

# Staff Report to the Western Weber Planning Commission

Weber County Planning Division

# **Synopsis**

## **Application Information**

**Application Request:** To consider and take action on GP 2018-04, a request to amend the

General Plan's County Resource Management Plan related to forest firefighting management of roadless areas on Forest Service Land.

Staff Report Date October 3, 2018

Agenda Date: Tuesday, October 09, 2018

**Applicant:** Weber County **File Number:** GP #2018-04

### **Property Information**

Approximate Address: Forest Service Land

Project Area: NA
Zoning: F-40
Existing Land Use: Forest
Proposed Land Use: NA

#### **Staff Information**

Report Presenter: Charles Ewert

cewert@webercountyutah.gov

801-399-8763

Report Reviewer: RG

### **Applicable Ordinances**

§102-2-4 – Powers and Duties of the Planning Commission

### Summary

The Forest Service has a rule that restricts building new roads on most forest service land. This restriction can make it difficult to effectively manage the health of a forest. One emerging concern is the risk of catastrophic wildfires. Historically, forest health has been dominantly maintained naturally through periodic wildfire purges. Human-caused suppression of wildfires has led to an unnatural level of under-growth and dead vegetation. These fuels create bigger and hotter wildfires that threaten our ability to effectively firefight.

A solution that the State of Utah hopes to employ is better management-access to forested areas. Better access can enable heavier equipment to be used to clear out dead timber. The State is not looking for unregulated road building in these roadless areas, but rather the ability to build a road for forest management purposes, and in most cases, remove and reclaim the road in a natural state.

In order to do this the state has to lobby for a rule change that create a specific rule applicable to the State of Utah. The state is following in the footsteps of Idaho and Colorado, who both have unique roadless rules applicable to their states. The state's current roadless rule draft is attached as Exhibit A.

The state is asking the counties to amend their resource management plans in a manner that offers a local-recommendation for roadless designations in accordance with their draft rule. For this reason, this general plan amendment is being proposed for your consideration.

Staff is recommending approval. Based on recent feedback from the communities in Western Weber, staff are also proposing an amendment to the resource management plan's trails plan to add a couple more planned trails in the western weber area.

## **Legislative Decisions**

When the Planning Commission is acting as a recommending body to the County Commission, it is acting in a legislative capacity and has wide discretion. Examples of legislative actions are general plan, zoning map, and land use code amendments. Legislative actions require that the Planning Commission give a recommendation to the County Commission. For this circumstance, criteria for recommendations in a legislative matter require compatibility with the general plan and existing ordinances.

# Planning Commission Considerations

The state is has drafted a proposed rule amendment to the Forest Service's roadless rule. The draft is attached as Exhibit A. Please take a moment to review it as part of this report. In it you will see that the state is requesting the following four categories:

- 1. Primitive areas (most restrictive for road building)
- 2. Forest restoration
- 3. Forest stewardship
- 4. Re-inventory or boundary adjustment

Staff are recommending that the areas affected by the Western Weber County Resource Management Plan are categorized as "forest restoration" areas. This recommendation also comes with a caveat that the roadless rule should not restrict the development of ski resorts in the event the county decides to permit them in the future. This designation can be seen in the map included in this report as Exhibit D. This map is a new map being proposed to be included in the resource management plan.

To complement this map, staff are also proposing the text changes shown in Exhibit C. The pages referenced in this proposed change are pages from the current Western Weber County Resource Management Plan. Those existing pages are shown as excerpts in Exhibit B for your reference.

In addition to this change, staff are also proposing an amendment to the County's Western Weber Trails Plan map, which is a part of the County Resource Management Plan. In this amendment, staff are suggesting to add multi-use trails (10-foot paved pathways) adjacent to the following street infrastructure and waterways:

- Weber River
- Wilson Canal
- Hooper Canal
- 3500 West
- 1800 South
- 2550 South
- 3300 South

The addition of these trails on this plan will enable the County to start allocating impact fees for construction purposes, and pursue other funding opportunities. The planning commission should review the map and consider whether the trails are appropriate.

