

Policies and Guidelines for Fish and Wildlife Management
in National Forest and Bureau of Land Management Wilderness

A Comparison of the 1986 IAFWA and 2006 AFWA Documents

1986		2006	
page-line	text	page-line	text
1:12-14	in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 USC 1131-1136)	3:9-10	in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 USC 1131-1136)
	No comparable text	3:12-14	The purpose of these guidelines is to develop and expand a framework of cooperation upon which projects and activities may be planned and accomplished while working cooperatively at the national, regional, and local levels.
1:23-28	These policies and guidelines were developed within the overall context of the purpose and direction of the Wilderness Act, and they should be made available to all agencies responsible for management of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to appropriate State fish and wildlife agencies, and to other interested parties.		No comparable text
	No comparable text.	3:18-4:23	<p>B. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL INTERESTS AND BENEFITS</p> <p>The FS and BLM are land management agencies dedicated to the management of National Forest System (NFS) and public lands for a variety of uses and activities including wilderness stewardship and protection. Both agencies are mandated through the Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of the Interior to administer Federally designated wilderness areas in accordance with the Wilderness Act. The FS and BLM are required to preserve wilderness character as directed by the Wilderness Act, while supporting the States' fish and wildlife objectives, to the extent such objectives are consistent with the Act.</p> <p>The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) is an association representing government agencies responsible for North America's fish and wildlife resources. The AFWA serves as a national and international voice on wildlife and conservation issues using expertise in science, policy, economics and coalition-building. The AFWA is dedicated to supporting the State fish and wildlife agencies' work to meet fish and wildlife management objectives in wilderness while preserving wilderness character consistent with the Act.</p> <p>Section 4(d)(7) of the Wilderness Act provides that "nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or responsibilities of the several States with respect to wildlife and fish in the national forests." The parties acknowledge that,</p>

			<p>consistent with applicable Federal and State laws, the States and the Federal government each have management responsibilities affecting fish and wildlife, and will endeavor to work cooperatively in the fulfillment of these responsibilities.</p> <p>In consideration of the above premises, the parties agree as follows:</p> <p>C. THE FS AND BLM SHALL:</p> <p>Participate with the States in annual coordination meetings and encourage communication, coordination and identification of State-originated fish and wildlife projects satisfying mutually beneficial objectives.</p> <p>Enter into individual agreements with States in order to make these guidelines as relevant to individual States as they are to the FS and BLM. The FS and BLM will jointly encourage individual States to incorporate these guidelines into statewide agreements or encourage states to adopt a resolution endorsing these guidelines. Work with AFWA and States to identify opportunities and jointly pursue projects that meet fish and wildlife objectives for wilderness subject to compliance with applicable Federal law.</p> <p>D. AFWA SHALL:</p> <p>Encourage States to participate with the FS and BLM in annual coordination meetings and encourage communication, coordination, and identification of mutually beneficial projects.</p> <p>Encourage the States to identify opportunities and jointly pursue projects that meet fish and wildlife objectives for wilderness subject to compliance with applicable Federal law.</p> <p>Encourage individual States to enter into individual agreements with the FS and BLM in order to make these guidelines as relevant to individual States as it is to the FS and BLM. AFWA will encourage individual States to incorporate these guidelines into statewide agreements or encourage States to adopt resolution endorsing these guidelines.</p>
1:35-39	The wilderness resource is defined in section 2(c) of the Act as an area essentially “untrammled by man,” where natural ecological processes operate freely and the area is “affected primarily by the forces of nature.”	4:27-29	The wilderness resource is defined in section 2(c) of the Act, as an area “untrammled by man,” where natural ecological processes operate freely and the area is “affected primarily by the forces of nature.”
1:44-45	Fish and wildlife management activities will emphasize the protection of natural processes.	4:34-35	Fish and wildlife management activities will emphasize the conservation of natural processes, to the greatest extent possible.
1:45-47	Management activities will be guided by the principle of doing only the minimum	4:37-39	Management activities will be guided by the principle of doing only the minimum

