

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|------|
| 1.0 Introduction..... | 1-1 |
| 1.1 RMP Program and Policy..... | 1-1 |
| 1.2 Purpose and Scope of the Plan | 1-1 |
| 1.3 Location and Description of the RMP Study Area..... | 1-2 |
| 1.4 Project Summary | 1-4 |
| 1.5 Overview of Public Involvement, Agency, and Tribal Coordination | 1-4 |
| 2.0 Existing Conditions..... | 2-1 |
| 2.1 Natural Resources..... | 2-1 |
| 2.1.1 Climate and Air Quality | 2-1 |
| 2.1.2 Topography and Geology | 2-1 |
| 2.1.3 Soils | 2-2 |
| 2.1.4 Hydrology, Water Resources, Water Quality, and Contaminants..... | 2-5 |
| 2.1.5 Vegetation | 2-7 |
| 2.1.6 Wildlife Resources | 2-16 |
| 2.1.7 Aquatic Biology | 2-21 |
| 2.1.8 Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) Species | 2-23 |
| 2.2 Visual Resources | 2-25 |
| 2.3 Noise..... | 2-27 |
| 2.4 Cultural Resources | 2-27 |
| 2.5 Sacred Sites | 2-29 |
| 2.6 Indian Trust Assets | 2-30 |
| 2.7 Socioeconomics | 2-31 |
| 2.7.1 Demographic Profile | 2-31 |
| 2.7.2 Economic Setting | 2-32 |
| 3.0 Existing Land Use and Management | 3-1 |
| 3.1 Land Use and Management | 3-1 |
| 3.1.1 Project Facilities and General Operations | 3-1 |
| 3.1.2 History & Overview | 3-2 |
| 3.1.3 General Land Use Patterns | 3-3 |
| 3.1.4 Easements, Leases, Other Agreements, Contracts, and Permits | 3-4 |
| 3.2 Public Facilities, Utilities, and Services | 3-10 |
| 3.2.1 Electrical..... | 3-10 |
| 3.2.2 Potable Water | 3-10 |
| 3.2.3 Wastewater | 3-10 |
| 3.2.4 Solid Waste..... | 3-11 |
| 3.2.5 Fire Protection, Emergency Services, and Law Enforcement | 3-11 |
| 3.3 Recreation | 3-13 |
| 3.3.1 Recreation Facilities | 3-14 |
| 3.3.2 Undeveloped Recreation Sites | 3-20 |
| 3.3.3 Visitor Origin and Activities | 3-21 |
| 3.3.4 Current Recreation Activities | 3-22 |
| 3.3.5 Recreation Management..... | 3-25 |
| 3.4 Transportation & Access | 3-25 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS (cont.)