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission forward a positive recommendation to the County Commission regarding File #GP 2018-04, a request to amend the General Plan's County Resource Management Plan related to forest firefighting management of roadless areas on Forest Service Land. This recommendation comes with the following findings:

- That the amendment will offer necessary forest management guidance for the State and Federal Government.
- 2. That the county supports the state's efforts to better manage public lands.
- 3. That street-adjacent and waterway-adjacent trails/pathways have significant public support.
- 4. That the changes are in the best interest of the public.

# **Exhibit**

Exhibit A: Utah Roadless Rule Petition [DRAFT].

Exhibit B: Affected excepts from current County Resource Management Plan.

Exhibit C: Proposed text amendment to the County Resource Management Plan.

Exhibit D: Proposed map addition to the County Resource Management Plan: Roadless Area Forest Management Categories.

Exhibit E: Proposed amended trail map of the County Resource Management Plan.

# <u>Utah Roadless Rule Petition</u> Proposed Management Area Categories

# **Management Areas – Most Restrictive to Least Restrictive**

- 1. Primitive Areas
- 2. Forest Restoration Areas
- 3. Forest Stewardship Areas
- 4. Boundary Adjustment/Re-Inventory Areas

# **Brief Summary of Management Areas**

# 1. Primitive Areas – follows existing management

a. Primitive Areas represent the same management that currently occurs in Roadless Areas under the 2001 Roadless Rule, 36 C.F.R. § 294. Road construction and reconstruction will be prohibited, except under certain circumstances such as when needed to protect public health and safety in cases of an imminent threat of flood or fire. The cutting, sale, or removal of timber will be prohibited except in special circumstances, such as reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects. Timber cut, sold, or removed under these exceptions will generally be small diameter. Road construction/reconstruction to facilitate mining activities is prohibited (beyond valid existing rights). Public motorized travel limited to routes designated by Forest Travel Plan.

# 2. Forest Restoration Areas – moderate flexibility

a. Preference toward temporary road construction with mitigation, commercial timber harvest allowed for forest health reasons only, temporary road construction/reconstruction to facilitate permitted mining activities is allowed. Public motorized travel limited to routes designated by Forest Travel Plan.

# 3. Forest Stewardship Areas – high flexibility

a. Permanent road construction is allowed (although temporary roads are preferred) full range of silviculture techniques allowed road construction/reconstruction to facilitate permitted mining activities allowed. Public motorized travel limited to routes designated by Forest Travel Plan.

# 4. Boundary Adjustment/Re-Inventory Areas

a. These areas should either have boundaries adjusted or be removed entirely from the Roadless Rule due to high presence of roads, motorized trails, energy infrastructure, and other features that disrupt roadless values. Also may include some areas that are smaller than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size threshold for Roadless Areas under the 2001 Roadless Rule.

# **Comparison Table of Suitable Uses in Management Areas**

Suitable Use/Activity	Primitive Area	Forest Restoration Area	Forest Stewardship Area	Re-Inventory/ Boundary Adjustment Area
Fire	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>3</sup>	
Management				
Forest Health	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>6</sup>	
Timber Cutting	No <sup>7</sup>	No <sup>8</sup>	Yes <sup>9</sup>	
Grazing	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Motorized Travel	Yes <sup>10</sup>	Yes <sup>11</sup>	Yes <sup>12</sup>	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prescribed fire, cutting, sale, and removal of generally small diameter timber when need to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects, in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 294.13. Timber cutting/removal expected to be infrequent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Prescribed fire, proper silviculture practices (including cutting, sale, and removal) when needed to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Prescribed fire, proper silviculture practices (including cutting, sale, and removal) when needed to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Cutting, sale, or removal of generally small diameter timber allowed when needed to maintain or restore the characteristics of ecosystem composition and structure, or to improve habitat for threatened, endangered, proposed, or sensitive species, in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 294.13. Timber cutting, sale, and removal expected to be infrequent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cutting, sale, and removal of timber allowed using proper silviculture practices when needed to maintain or restore the characteristics of ecosystem composition and structure, or to improve habitat for threatened, endangered, proposed, or sensitive species. Includes timber cutting, sale, and removal that may require temporary road construction/reconstruction wider than 50 inches.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Full range of silviculture techniques, including silviculture techniques that may require new road construction/reconstruction wider than 50 inches.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The cutting, sale, or removal of timber is allowed when needed and appropriate for personal or administrative use (see 36 C.F.R. part 223), or under exceptions listed in 36 C.F.R. §294.13(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The cutting, sale, or removal of timber is allowed for forest health purposes, as well as for personal or administrative use, or under exceptions listed in 36 C.F.R. §294.13(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Full range of silviculture techniques for forest health or commercial purposes, including silviculture techniques that require new road construction/reconstruction wider than 50 inches.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Public motorized access subject to existing Forest Travel Plans.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Public motorized access subject to existing Forest Travel Plans.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Public motorized access subject to existing Forest Travel Plans.

