

Iron Canyon Reservoir Planning Unit

Fish, Plant, and Wildlife Habitat

Potential Measure:

- *Encourage the USFS to install signs prohibiting OHV use in the drawdown zone if such a measure is not required in relicensing.*

Currently, fluctuation in reservoir level often exposes a significant portion of the drawdown zone. At lower water elevation levels, barriers to prevent vehicle access to the shoreline are not effective, resulting in unauthorized OHV use in the drawdown zone that could be causing resource damage. To reduce this use and any potential damage, the Stewardship Council recommends encouraging the USFS to install signs along the high water line informing users that OHV use in the drawdown zone is not allowed, if such a measure is not required as a protection, mitigation, and enhancement measure in relicensing.

Open Space

Potential Measure:

- *Apply permanent conservation easements to ensure a higher level of open space protection.*

The Stewardship Council recommends preserving open space values through permanent conservation easements. Conservation easements would describe all prohibited uses to maintain open space values, including the level of uses allowed. Recommendations do not include development of any new sites and are therefore not expected to decrease the scenic quality of the viewsheds.

Outdoor Recreation

Potential Measure:

- *Remove fire rings at the informal use area at McGill Creek if such a measure is not required in relicensing.*

The McGill Creek area is an informally used area. The access roads were once blocked, but are now open. Recreationists drive into the area and sometimes camp (unauthorized) or park near the shoreline. Though the area is fairly clean, campers have left fire rings behind. To discourage unauthorized camping, the Stewardship Council recommends removing fire rings at the McGill Creek area if such a measure is not required as a protection, mitigation, and enhancement measure in relicensing.

Sustainable Forestry

Potential Measures:

- *Develop a forest management plan for the planning unit to promote natural forest development and structural and physical diversity in forests for long-term ecological, economic, social, and cultural benefits.*

- *Evaluate existing timber inventory data and supplement as appropriate.*

Currently, the planning unit contains one Timber Management Unit (TMU) that is managed for emergency salvage harvesting only. However, there is no overall documented vision for the TMU within the planning unit. The Stewardship Council recommends developing a forest management plan for the planning unit through the evaluation of existing forest inventory data and supplemental information, when appropriate. In addition to supporting natural forest development, the forest management plan would promote holistic watershed management, supporting the enhancement of other BPVs over the long term. Forest management practices would also be developed within the plan to protect late successional habitat in coordination with the adjacent USFS LSR designation, as planning unit lands are basically an inholding within the LSR. This would enhance forest connectivity and management consistency, as well as ensure that planning unit forest resources were helping accomplish LSR goals. As this is an area managed under a Salvage prescription, snags and downed, woody debris would be maintained in the planning unit when not deemed a safety, fire, or disease hazard as this is important for wildlife habitat and forest regeneration. Additionally, the forest management plan should be developed in coordination with any relevant plans developed as part of relicensing.

Preservation of Historic Values

Potential Measure:

- *Incorporate cultural resource protection measures in conservation easements to protect any cultural resources found in the future in coordination with Native American entities.*

The Stewardship Council recommends protecting any cultural resources found in the future through permanent conservation easements that include cultural resource protection measures. These measures would describe the process for addressing any cultural materials found during ground-disturbing activities. Development of appropriate cultural resource protection measures would be coordinated with Native American entities.

Agricultural Uses

None recommended.