batteries, solder pills, and antifreeze, in separate containers and deliver to the base CCF for handling.	6.11	
37	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that contractors at Juniper Butte Range and associated sites are responsible for all contractor-generated solid wastes (e.g., domestic waste such as food wastes and refuse). Contractors are responsible for the removal of their solid wastes from the work site daily and will include a Solid Waste Management Plan in their Work Plan.	6.11	
38	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that new employees and contractors working at the facilities receive complete training within six months of employment with annual reviews and updates to be provided for all staff.	6.11	
39	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that contractors who work with oils or hazardous substances train their personnel in spill response and reporting procedures.	6.11	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
40	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that all personnel, including contractors, are properly trained within six months of employment to handle hazardous materials and provide initial response to a spill or release (Plan 3209-97).	6.11	
41	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	In compliance with AFI 13-212, perform EOD annually on the target areas and access road.	6.11	
42	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Conduct EOD clearance on the target areas using trucks and a front loader. Any ordnance with an intact spotting charge will be blown in place or will be taken to a designated location within the target area that protects personnel and property.	6.11	
43	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Store safe ordnance in a secure manner until recycled or disposed of according to munitions disposal regulations.	6.11	
44	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Maintenance activities include those actions necessary to ensure that facilities are in proper operating conditions.	6.11	
45	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Ensure that all personnel are capable of initial spill response and containment activities without the undue risk of personal injury. Containment and cleanup procedures are specific to the type of contaminant, quantity, and location of the release, which are detailed in the Site-Specific Contingency Plans.	6.11	
46	Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste	Spill response actions will depend on the location, area spill prevention guidelines, signs, absorbent materials, and existing conditions.	6.11	
1	Fire Management	Train personnel in wildland firefighting techniques and safety.	6.12	
2	Fire Management	Ensure that all vehicles assigned to the range are equipped with spark arrestors, shovels, and fire extinguishers.	6.12	
3	Fire Management	Coordinate with the BLM as described in section 6.12.5.	6.12	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
4	Fire Management	Ensure that trained fire personnel and equipment are present on site for immediate fire suppression during maintenance activities conducted during the fire season.	6.12	
5	Fire Management	Limit real property maintenance activities during periods of extreme fire risk.	6.12	
6	Fire Management	Park emitters on the gravel pads.	6.12	
7	Fire Management	Park maintenance vehicles only in areas clear of or with minimal vegetation (areas with vegetation less than six inches).	6.12	
8	Fire Management	Smoking is prohibited off the graveled areas and in government vehicles. Dispose of smoking materials in ash cans.	6.12	
9	Fire Management	On days with a high or greater fire hazard rating, ensure that real property (e.g., buildings, fences) maintenance is completed prior to the burning period (2 p.m.).	6.12	
10	Fire Management	Remove weeds from around all Juniper Butte targets from the start of fire season (determined by BLM) and at least once a month thereafter and more frequently if unusual weed buildup occurs. This is generally accomplished through mowing for large areas and hand-pulling for smaller areas.	6.12	
11	Fire Management	Bolt heated targets with electric elements rigidly in place inside metal targets. Ensure that they meet or exceed operation safety standards established by the National Fire Codes and published by the National Fire Protection Association.	6.12	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
12	Fire Management	The Base Fire Department Dispatch (208-828-6292) calls the Boise BLM Dispatch for a fire rating every morning at approximately 7:30 a.m. To receive the most accurate fire index rating, the Base Fire Department requests the rating be based on the Horse Butte Weather station near Juniper Butte. Both the predicted fire rating for that day and the previous day's rating are recorded. The day's activities on the range are based on the predicted rating, which is calculated during late afternoon the previous day. The predicted rating is provided at 4 p.m. each day for the next day.	6.12	