	12	1.4	1.5	
Road	No <sup>13</sup>	$No^{14}$	Yes <sup>15</sup>	
Construction/Rec				
onstruction to				
facilitate mining				
activities				
Recreation	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Road	No <sup>16</sup>	Yes <sup>17</sup>	Yes <sup>18</sup>	
Construction				
and/or				
Reconstruction				
(i.e. over 50				
inches wide)				
Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Construction				
and/or				
Reconstruction				
(i.e. under 50				
inches wide)				
Weed/Pest	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Management				
Mechanized	Yes <sup>19</sup>	Yes	Yes	
Equipment Use				

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Road construction/reconstruction to facilitate permitted mining activities prohibited, subject to the exceptions listed in 36 C.F.R. §294.12(7).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Road construction/reconstruction to facilitate permitted mining activities prohibited, subject to the exceptions listed in 36 C.F.R. §294.12(7).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Construction/reconstruction of temporary administrative roads to facilitate permitted mining activities allowed. Road construction or reconstruction associated with mining activities must minimize effects on surface resources and may only be approved after evaluating other access options.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Road Construction/reconstruction prohibited, subject of exceptions found in 36 C.F.R. §294.12(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Preference toward temporary administrative road construction with mitigation; however, permanent administrative road construction permissible based on long-term ecological need, particularly if a road is needed to protect public health and safety in cases of a threat of flood, uncharacteristic wildfire, or other catastrophic event, including long term threats.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Permanent administrative roads are compatible, particularly when needed to maintain or restore the characteristics or ecosystem composition and structure, such as to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Chainsaws, helicopters, other mechanical equipment that does not require the use of new trails wider than 50 inches.

# **Detailed Description of Management Areas**

# **Management Area #1: Primitive Areas**

Current Condition: Areas managed as Primitive Areas show little evidence of historical or human use. Natural processes are predominant. People visiting these areas can find outstanding opportunities for recreation, including exploration, solitude, risk, and challenge. Primitive Areas represent the same management that currently occurs in Roadless Areas under the 2001 Roadless Rule, 36 C.F.R. § 294.

Desired Future Condition: Areas managed as Primitive Areas will continue to show little evidence of historical or human use. As such, the natural processes of the area will continue to predominate, which will allow visitors to enjoy the same type of primitive recreation opportunities they found in the past.

Management Focus: These areas shall be managed to protect the primitive recreation opportunities of the area. Only activities and management actions not deemed an irretrievable commitment of resources will be considered suitable uses.

Watershed and Vegetative Restoration: Watershed and vegetative restoration shall be accomplished through passive, natural ecological processes.

Mechanized Uses: Mechanized uses (e.g. chainsaws, helicopters, and equipment that does not require the use of new trails wider than 50 inches, etc.) shall be allowed in these areas unless said use constitutes an irretrievable commitment of resources.