	necessary to manage the area as wilderness.		necessary to conserve and, if necessary, to enhance fish and wildlife resources, and to manage the area as wilderness.
	No comparable text.	5:3-5	State fish and wildlife management activities that do not involve Wilderness Act prohibitions identified above in Section 4(c) or that are expressly authorized under specific wilderness acts are generally exempt from authorizations by the Federal administering agencies.
	No comparable text	5:6-8	However, there may be activities that do not involve prohibitions under Section 4(c) that may require authorizations, such as certain types of activities proposed to address fire or disease under Section 4(d) of the Act.
	No comparable text	5:10-23	Proposed State fish and wildlife management activities that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency. The FS and BLM will consult closely with the States and give careful consideration to State fish and wildlife interests when considering these proposed activities, subject to applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review, where determined through the Minimum Requirements Decisions Process (MRDP) to be a necessary action (Attachment A Step 1). Additionally, the minimum tool to accomplish necessary fish and wildlife management activities as determined through the MRDP (Attachment A, Step 2), will be recommended by the State and reviewed by the Federal administering agency, in close consultation with the State, and approved where determined appropriate. Units with special provisions mandated by legislation subsequent to the Wilderness Act of 1964 must ensure full consideration of these other legal requirements. Wilderness managers in Alaska must ensure that their decisions are in accordance with the provisions of Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).
	No comparable text	5:27-28	These policies and guidelines should not be construed as diminishing or expanding State jurisdiction and responsibility to manage fish and wildlife.
2:3-8	Specific on-the-ground conditions will result in slightly different application of these guidelines in so vast a system. These different applications are spelled out in National Forest Plans or wilderness management plans. This is both appropriate and proper, if we are to allow nature to play the dominant role.	5:31-33	Specific on-the-ground conditions will result in slightly different application of these guidelines in so vast a system. These different applications may be necessary because of enabling legislation for designated wilderness areas.
	No comparable text	5:35-39	For purposes of this document, indigenous wildlife and fish species are those that naturally occur within a wilderness area and that were not introduced by humans. Additionally, fish species introduced for management purposes prior to wilderness designation may be managed as indigenous fish species if the species is likely to survive. The State has the responsibility to make the determination as to which wildlife and fish species are indigenous.
2:27-28	The emphasis is on the management of the area as wilderness as opposed to the management of a particular resource.		No comparable text
	No comparable text	6:7-10	1. Use Of Motorized Equipment Proposals for use of motorized equipment will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal land management agency, in cooperation with the State, through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
	No comparable text	6:13-32	2. Application of Pesticides

			<p>The use of pesticides may be necessary in management of fish and wildlife resources, and their use must be approved by the Federal administering agency.</p> <p><u>Guidelines for Application of Pesticides</u></p> <p>a. Use pesticides only where other measures are impractical.</p> <p>b. Use only registered pesticides according to label directions and subject to the following restrictions:</p> <p>(1) Pesticides may be applied only by certified applicators.</p> <p>(2) The placement of pesticides shall be accurately indicated on the largest scale USGS map available.</p> <p>(3) Place warning signs at the entrance to the area where pesticides are being used to warn the public of any dangers to themselves or their pets.</p> <p>(4) In the selection of pesticides, give preference to those that will have the least impact on non-target species and on the wilderness environment.</p>
2:44-45	<p>2. Fish and Wildlife Research and Management Surveys ...conducted 'in a manner compatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment' (Sec. 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act).</p>	6:37-38	<p>3. Fish and Wildlife Research and Management Surveys ...conducted in a manner compatible with the area as wilderness.</p>
	No comparable text	6:41-44	Research or management survey activities that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
2:52-53	Helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft overflights may be used to conduct approved fish and wildlife research activities.	6:46-7:1	Helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft over flights may be used to conduct fish and wildlife research and management activities.
2:54-55	Aircraft must be used in a manner that minimizes disturbance of other users, including humans and wildlife.	7:1-4	Use of aircraft for these activities will be coordinated among the State and Federal agencies to minimize conflicts with other wilderness uses. To the greatest extent possible, aircraft must be used in a manner that minimizes disturbance to wilderness character and to human and wildlife use of the wilderness.
2:57-58 3:1	All fish and wildlife studies within and over wilderness must be conducted so as to preserve the natural character of the wilderness.		
3:1-3	Aerial counts and observations of wildlife may be permissible for management of wilderness wildlife resources.	7:6-7	Aerial counts and observations (i.e. surveys) of wildlife are allowed in the management of fish and wildlife resources in wilderness.
3:3-8	Capturing and marking of animals, radio telemetry, and occasional temporary installations (such as shelters for cameras and scientific apparatus and enclosures and exclosures essential for wildlife research or management surveys) may be permitted, if they are essential to studies that cannot be accomplished elsewhere.	7:7-12	Capturing and marking of animals, radio telemetry, and occasional installations (such as shelters for cameras and scientific apparatus and enclosures essential for wildlife research or management surveys) that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.