13	Fire Management	The RCO calls the Base Fire Department (208-828-6292) for the predicted fire rating at 2:45 p.m. for that day. The RCO may upgrade this rating based on observed current conditions at any time.	6.12	
14	Fire Management	Prior to work on the range, all base agencies, such as the environment office, the range squadron, and munitions shops, will call the Base Fire Department (208-828-6292) for the predicted fire rating and activity restrictions.	6.12	
15	Fire Management	A minimum of seven contract fire personnel will be on site to operate the equipment in accordance with Table 6.12-2.	6.12	X
16	Fire Management	At a minimum, contractors working on the range will be trained on fire fighting techniques. Upon renewal of the existing range contract, the Wing will consider increasing the minimum training and physical requirements.	6.12	
17	Fire Management	The RCO will close the range immediately and remain closed until firefighting operations are terminated.	6.12	
18	Fire Management	The head contractor on the range will determine when additional assistance is required to contain or control a fire on range and prevent it from spreading to adjoining lands. When in doubt call for assistance.	6.12	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
19	Fire Management	Upon immediate determination, the head contractor or RCO will call BLM. If assistance is required on the range, the head contractor or RCO will contact both the Boise Dispatch by telephone (208-384-3400) or radio frequency (163.9375 mHz) and the Mountain Home AFB Fire Chief.	6.12	
20	Fire Management	Once on site, the BLM's Incident Commander will assume control of the fire until the fire is extinguished.	6.12	
21	Fire Management	People may be withdrawn to combat higher priority fires.	6.12	
22	Fire Management	Mountain Home AFB hospital will provide medical assistance to BLM or contract personnel when emergency action is required. The BLM is responsible for coordinating transportation for the injured party.	6.12	
23	Fire Management	Firelines will be plowed only at the discretion of the BLM Incident Commander.	6.12	X
24	Fire Management	If fire assistance is requested by the Air Force or its contractors, the BLM will have full access to Juniper Butte Range.	6.12	
25	Fire Management	All aircraft called in to assist with fire suppression must request air space clearance through Mountain Home AFB Command Post and radar approach control (RAPCON) at 208-828-5800.	6.12	
26	Fire Management	At the ignition or suspicion of a fire on or near the emitter or no-drop target areas, personnel will notify the Boise Dispatch by telephone (208-384-3400) or radio frequency (163.9375 mHz) and the Mountain Home AFB Fire Chief.	6.12	
27	Fire Management	Personnel will contain the fire with shovels or fire extinguishers, if possible; however, safety first.	6.12	
28	Fire Management	If the fire cannot be immediately extinguished, personnel will withdraw to a safe location and request assistance from BLM.	6.12	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
29	Fire Management	When additional assistance is required to extinguish a fire on range and prevent it from spreading to adjoining land, personnel will contact both the Boise Dispatch by telephone (208-384-3400) or radio frequency (163.9375 mHz) and the Mountain Home AFB Fire Chief.	6.12	
1	Coordination and Public Involvement	The Air Force will continue to meet, on a regular basis, with the affected Tribes to fulfill the Air Force's commitment to government-to-government consultation. The Air Force and Tribes will decide when the meetings will take place.	Annex C	
2	Coordination and Public Involvement	The Air Force will meet with cooperating agencies on a semiannual basis to address the needs and expectations of managers, and to identify and seek funding as necessary for management and mitigation measures. Meeting times will be decided by the Air Force, BLM, and State of Idaho.	Annex C	
3	Coordination and Public Involvement	The Air Force will meet with the BLM to discuss and resolve the five additional issue areas. Meetings will be held at least semiannually, with meeting times decided by the Air Force and the BLM. This cooperation will involve the withdrawal of public lands, modification of airspace, implementation of mitigation measures, and protection of species of concern.	Annex C	
4	Coordination and Public Involvement	The Air Force will host semi-annual meetings of ETI-interested parties to discuss issues, problems, and concerns for the purpose of seeking resolutions. The Air Force will coordinate the meeting times. Public involvement will be solicited through media channels.	Annex C	
5	Coordination and Public Involvement	The SIG will meet at least three times per year to discuss, and attempt to resolve, environmental, conservation, and natural and cultural resource management issues arising from military operations and facilities development. An initial organizational meeting was held January 27, 2000. The SIG will decide meeting times and the agenda. Public participation will be solicited through news releases.	Annex C	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