# **Primitive Area Suitable Uses and Activities**

Available Use/Activity	Yes	No	Notes
Fire Management	X		Prescribed fire, cutting, sale, and
			removal of generally small diameter
			timber when need to reduce the risk
			of uncharacteristic wildfire effects,
			in accordance with 36 C.F.R. §
			294.13. Timber cutting/removal
			expected to be infrequent.
Forest Health	X		Cutting, sale, or removal of
			generally small diameter timber
			allowed when needed to maintain or
			restore the characteristics of
			ecosystem composition and
			structure, or to improve habitat for
			threatened, endangered, proposed,
			or sensitive species, in accordance
			with 36 C.F.R. § 294.13. Timber

			cutting, sale, and removal expected to be infrequent.
Timber Cutting		X	Personal or administrative use only, or under exceptions found in 36 C.F.R. §294.13(b).
Grazing	X		
Motorized Travel	X		Public motorized access subject to existing Forest Travel Plans.
Road Construction/Reconstruction to		X	Road construction/reconstruction to
facilitate mining activities			facilitate permitted mining activities prohibited, subject to the exceptions listed in 36 C.F.R. §294.12(7).
Recreation	X		
Road Construction and/or Reconstruction		X	Road Construction/reconstruction
(i.e. over 50 inches wide)			prohibited, subject of exceptions found in 36 C.F.R. §294.12(b).
Trail Construction and/or Reconstruction	X		
(i.e. under 50 inches wide)			
Weed/Pest Management	X		
Mechanized Equipment Use	X		Chainsaws, helicopters, etc.

# IRAs Recommended for Management as Primitive Areas:

National Forest	IRA Name	Approx. Acres	Recommendation	Acreage	Consistent W/ Current Forest Plan

# **Management Area #2: Forest Restoration Areas**

Current Condition: Forest Restoration Areas includes areas where evidence of human use may or may not be present. Generally, few constructed features exist with the exception of trails and lookouts. These areas may also show some evidence of vegetative manipulation. Like the primitive areas, Forest Restoration Areas include a broad range of terrain and vegetative types.

Desired Future Condition: While areas managed as Forest Restoration Areas may display increased evidence of management activities, these areas will generally retain their roadless character.

Management Focus: Forest Restoration Areas will be managed to provide a variety of recreation opportunities, while also ensuring adequate flexibility to maintain forest health. These areas may include trailheads and recreational sites (developed and dispersed). Depending on specific National Forest Travel Plans, these areas may be managed for summer and/or winter motorized recreation opportunities. Lastly, due to the increased management flexibility afforded to these areas, fish and game can potentially benefit from carefully conducted habitat manipulation.

Watershed and Vegetative Restoration: Watershed and vegetative restoration will be accomplished through a combination of active management and natural processes. Both active and passive management restoration activities (and in some cases use restrictions) may occur to address specific habitat needs of fish and wildlife.

# Forest Management Area Suitable Uses and Activities

Available Use/Activity	Yes	No	Notes
Fire Management	X		Prescribed fire, proper silviculture practices (including cutting, sale, and removal) when needed to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic
			wildfire effects.
Forest Health	X		Cutting, sale, and removal of timber allowed using proper silviculture practices when needed to maintain or restore the characteristics of ecosystem composition and structure, or to improve habitat for threatened, endangered, proposed, or sensitive species. Includes timber cutting, sale, and removal that may require temporary road construction/reconstruction wider than 50 inches.
Timber Cutting		X	The cutting, sale, or removal of timber is allowed for forest health purposes, as well as for personal or administrative use, or under exceptions listed in 36 C.F.R. §294.13(b).
Grazing	X		
Motorized Travel	X		Public motorized access subject to existing Forest Travel Plans.

Road Construction/Reconstruction to facilitate mining activities		X	Road construction/reconstruction to facilitate permitted mining activities prohibited, subject to the exceptions listed in 36 C.F.R. §294.12(7).
Recreation	X		
Road Construction and/or Reconstruction (i.e. over 50 inches wide)	X		Preference toward temporary administrative road construction with mitigation; however, permanent administrative road construction permissible based on long-term ecological need, particularly if a road is needed to protect public health and safety in cases of a threat of flood, uncharacteristic wildfire, or other catastrophic event, including long term threats.
Trail Construction and/or Reconstruction (i.e. under 50 inches wide)	X		
Weed/Pest Management	X		
Mechanized Equipment Use	X		

# IRAs Recommended for Management as Forest Restoration Areas:

National Forest	IRA Name	Approx. Acres	Recommendation	Acreage	Consistent W/ Current Forest Plan

# Management Area #3: Forest Stewardship Areas

Current Condition: Forest Stewardship areas include locations that may display high levels of human use including roads, facilities, evidence of vegetative manipulation (e.g. silvicultural treatments, grazing) and mineral exploration/extraction. These areas also encompass a broad

range of terrain and vegetative types, and may be comprised of forest, grasslands, rangelands, or a combination thereof.