3:31-33	f. Installation of permanent base stations within wilderness is not permitted for monitoring of radio-instrumented animals.	7:30-32	f. Installation of base stations for monitoring of radio-instrumented animals will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
3:35-37	g. The administering agency should only approve capture methods that minimize the impact on the wilderness environment.	7:34-35	g. The Federal administering agency should only approve methods that minimize the impact on the wilderness environment to the greatest extent possible.
3:41-43	3. Facility Development and Habitat Alteration In rare-instances, facility development and habitat alteration may be-necessary to alleviate adverse impacts caused by human activities on fish and wildlife.	7:38-40	4. Facility Development and Habitat Alteration Facility development and habitat alteration may be necessary to alleviate adverse impacts caused by human activities on fish and wildlife, including human/wildlife conflicts, and to conserve fish and wildlife resources in wilderness.
	No comparable text	7:40-43	Facility development and habitat alteration that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
3:50-53	...habitat developments necessary for fish and wildlife management (which were in existence before wilderness designation) may be permitted to remain in operation.	8:2-4	...habitat developments necessary for fish and wildlife management (which were in existence before wilderness designation) may remain in operation.
4:1-4	Maintenance of existing water supplies and development of additional water supplies may be permitted, but only when essential to preserve the wilderness resource and to correct unnatural conditions resulting from human influence.	8:6-9	Maintenance of existing water supplies and development of additional water supplies, including wildlife water developments, that would involve uses generally prohibited under Sec. 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
4:19-22	d. Use only nonmotorized equipment to clear debris. Use explosives only when the use of hand tools is not practical, and only outside of heavy visitor-use periods.	8:26-28	d. Proposals involving use of motorized equipment generally prohibited under Sec. 4(c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
4:24-26	e. The administering agency and the State agency will jointly make decisions to remove existing water-related improvements.		No comparable text
	No comparable text	8:31-32	Plant species that naturally occurred or occur in a wilderness area and were not introduced by humans are considered indigenous.