6	Coordination and Public Involvement	The Air Force will broaden the scope of the NRC and will propose a charter to define NRC interaction with other entities. Agenda topics for future NRC meetings will include sage grouse and aircraft overflights.	Annex C	
7	Coordination and Public Involvement	The Air Force will solicit SIG concerns about the ETI project and collaborate with BLM prior to the budget cycle.	Annex C	
8	Coordination and Public Involvement	The Air Force will seek funding for NRC identified ecoregional initiatives in cooperation with other agencies.	Annex C	
1	Seasonal Overflight and Avoidance	The Airspace Manager continually updates the airspace changes and restrictions and maintains and makes available this information for the aircrews. Aircrews are briefed extensively before all flying missions. All regulations, airspace restrictions, and compliance issues identified in the ROD will be outlined to aircrews during these briefings and are expected to be followed as part of the training missions.	Annex C	
2	Seasonal Overflight and Avoidance	The Air Force usually does not fly on weekends associated with Memorial Day, Labor Day, and 4th of July holidays. Mountain Home AFB will not train in the airspace during these weekends except when there are compelling national security issues.	Annex C	
3	Seasonal Overflight and Avoidance	Mountain Home AFB will make available to the public the airspace restrictions and airspace scheduling on its web page. All complaints are to be directed to the Public Affairs Office 208-828-6800, and will be logged, researched, and responded to by the Public Affairs Office. The Public Affairs Office Point of Contact (POC) and phone number will be included on the web page.	Annex C	
4	Seasonal Overflight and Avoidance	Aircrews are briefed extensively before flying missions. All regulations, airspace restrictions, and compliance issues identified in the SROD will be outlined to aircrews and are expected to be followed as part of the training missions. The Airspace Manager continually updates the airspace changes and restrictions and maintains and makes available this information for the aircrews.	Annex C	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
5	Seasonal Overflight and Avoidance	Scheduling for off-station training and deployments is at the discretion of Air Combat Command (ACC). ACC will decide when off-station training will occur. ACC will make a good faith effort to schedule the 366th Wing for off-station training or deployments during April, May, and June.	Annex C	
1	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	Eagle-safe utility poles (Idaho Power design) and wildlife-safe fencing (BLM recommended) are stipulated in the site plan designs and incorporated into the construction process by the contractors.	Annex C	
2	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	The contractor will provide on-site monitoring of slickspot peppergrass and slickspot peppergrass habitat during construction thus insuring that the minimum amount of habitat is destroyed during construction. The number of slickspots and number of plants lost to placement of site facilities should be documented. In addition, the contractor should flag all sites that are on the periphery of the construction site to reduce construction impacts outside the ROW.	Annex C	X
3	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	Construction activity prohibited from February 15 to June 30 to avoid disturbance of breeding/nesting/brooding sage grouse (refer to INRMP Annex C, Table 4.3-1).	Annex C	
4	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	Construction activity prohibited from March 15 to May 31 to avoid sage grouse/wildlife disturbance (refer to INRMP Annex C, Table 4.3-1).	Annex C	
5	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	Construction activity prohibited from December 1 to May 31 to avoid sage grouse/wildlife disturbance (refer to INRMP Annex C, Table 4.3-1).	Annex C	
6	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	To avoid disturbance of wintering sage grouse, construction activity is prohibited from December 1 to February 15 (refer to INRMP Annex C, Table 4.3-1).	Annex C	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
7	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	Maintain native habitat at no-drop sites. Where possible, situate facilities so as to reduce destruction of native vegetation.	Annex C	
8	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	The contractor will affix bird spikes to buildings at ND-4 to discourage perching by raptors.	Annex C	
9	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	If unanticipated cultural discoveries are made during construction, construction activities will cease in the affected area and would not resume until instructed by the contracting officer. The contractor's representative will notify the Air Force environmental officer. The Air Force official would then notify a qualified permitted archeologist for a consultation. If the site is significant, e.g., human burial site, the archeologist will contact the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for further consultation.	Annex C	