Desired Future Condition: These areas may over time display increased levels of human use including roads, facilities, and evidence of vegetative manipulation. Forest Stewardship areas will also include evidence of watershed restoration and/or mitigation activities. Despite higher levels of human use than Forest Restoration Areas, Forest Stewardship Areas will still retain some of their roadless qualities. In other words, an area designated as "Forest Stewardship" will not necessarily reflect all the characteristics of non-roadless forest lands.

Management Focus: Forest Stewardship areas will be managed to provide a variety of goods and services, broad range of recreational opportunities including both motorized and non-motorized, while also ensuring adequate flexibility to maintain forest, rangeland, and/or grassland health.

Watershed and Vegetative Restoration: Watershed and vegetative restoration shall be accomplished primarily through active management, including timber harvest, salvage, fuels reduction, projects, and grazing.

# Forest Stewardship Area Suitable Uses and Activities

Available Use/Activity	Yes	No	Notes
Fire Management	X		Prescribed fire, proper silviculture
			practices (including cutting, sale,
			and removal) when needed to
			reduce the risk of uncharacteristic
			wildfire effects.
Forest Health	X		Full range of silviculture
			techniques, including silviculture
			techniques that may require new
			road construction/reconstruction
			wider than 50 inches.
Timber Cutting	X		Full range of silviculture techniques
			for forest health or commercial
			purposes, including silviculture
			techniques that require new road
			construction/reconstruction wider
			than 50 inches.
Grazing	X		
Motorized Travel	X		Public motorized access subject to
			existing Forest Travel Plans.
Road Construction/Reconstruction to	X		Construction/reconstruction of
facilitate mining activities			temporary administrative roads to
			facilitate permitted mining activities
			allowed. Road construction or
			reconstruction associated with
			mining activities must minimize

		effects on surface resources and may only be approved after evaluating other access options.
Recreation	X	
Road Construction and/or Reconstruction (i.e. over 50 inches wide)	X	Permanent administrative roads are compatible, particularly when needed to maintain or restore the characteristics or ecosystem composition and structure, such as to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects.
Trail Construction and/or Reconstruction	X	
(i.e. under 50 inches wide)		
Weed/Pest Management	X	
Mechanized Equipment Use	X	

# IRAs Recommended for Management as Forest Stewardship Areas:

National Forest	IRA Name	Approx. Acres	Recommendation	Acreage	Consistent W/ Current Forest Plan

# Management Area #4: Areas Recommended for Boundary Adjustments or **Re-inventory**

The State requests a re-inventory or boundary adjustments of some Inventoried Roadless Areas found not in conformity with the requirements for "roadless" designation as defined in the FEIS Nov. 2002, Volume 1 (i.e. "Undeveloped areas typically exceeding 5,000 acres that met the minimum criteria for wilderness consideration under the Wilderness Act . . ."). Boundary adjustment may include consolidation of existing Inventoried Roadless Areas. Some areas may necessitate boundary correction based on new information. If the Forest Service finds after reinventory that certain areas are not in conformity with the requirements for roadless designations, such areas should be managed in accordance with the relevant forest plan.

# **IRAs Recommended for Boundary Adjustments or Re-inventory:**

<b>National Forest</b>	IRA Name	Approx. Acres	Recommendation	Rationale





# WESTERN WEBER COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

# WESTERN WEBER COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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- A 1 INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: APPENDIX A: PUBLIC AGENCY REVIEW MATRIX PREPARED BY WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL

PREPARED BY: WEBER COUNTY, UTAH



WITH ASSISTANCE FROM LOGAN SIMPSON



management plans to ensure that appropriate access is provided to points of diversion and conveyance works, and that existing irrigation infrastructure is protected from damage or obstruction as development continues in the RMP area.