4:36-43	<p>4. Threatened and Endangered Species</p> <p>Actions necessary to protect or recover threatened or endangered species, including habitat manipulation and special protection measures, may be implemented in wilderness. But such actions must be necessary for the perpetuation or recovery of the species and it must be demonstrated that the actions cannot be done more effectively outside wilderness. Use only the minimum actions necessary and the methods most appropriate in wilderness.</p>	8:36-41	<p>5. Threatened and Endangered Species</p> <p>For purposes of this document, threatened and endangered species means Federally listed species applicable to the geographic area. Actions necessary to conserve or recover threatened or endangered species, including habitat manipulation and special conservation measures, that involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act, will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.</p>
4:45-50	<p><u>Guidelines</u></p> <p>a. Manage wilderness to protect known populations of Federally listed threatened or endangered species where necessary for their perpetuation and to aid in their recovery in previously occupied habitat.</p>		No comparable text
4:52-56	<p>b. When alternative areas outside of wilderness offer equal or better opportunities for habitat improvement or species protection, take actions to recover threatened or endangered species outside of wilderness first.</p>	8:43-9:2	<p>a. When alternative areas outside of wilderness offer equal or better opportunities for habitat improvement or species conservation, actions to recover threatened or endangered species outside of wilderness should be considered first, but this does not preclude analyzing or implementing projects in wilderness.</p>
5:1-2	<p>C. Threatened and endangered species may be transplanted into previously occupied habitat within wilderness.</p>	9:4-7	<p>b. Threatened and endangered species may be transplanted into previously occupied habitat within wilderness. Proposals that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.</p>
5:7-9	<p>e. To prevent Federal listing, protect indigenous species that could become threatened or endangered or are listed as threatened or endangered by States.</p>	9:12-13	<p>d. To prevent Federal listing, manage and conserve indigenous species that could become threatened or endangered.</p>
5:17-21	<p>6. Population Sampling</p> <p>Scientific sampling of fish and wildlife populations is an essential procedure in the protection of natural populations in wilderness.</p>	9: 19-20	<p>7. Population Sampling</p> <p>Scientific sampling of fish and wildlife populations is an essential activity in wilderness.</p>
5:23-26	<p><u>Guidelines</u></p> <p>a. Use only methods that are compatible with the wilderness environment.</p>	9: 21-22	<p><u>Guidelines for Population Sampling</u></p> <p>a. When possible, use only methods that are compatible with the wilderness environment.</p>
5:28-30	<p>b. Gill netting, battery-operated electrofishing, and other standard techniques of population sampling may be used.</p>	9:23-26	<p>b. Gill netting, battery-operated electrofishing, and other standard techniques of population sampling that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.</p>
5:36-45	<p>7. Chemical Treatment</p>	9:30-37	<p>8. Chemical Treatment</p>

	Chemical treatment may be necessary to prepare waters for the reestablishment of indigenous species, to protect or recover Federally listed threatened or endangered species, or to correct undesirable conditions resulting from the influence of man. Species of fish traditionally stocked before wilderness designation may be considered indigenous if the species is likely to survive. Undesirable conditions and affected species shall be identified in wilderness plans.		Chemical treatment may be necessary to prepare waters for the reestablishment of indigenous fish species, consistent with approved wilderness management plans, to conserve or recover Federally listed threatened or endangered species, or to correct undesirable conditions resulting from human activity. Proposals for chemical treatments will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy. Any use of chemical treatments in wilderness require prior approval by the Federal administering agency.
6:11-14	8. Spawn Taking <u>Guidelines</u> a. Do not use motorized equipment to assist in collecting and removing spawn.	10:13-16	9. Spawn Taking <u>Guidelines for Spawn Taking</u> a. Spawn taking proposals that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act <u>will</u> be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
6:25-28	d. Decisions to prohibit spawn taking, where it was an established practice before wilderness designation, will be made jointly by the administering agency and the State agency.	10:24-26	d. Decisions to prohibit spawn taking, where it was an established practice before wilderness designation, will be made in close cooperation and coordination between the Federal administering agency and the State agency.
6:30-38	9. Fish Stocking Fish stocking may be conducted by the State agency in coordination with the administering agency, using means appropriate for wilderness, when either of the following criteria is met: (a) to reestablish or maintain an indigenous species adversely affected by human influence; or (b) to perpetuate or recover a threatened or endangered species.	10:28-35	10. Fish Stocking Fish stocking may be conducted by the State agency in coordination with the Federal administering agency to perpetuate or recover a threatened or endangered species, or to reestablish or maintain indigenous fish species. Any species of fish introduced for management purposes prior to wilderness designation may be managed as indigenous fish species if the species is likely to survive. State agencies may continue to stock those waters traditionally stocked prior to wilderness designation. State and Federal agencies should carefully evaluate stocking those waters that consistently require supplementation for reasons other than angler-induced mortality.
6:40-48	Selection of species for stocking will be determined jointly by the administering agency and the State agency. Exotic species of fish shall not be stocked. The order of preference for stocking fish species is (a) Federally listed threatened or endangered indigenous species, (b) indigenous species. Species of fish traditionally stocked before wilderness designation may be considered indigenous if the species is likely to survive. Numbers and size of fish and time of stocking will be determined by the State agency.	10:37-41	Selected species for stocking will be determined by the State agency in close cooperation and coordination with the Federal land management agency. In order of preference for stocking fish species is (a) Federal threatened or endangered species, and (b) indigenous species. Numbers and size of fish and time of stocking will be determined by the State in coordination with Federal agencies.