10	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	The contractor will have all personnel trained in the use of fire suppression equipment at construction sites.	Annex C	
11	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	All vehicles entering construction areas will carry fire extinguishers and shovels.	Annex C	
12	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	Contractors will minimize disturbance to native vegetation and use erosion control measures (e.g., water conveyance, energy dissipation structures) and sediment retention measures (e.g., basins, tarps, and barriers) to minimize exposure and movement of soil to reduce impacts resulting from wind or water erosion at construction sites. Thus, reducing the possibility of the establishment of undesirable non-native plants.	Annex C	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
13	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	To reduce the establishment of undesirable non-native plants, the contractor will re-seed areas of exposed soil after construction with a seed mixture approved by Bureau of Land Management botanists.	Annex C	X
14	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	To minimize disturbance to native vegetation the contractor will utilize existing roads in the rights-of-way if present. The contractor will restrict all vehicle and construction equipment to existing roadways.	Annex C	
15	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	The contractor will restrict movement of construction equipment, staging areas, and materials storage to within the boundaries of the surveyed rights-of-ways. The contractor will not work outside the existing (ROW's).	Annex C	
16	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	The Air Force selected dispersed locations for electronic emitters.	Annex C	
17	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	These items are stipulated in the site plan designs and incorporated into the construction by contractors.	Annex C	
18	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Construction	The Air Force is currently consulting with the parties to approve a new ND-8 site (now known as ND-9). Biological, cultural, and other surveys are being done for the selected site.	Annex C	
19	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites -- Construction	Selective and generic mitigation measures for Phase II and III construction are listed in Annex C, Table 4.3-1. These have been stipulated in construction contracts.	Annex C	
20	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Operations	The Air Force is executing this agreement with Owyhee County and the Three Creek Good Roads District in accordance with the terms of the ROD.	Annex C	
21	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Operations	NHPA Section 106 compliance at Clover Creek Crossing, including consultation with the SHPO and Tribes, has been completed.	Annex C	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
22	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Operations	Surveys are complete. Selective mitigation measures for construction at Clover Creek Crossing were developed. These are stipulated in construction contracts.	Annex C	
23	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Operations	As an agenda item at SIG meetings, the Air Force will develop protocols for the use of emitter and no-drop sites with public and SIG participation.	Annex C	
24	Emitter Sites and No-Drop Target Sites – Operations	ND-8 is being relocated and renamed ND-9. Seasonal restrictions for ground personnel use on sites AU, AQ, BD, and ND-4 are being developed by the Air Force, BLM, and IDFG. Consultation regarding the implementation of seasonal restrictions will be conducted annually with the SIG and cooperating agencies.	Annex C	
1	Sage Grouse	The Air Force has developed a Natural Resource Training module specific to ETI and currently provides training for all construction and ground personnel. Crews are trained to identify sage grouse and report any sightings to the Base Environmental Office at 208-828-6351. The Air Force will work collaboratively with the other agencies to develop annual site inspection criteria and avoidance criteria in areas of ground personnel use and construction.	Annex C	
2	Sage Grouse	The Air Force has funded work in FY 98 to gather sage grouse data.	Annex C	
3	Sage Grouse	The Air Force will continue to attend the sage grouse working group meetings.	Annex C	
4	Sage Grouse	Monitoring in areas of potential ETI impacts to sage grouse is ongoing and is described in the INRMP.	Annex C	
5	Sage Grouse	The Air Force is developing a proposal to restore 25 acres of sage grouse habitat in collaboration with BLM (a SIG member), IDFG, GOLD (a SIG member), and the public. The 25-acre restoration will be a topic of discussion at future SIG and agency meetings.	Annex C	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