Policy: Predator Control Support and expand the continuation of the State's predator control program.

### Implementation:

upport current coyote control programs, and work with the Division of Wildlife Resources to expand predator control efforts to include skunks, raccoons and other similar predators in agricultural areas.

Policy: Agri-tourism Support agri-tourism as a means for agricultural operators to diversify their operations and effectively utilize smaller parcels of agricultural land.

# MINING, MINERAL RESOURCES AND **ENERGY RESOURCES**

## Findings:

The current salt mining operations on State sovereign lands at Great Salt Lake provide a significant economic benefit to Weber County. Local gravel mining provides a local source of construction materials and reduces the lengths of haul routes. Non-renewable energy resources, such as solar and wind power, have potential for private or small-scale commercial uses.

# Objectives and Policies:

Policy: Mining

Weber County supports the continuation of mining operations in the County in a manner that minimizes adverse impacts and preserves the rural character of the planning area

## Implementation 1:

Weber County will continue to work cooperatively with the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands to ensure continuation of mining operations in a manner that protects the wildlife, recreational, cultural and other resources of Great Salt Lake.

### *Implementation 2:*

As the County updates its general plans, it will provide for opportunities for gravel and rock aggregate mining in appropriate areas and with appropriate operational conditions. Amend existing zoning regulations to restrict mining operations to a specific mining zone. Require mining operations to petition the County for a zone change prior to initiation of the operation. Require all mining operations to prepare reclamation plans, and ensure that financial surety to complete required reclamation is held by a responsible agency. Consider requiring a development agreement for large scale mining activities prior to formal rezoning.

### Policy: Energy Resources

Support the development of renewable energy resources, such as solar, wind power, and geothermal energy for private or small-scale commercial uses.

FIRE MANAGEMENT AND NOXIOUS **WEEDS** 

## Fire Management Findings:

Fire management is a critical governmental function. From the Weber County WFRC website:

"Response to fire incidents relies on proper oversight, guidance, and partnership among a variety of trained professional organizations. Establishing a fire management system is a critical step in protecting communities both urban and rural."

## Fire Management Objectives and Policies:

Policy: Cooperative Fire Management
Effective fire management across jurisdictions
in Weber County requires inter-agency
cooperation.

### Implementation 1:

Weber County will continue to work cooperatively with the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands and the U.S. Forest Service to implement the Comprehensive Statewide Wildland Fire Prevention, Preparedness, and Suppression policy known as SB-56.

#### Implementation 2:

Educate the public regarding life safety, including fire prevention and fire codes.

# Implementation 3:

Provide education about the Utah Wildland Urban Interface Code. Refine the Wildland Urban Interface in Ogden Valley and amend development ordinances to require notice of proximity to the interface.

## Implementation 4:

Provide education on fire-wise planning,

including building materials and landscaping.

# Implementation 5:

Evaluate effects of current ordinances as they relate to fire access and the allowance of development on terminal street systems.

# Implementation 6:

Ensure that all development has adequate fire flow and fire flow storage.

# Weed Control Findings:

Effective prevention of the introduction and the spread of noxious weeds is a high priority for Weber County. From the 2013 NRCS Weber County Resource Assessment:

"They negatively affect agricultural lands, forests, nature preserves, stream banks, private lands, and parks. If left unmanaged, weeds can quickly dominate a land-scape and crowd out native plants, thus reducing forage for animals and increasing the risk of wildfire."

Weed Control Objectives and Policies:

Policy: Cooperative Weed Control
Effective weed control across jurisdictions
in Weber County requires inter-agency
cooperation.

# Implementation:

The local weed control program for the RMP planning area is the Weber County Weed Department. The County will continue to work cooperatively with the U.S. Forest Service, the Utah Association of Conservation Districts (UACD) and the federal NRCS to implement the initiatives outlined in the NRCS Weber County Resource Assessment (2013).