| | |
|---|------|
| 3.4.1 Major Arterials | 3-25 |
| 3.4.2 Local Roads..... | 3-26 |
| 3.4.3 Parking..... | 3-27 |
| 3.4.4 Trails..... | 3-27 |
| 3.4.5 Lake/Boat Access | 3-28 |
| 3.4.6 Disability Access..... | 3-28 |
| 4.0 The RMP Planning Process | 4-1 |
| 4.1 Overview | 4-1 |
| 4.2 Public Involvement Program..... | 4-2 |
| 4.2.1 Newsbriefs..... | 4-3 |
| 4.2.2 Public Meetings..... | 4-3 |
| 4.2.3 Ad Hoc Work Group | 4-3 |
| 4.2.4 World Wide Web..... | 4-4 |
| 4.3 Tribal Consultation | 4-4 |
| 4.3.1 Overview of Government-to-Government Consultation with Tribes | 4-4 |
| 4.3.2 National Historic Preservation Act Requirements | 4-5 |
| 4.3.3 Indian Trust Assets..... | 4-5 |
| 4.3.4 Sacred Sites | 4-5 |
| 4.3.5 Other Laws and Regulations | 4-5 |
| 4.4 Agency Coordination..... | 4-6 |
| 5.0 Resource Management..... | 5-1 |
| 5.1 Introduction | 5-1 |
| 5.2 Goals, Objectives, and Management Actions..... | 5-1 |
| 5.2.1 Natural Resources (NAT)..... | 5-1 |
| 5.2.2 Cultural Resources (CUL)..... | 5-14 |
| 5.2.3 Indian Sacred Sites (ISS)..... | 5-16 |
| 5.2.4 Indian Trust Assets (ITA)..... | 5-17 |
| 5.2.5 Recreation and Access (REC) | 5-17 |
| 5.2.6 Land Use, Management, and Implementation (LMI)..... | 5-25 |
| 6.0 Implementation Program | 6-1 |
| 6.1 Introduction | 6-1 |
| 6.2 Implementation Components..... | 6-1 |
| 6.2.1 Management Actions..... | 6-1 |
| 6.2.2 Prioritization..... | 6-1 |
| 6.2.3 Related Management Actions | 6-2 |
| 6.2.4 Timing and Sequencing..... | 6-2 |
| 6.2.5 Lead Agency..... | 6-2 |
| 6.2.6 Funding..... | 6-2 |
| 6.2.7 Monitoring..... | 6-2 |
| 6.3 Amending and Updating the RMP | 6-2 |
| 6.3.1 Amending Information in the RMP | 6-2 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS (cont.)

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 6.3.2 Updating the RMP | 6-2 |
| 7.0 Glossary of Terms..... | 7-1 |
| 8.0 Bibliography | 8-1 |
| 8.1 Literature Cited..... | 8-1 |
| 8.2 Personal Communications | 8-4 |
| 8.3 Internet Sources | 8-5 |
| 8.4 Reclamation Contracts..... | 8-5 |

APPENDICES

Appendix A Agency Consultation/Coordination

Appendix B Legal Mandates

Appendix C Problem Statement

LIST OF TABLES

| | |
|---|------|
| Table 2.1-1. Precipitation summary (inches)..... | 2-1 |
| Table 2.1-2. Observation wells and water depth (feet)..... | 2-7 |
| Table 2.1-3. Occurrence of vegetation species in the RMP study area | 2-8 |
| Table 2.1-4. Noxious weeds found within the RMP study area | 2-14 |
| Table 2.1-5. Gem County species of concern | 2-15 |
| Table 2.1-6. Montour Wildlife Management Area rare plant communities | 2-17 |
| Table 2.1-7. Species of bats considered sensitive by the BLM that likely occur in the RMP study area | 2-21 |
| Table 2.7-1. Gem County and State of Idaho age distribution | 2-31 |
| Table 2.7-2. U.S. Census Bureau state population projection | 2-32 |
| Table 2.7-3. County and state population projections | 2-32 |
| Table 3.1-1. Project specifications..... | 3-2 |
| Table 3.3-1. Facility locations and access at Black Canyon Reservoir and Montour WMA..... | 3-15 |
| Table 3.3-2. Origin of visitors to Black Canyon Park | 3-21 |
| Table 3.3-3. Activities participated in at Black Canyon Park..... | 3-22 |
| Table 3.4-1. Motor vehicle accidents in the vicinity of Black Canyon Reservoir..... | 3-27 |
| Table 4.1-1. Primary issues of concern identified during the initial RMP phase, based on public input..... | 4-2 |
| Table 4.2-1. Ad Hoc Work Group | 4-4 |
| Table 5.2-1. Proposed recreation and access-related activities at Black Canyon Reservoir & Montour WMA | 5-19 |
| Table 6.1-1. Management Actions for Natural Resources (NAT)..... | 6-3 |
| Table 6.1-2. Management Actions for Cultural Resources (CUL)..... | 6-9 |
| Table 6.1-3. Management Actions for Indian Sacred Sties (ISS)..... | 6-11 |
| Table 6.1-4. Management Actions for Indian Trust Assets (ITAs) | 6-11 |
| Table 6.1-5. Management Actions for Recreation and Access (REC) | 6-12 |
| Table 6.1-6. Management Actions for Land Use, Management, and Implementation (LMI)..... | 6-17 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| | |
|---|------|
| Figure 1.3-1. The RMP study area..... | 1-3 |
| Figure 2.1-1. Slope and Hydrography..... | 2-3 |
| Figure 2.1-2. Vegetation Associations..... | 2-11 |
| Figure 3.1-1. Land Status and Management | 3-5 |
| Figure 4.1-1. RMP planning process and RMP schedule | 4-1 |
| Figure 5.2-1. Black Canyon Reservoir & Montour WMA RMP Actions Related to Black Canyon Reservoir..... | 5-3 |
| Figure 5.2-2. Black Canyon Reservoir & Montour WMA RMP Actions Related to Montour WMA Land Status/Use..... | 5-5 |
| Figure 5.2-3. Black Canyon Reservoir & Montour WMA RMP Actions Related to Land Cover and Wetlands | 5-7 |