1	Slickspot Peppergrass	The Air Force's construction contract contains provisions to avoid or minimize impacts to slickspot peppergrass. Contract mitigation measures are listed in Table 4.3-1. Mitigation and monitoring measures developed through a slickspot peppergrass working group in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be incorporated into a slickspot peppergrass conservation plan.	Annex C	
1	California Bighorn Sheep	The Air Force funded work in FY 98 to gather bighorn sheep data.	Annex C	
2	California Bighorn Sheep	To avoid or minimize impacts to bighorn sheep, the Air Force will meet with IDFG and BLM to review research, deliverables received, and results of previous fiscal year's efforts. Mountain Home AFB has consulted with IDFG since 1995 on critical lambing areas and abides by seasonal avoidance protocol based on yearly consultation with IDFG.	Annex C	
3	California Bighorn Sheep	Aircrews are briefed extensively before flying missions. All regulations, airspace restrictions, and compliance issues identified in the Settlement Agreement will be outlined to aircrews and followed as part of training missions. The Airspace Manager continually updates the airspace changes and restrictions and maintains and makes this information available for the aircrews.	Annex C	
4	California Bighorn Sheep	Monitoring in areas of potential ETI impacts to bighorn sheep is ongoing.	Annex C	
1	Cultural Resources	The Air Force will continue to meet, on a regular basis, with the affected Tribes to fulfill the Air Force's commitment to government-to-government consultation. The Air Force and Tribes will decide when the meetings will take place.	Annex C	

Table A-1. Categorized Management Strategies by Resource
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Strategy Number	*Resource*	*Management Strategy*	*INRMP Section*	*Potential for Disturbance*
2	Cultural Resources	Mitigation and monitoring plans will be addressed in the Cultural Resources Management Plan as part of the INRMP. The Air Force, BLM, and Tribes will set meeting times to discuss development of procedures to protect cultural resources. This process is ongoing. The MOA was developed and signed.	Annex C	
1	Fire, Chaff, and Flares	Flare use is per Wing training instructions and are discussed in section 6.12 of the INRMP.	Annex C	
2	Fire, Chaff, and Flares	Chaff was one of the five unresolved areas of BLM concern that the Air Force agreed to continue discussing with BLM. Air Force and BLM will continue to discuss this issue and will specifically address the five areas as part of the MOA between the Air Force and the cooperating agencies.	Annex C	
3	Fire, Chaff, and Flares	Fire potential is reduced by using "cold spot" or "no spot" training ordnance and no-drop target areas. As the principal wildland fire suppression force in the area, the BLM will supply fire suppression for the Juniper Butte Range. A support agreement has been in place for many years for the Saylor Creek Range, and was updated to include Juniper Butte Range.	Annex C	
4	Fire, Chaff, and Flares	The Air Force is accountable for fires attributed to Air Force activities. Rehabilitation goals are included in Annex B of the INRMP.	Annex C	
1	Noise	The Air Force is currently compiling a list of qualified noise experts to present to the SIG and will continue to work with the SIG to define and implement the noise study.	Annex C	

Table A-2. Categorized Component Plan Projects by Resource

Project Number	*Resource*	*Component Plan*	*Project*	*Potential for Disturbance*
1	Species with Conservation Status - Slickspot Peppergrass	Threatened and Endangered Species	Conservation Plan Development	
2	Species with Conservation Status - Sage Grouse	Fish and Wildlife Management	Site Inspection for Sage Grouse Use of Remote Sites and Environs	X
3	Species with Conservation Status - Sage Grouse	Fish and Wildlife Management	Sage Grouse Lek Surveys	X
4	Species with Conservation Status - Sage Grouse	Fish and Wildlife Management	Sage Grouse Habitat Use	X
5	Species with Conservation Status - Bighorn Sheep	Fish and Wildlife Management	Bighorn Sheep Population Monitoring	X
1	Wetlands	Fish and Wildlife Management	Long Term Tracking of Biological Diversity within the Juniper Butte Range	
1	Fish and Wildlife Management	Fish and Wildlife Management	Monitoring Wildlife use of Juniper Butte Range and Remote Sites	X
2	Fish and Wildlife Management	Fish and Wildlife Management	Long Term Tracking of Biological Diversity within the Juniper Butte Range	
1	Ground Maintenance and Pest Management	Vegetation	Noxious Weed Identification and Control	X
1	Vegetation	Fish and Wildlife Management	Long Term Tracking of Biological Diversity within the Juniper Butte Range	
2	Vegetation	Vegetation	Long-Term Monitoring of Vegetation Habitats at Juniper Butte Range	X
3	Vegetation	Vegetation	Rehabilitation After Fire/Fuel Build-Up Prevention Methodology	X
1	Grazing Outleasing	Grazing[1]	Grazing System at Juniper Butte Range	
2	Grazing Outleasing	Grazing[1]	Utilization Monitoring	
3	Grazing Outleasing	Grazing[1]	Determination of Turn in Dates	
1	Geographic Information Systems	Geographic Information Systems	Data Dictionary	
1	Fire Management	Vegetation	Rehabilitation After Fire/Fuel Build-Up Prevention Methodology	X

Note: 1. Additional environmental analysis will be performed.