6:50-53	Barren lakes and streams may be considered for stocking, if there is mutual agreement that no appreciable loss of scientific values or adverse effects on wilderness resources will occur.	10:43 -11:5	Lakes and streams currently without fish may be considered for stocking, if there is mutual agreement that no appreciable loss of scientific values or adverse effects on wilderness resources will occur. It is generally undesirable to stock previously unstocked waters. Because these areas generally reflect natural ecosystem processes, they may possess high scientific values. Proposals for fish stocking that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
7:4-9	b. Adjust stocking rates to minimize the likelihood of exceeding the carrying capacity of the water being stocked so as to reduce the chance of producing a population imbalance and to minimize the likelihood of attracting overuse detrimental to the wilderness resource.	11:11-12	b. Adjust stocking rates to minimize the likelihood of exceeding the carrying capacity of the water being stocked so as to reduce the chance of producing a population imbalance.
7: 11-17	10. Aerial Fish Stocking Aerial stocking of fish shall be permitted for those waters in wilderness where this was an established practice before wilderness designation or where other practical means are not available. Aerial stocking requires approval by the administering agency.	11:14-19	11. Aerial Fish Stocking Aerial stocking of fish shall be permitted for those waters in wilderness where this was an established practice before wilderness designation or where other practical means are not available. Proposals that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act <u>will</u> be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
7:39-46	11. Transplanting Wildlife Transplants (removal, reintroduction, or supplemental introduction) of terrestrial wildlife species in wilderness may be permitted if necessary: (a) to perpetuate or recover a threatened or endangered species; or (b) to restore the population of an indigenous species eliminated or reduced by human influence.	11:32-36	12. Transplanting Wildlife Transplants (removal, reintroduction, or supplemental introduction) of terrestrial wildlife species in wilderness may be permitted if necessary: (a) to perpetuate or recover a threatened or endangered species; (b) to restore the population of an indigenous species; or (c) to manage wildlife populations in accordance with the States' wildlife populations objectives.
7:49-51	Transplant projects, including follow-up monitoring, require advance written approval by the administering agency.	11:39-42	Transplant projects require advance written approval by the Federal administering agency. Follow-up monitoring surveys that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act will be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.
7:53-57	<u>Guidelines</u> a. Motorized methods and temporary holding and handling facilities may be permitted if they are the minimum necessary to accomplish an approved transplant.	12:1-6	<u>Guidelines for Transplanting Wildlife</u> Proposals for motorized methods and temporary holding and handling facilities that involve uses generally prohibited under Sec. 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act <u>will</u> be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.