LIST OF PHOTOS

| | |
|--|------|
| Photo 1-1. Aerial view of Black Canyon Dam, powerplant, and operation facilities, with the reservoir above and Payette River below the dam..... | 1-3 |
| Photo 1-2. Black Canyon Dam and adjacent powerplant..... | 1-4 |
| Photo 2-1. View of the reservoir, Triangle Park, and surrounding hills looking west as seen from the south side of the reservoir..... | 2-2 |
| Photo 2-2. Panorama of Montour WMA with Regan Butte seen on the far left side of the photo..... | 2-2 |
| Photo 2-3. Confluence of Squaw Creek and the reservoir with rising sediment loads seen in the reservoir..... | 2-5 |
| Photo 2-4. Riprap along the south side of Black Canyon Park..... | 2-6 |
| Photo 2-5. Dense areas of riparian vegetation can be seen adjacent to the Payette River as it meanders through the WMA. Upland shrub-steppe vegetation appears in the foreground and on Regan Butte in the distance..... | 2-9 |
| Photo 2-6. Maintained grass and shade trees at Wild Rose Park..... | 2-10 |
| Photo 2-7. Cattails and other wetland species as seen in one of the WMA ponds..... | 2-10 |
| Photo 2-8. Constructed wetland on previously farmed land in the WMA surrounded mainly by reed canarygrass..... | 2-13 |
| Photo 2-9. Educational sign on weeds located at one of the highway boat ramps | 2-14 |
| Photo 2-10. Hawk perched on a power pole in Montour WMA..... | 2-18 |
| Photo 2-11. Canada geese and other waterfowl in the WMA wetlands/ponds..... | 2-18 |
| Photo 2-12. Goose on a nest box in the WMA | 2-19 |
| Photo 2-13. Ring-necked pheasant | 2-19 |
| Photo 2-14. View of the reservoir, Black Canyon Park, and the surrounding landscape | 2-25 |
| Photo 2-15. View of Montour WMA and the surrounding landscape..... | 2-25 |
| Photo 2-16. View of the reservoir and beyond from Triangle Park..... | 2-26 |
| Photo 3-1. Black Canyon Dam, powerhouse, and operations facility | 3-2 |
| Photo 3-2. Panorama of Black Canyon Park | 3-15 |
| Photo 3-3. One of the two group picnic shelters at Black Canyon Park..... | 3-16 |
| Photo 3-4. The Black Canyon Park beach/swimming area is one of the more popular locations (July 4th weekend, 2003) | 3-16 |
| Photo 3-5. Competition for picnic space was high at Black Canyon Park during the July 4th weekend, 2003..... | 3-16 |
| Photo 3-6. Park staff having to close the gate and turn away vehicles during the 4th of July weekend at Black Canyon Park. | 3-17 |
| Photo 3-7. Cars lined up along Highway 52 adjacent to Black Canyon Park | 3-17 |
| Photo 3-8. Cars fill up one of the Highway County boat ramp parking areas..... | 3-17 |
| Photo 3-9. Cobblestone Park offers shady picnic sites | 3-17 |
| Photo 3-10. Idaho Department of Lands property adjacent to Cobblestone Park is used primarily by river anglers..... | 3-18 |
| Photo 3-11. Wild Rose Park and adjacent Payette River just downstream of Black Canyon Dam..... | 3-18 |