### **FOREST MANAGEMENT**

As described above, the forest resources in the

# (Page 32) FIRE MANAGEMENT AND NOXIOUS WEEDS

# (Page 33) Fire Management Findings:

Fire management is a critical governmental function. From the Weber County WFRC website: "Response to fire incidents relies on proper oversight, guidance, and partnership among a variety of trained professional organizations. Establishing a fire management system is a critical step in protecting communities both urban and rural."

### Fire Management Objectives and Policies:

Policy 1: Cooperative Fire Management: Effective fire management across jurisdictions in Weber County requires inter-agency cooperation.

Implementation 1: Weber County will continue to work cooperatively with the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands and the U.S. Forest Service to implement the Comprehensive Statewide Wildland Fire Prevention, Preparedness, and Suppression policy known as SB-56.

Implementation 2: Educate the public regarding life safety, including fire prevention and fire codes.

Implementation 3: Provide education about the Utah Wildland Urban Interface Code. Refine the Wildland Urban Interface in Ogden Valley and amend development ordinances to require notice of proximity to the interface.

Implementation 4: Provide education on fire-wise planning, including building materials and landscaping.

Implementation 5: Evaluate effects of current ordinances as they relate to fire access and the allowance of development on terminal street systems.

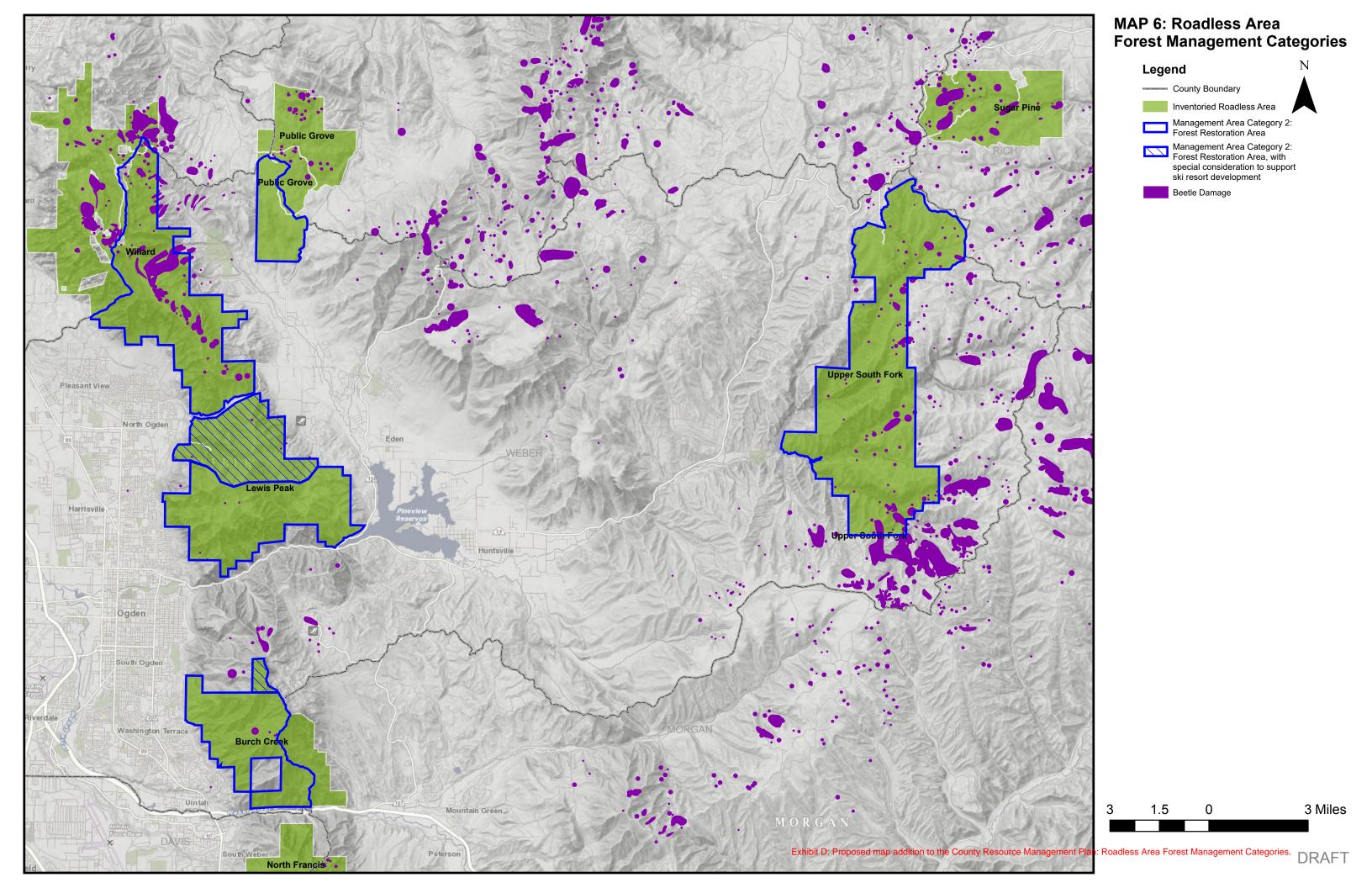
**Implementation 6:** Ensure that all development has adequate fire flow and fire flow storage.