8:1-10	<p>12. Wildlife Damage Control</p> <p>Wildlife damage control in wilderness may be necessary to protect Federally listed threatened or endangered species, to prevent transmission of diseases or parasites affecting other wildlife and humans, or to prevent serious losses of domestic livestock. Control of nonindigenous species also may be necessary to reduce conflicts with indigenous species, particularly if the latter species are threatened or endangered.</p>	13-8-15	<p>13. Wildlife Damage Control</p> <p>Wildlife damage control in wilderness may be necessary to conserve Federally listed threatened or endangered species, to prevent transmission of diseases or parasites affecting wildlife and humans, or to prevent serious losses of domestic livestock. Refer to MOUs between the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Federal administering agencies regarding permissible action in wilderness. Proposals that would involve uses generally prohibited under Section 4 (c) of the Wilderness Act <u>will</u> be considered and may be authorized by the Federal administering agency through application of the MRDP as outlined in Section E., General Policy.</p>
8:19-25	<p>b. Control measures will be implemented by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the administering agency, the State fish and wildlife agency, or other approved State agency, pursuant to cooperative agreements or memoranda of understanding. Wildlife damage control must be approved by the administering agency on a case-by-case basis.</p>	13:21-23	<p><u>Guidelines for Wildlife Damage Control</u></p> <p>b. Control measures will be implemented by APHIS, the Federal administering agency, the State fish and wildlife agency, or other approved State agency, pursuant to cooperative agreements or MOUs.</p>
8:33-50	<p>e. Use pesticides only where other measures are impractical. Use only registered pesticides according to label directions and subject to the following restrictions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pesticides may be applied only by certified pesticide applicators. 2) The placement of pesticides shall be accurately indicated on the largest scale USGS map available. 3) Place warning signs at the entrance to the area where pesticides are being used to warn the public of any dangers to themselves or their pets. 4) In the selection of pesticides, give preference to those that will have the least impact on non-target species and on the wilderness environment. 		No comparable text
13: 1-7	<p>13. Visitor Management to Protect Wilderness Wildlife Resources</p> <p>When necessary to reduce human disturbance to a wildlife species, the administering agency, in coordination with the State agency, may take direct or indirect management actions to control visitor use.</p>		<p>14. Visitor management to Conserve Wilderness Wildlife Resources</p> <p>No comparable text</p>
9:9-19	<p><u>Guidelines</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Specify in the wilderness management plan the management actions necessary and the agency responsible to reduce conflicts with wildlife. b) If and when it becomes apparent that public use is significantly degrading 	12:36-42	<p><u>Guidelines for Visitor Management to Conserve Wilderness Wildlife Resources</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Specify in the wilderness management plan the actions necessary and the agency responsible to reduce conflicts with wildlife. b. If and when it becomes apparent that public use is significantly degrading the wilderness wildlife resources, limitations on visitor use may be imposed and enforced by the appropriate Federal administering agency in coordination with

	the wilderness wildlife resources, limitations on visitor use may be imposed and enforced by the appropriate agency. Any limitations will be applied equitably to all wilderness visitors.		the State wildlife agency. Any limitations will be applied equitably to all wilderness visitors.
9:13-34	14. Management of Fire Although additional benefits may result from man-ignited prescribed fire, vegetative manipulation will not be used to justify such fires.		No comparable text.
	No comparable text.	14:14-19	<u>ATTACHMENT A</u> <u>Minimum Requirements Decisions Process Outline</u> The following outlines the "Minimum Requirements Decisions Process" (MRDP) for certain proposed projects within wilderness. For certain projects proposed by State fish and wildlife agencies, this analysis will be completed by the applicable State agency in coordination with the responsible Federal agency. Unless specifically exempted by law, all proposed projects and activities within wilderness involving the eight Wilderness Act prohibitions listed below will require the completion of the MRDP to determine whether they can be authorized in wilderness.
	No comparable text.	14:41-5:4	For project proposals where a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis is required, the MRDP prepared by the State agency will be included in the NEPA process. The Federal land management agency will work with the State agency to complete the applicable NEPA analysis in a timely manner. As a part of the MRDP, the State agency will conduct the Minimum Requirements Decisions Process, in close coordination and cooperation with the Federal administering agency, and will document the conclusion from Step 1 and the decision from Step 2. The Federal administering agency will make the final determination of the minimum requirements.
	No comparable text.	16	Minimum Requirements Decisions Process Outline Step 2a: Determine the <i>minimum tool</i>
	No comparable text.	17:13-19	1. Describe the Proposed Action and Alternative Actions Analyze at least one feasible alternative, if available, that does not involve a generally prohibited act. This alternative must be one that could accomplish both the wilderness management objectives and the fish and wildlife conservation objectives of the proposed action.
	No comparable text.	17:21-28	2. Compare the Effects of the Alternatives

		<p>Analyze whether the tools and techniques used to accomplish the proposed action are the least degrading to wilderness characteristics while safely, successfully and reasonably accomplishing the task. This entails analyzing the impacts of each alternative on the wilderness characteristics (naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude-or primitive and unconfined recreation, and other special features). Criteria such as time, convenience, and cost effectiveness may also be considered but are less significant than the potential for impacts to wilderness characteristics.</p>
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