LIST OF PHOTOS (Cont.)

| | |
|---|------|
| Photo 3-12. Group picnic shelter at Wild Rose Park | 3-18 |
| Photo 3-13. View of Triangle Park, adjacent Black Canyon Reservoir, and surrounding landscape | 3-19 |
| Photo 3-14. Grassy picnic area and restroom facility at Triangle Park | 3-19 |
| Photo 3-15. Campsite at Montour Campground | 3-20 |
| Photo 3-16. Highway County Boat Ramp #1 | 3-21 |
| Photo 3-17. Water-skiing and wake-boarding are very popular activities on Black Canyon Reservoir..... | 3-23 |
| Photo 3-18. One of several day use docks on the reservoir..... | 3-23 |
| Photo 3-19. Picnicking and swimming at Black Canyon Park. | 3-23 |
| Photo 3-20. Camping at Montour Campground. | 3-24 |
| Photo 3-21. Montour WMA offers good hunting opportunities..... | 3-24 |
| Photo 4-1. The AHWG provides input on issues and opportunities at the first meeting | 4-4 |
| Photo 4-2. During the site visit, the AHWG talks over issues at Cobblestone Park | 4-5 |
| Photo 4-3. The AHWG discussing concerns related to the Highway County boat ramps | 4-5 |
| Photo 4-4. While visiting Montour WMA, the AHWG walks out to investigate a constructed wetland. Regan Butte seen in the background..... | 4-6 |

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-------|--|
| amsl | above mean sea level |
| ADT | Average Daily Trip Count |
| AHWG | Ad Hoc Work Group |
| AUM | Animal Unit Month |
| B.P. | Before present |
| BLM | Bureau of Land Management |
| BMP | Best Management Practice |
| BPA | Bonneville Power Administration |
| CDC | Conservation Data Center |
| CFR | Code of Federal Regulations |
| CHSU | Critical Habitat Subunit |
| CWMA | Upper Payette Coordinated Weed Management Area |
| EA | Environmental Assessment |
| EO | Executive Order |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| ESA | Endangered Species Act |
| FAIR | Federation for American Immigration Reform |
| FERC | Federal Energy Regulatory Commission |
| FONSI | Finding of No Significant Impact |
| FWS | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| I-84 | Interstate 84 |
| ICS | Incident Command System |
| IDAPA | Idaho Administrative Procedures Act |
| IDEQ | Idaho Department of Environmental Quality |
| IDFG | Idaho Department of Fish and Game |
| IDL | Idaho Department of Lands |
| IDPR | Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation |
| IDWR | Idaho Department of Water Resources |

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (cont.)

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| IPM Plan | Integrated Pest Management Plan |
| ITAs | Indian Trust Assets |
| ITD | Idaho Transportation Department |
| kW | kilowatt |
| MBT Conventions | Four Migratory Bird Treaties to which the United States is a signatory |
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| NAGPRA | Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act |
| National Register | National Register of Historic Places |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act |
| NHPA | National Historic Preservation Act |
| NPDES | National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System |
| NRCS | Natural Resource Conservation Service |
| ORV | off-road vehicle |
| PN | Pacific Northwest |
| PWC | personal watercraft |
| Reclamation | U.S. Bureau of Reclamation |
| RMP | Resource Management Plan |
| ROW | right-of-way |
| RV | Recreational vehicle |
| SHPO | State Historic Preservation Office |
| SRAO | Reclamation's Snake River Area Office |
| TCP | Traditional cultural property |
| TMDL | Total Maximum Daily Load |
| USACE | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
| USC | United States Code |
| USFS | U.S. Forest Service |
| WMA | Wildlife Management Area |