Policy 2: Forest Management: Encourage and support effective forest management practices in a manner that enhances the health of forested areas and minimizes catastrophic wildfires.

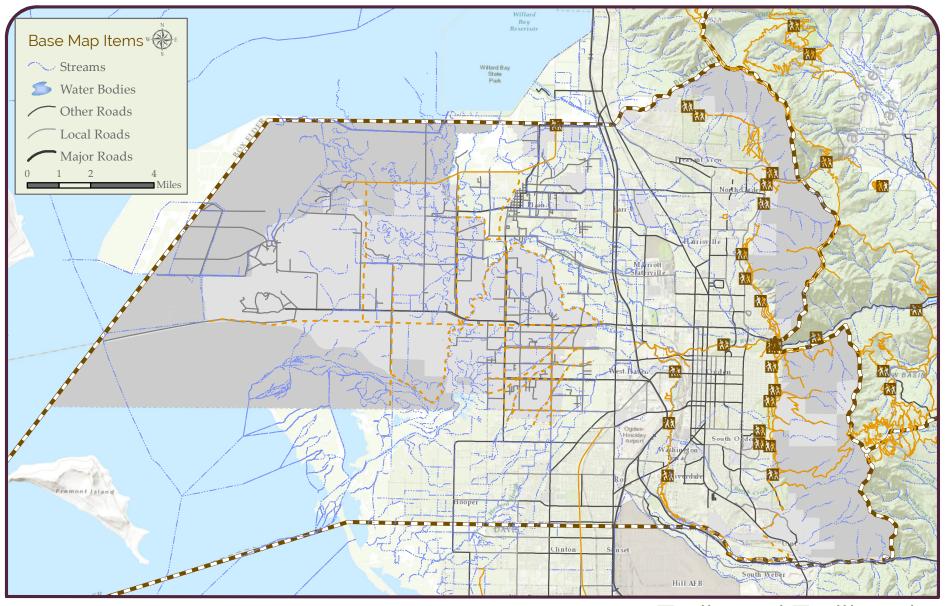
Implementation 1: Coordinate and cooperate with the United States Forest Service and the State of Utah to ensure proper governance over and management of public lands.

Implementation 2: Support the State's roadless area forest management categories and associated principles. Map 6 designates the appropriate management category for each inventoried roadless area.

Implementation 3: Encourage private landowners to follow fire-wise land management principles.



# MAP 5: TRAILS AND TRAILHEADS



# **Unincorporated Western Weber County**

State or Federal Land

Trailheads

Private

**Trails** 

- - Planned Multi-use Trail/Pathway Amended Trail Map of the County Resource Management Plan. Page 1 of 1

# Trails and Trailheads

Created 5/1/2017 Amended XX/XX/2018