

**SUBLETTE COUNTY FOREST COLLABORATIVE**

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Edited April 8, 2021**

Draft Recommendation	Final Recommendation
<b>Upper Green/Union Pass</b>	
We recommend the USDA Forest Service implement timber harvests/fuels reduction as a Categorical Exclusion under NEPA to improve forest health at Union Pass and the surrounding area.	
Implement a timber harvest under the Good Neighbor Authority at Cow Camp to improve forest health.	
Improve recreational access in the Upper Green watershed by seeking opportunities to improve road and trail systems. Additionally, seek opportunities to establish boat launch sites along the green river.	
<b>East Rim</b>	
Conduct a fuels reduction treatment on the East Rim from the Rim Station to Kendall Valley to achieve fuels mitigation and forest health in identified WUI areas.	



Maintain and improve trails for recreational and grazing purposes to reduce erosion and increase longevity of trails.	
<b>Blowdown</b>	
Address impacts related to the blowdown on trails and roads.	
Recommend the USDA Forest Service enable the use of chainsaws where appropriate to clear trails in Wilderness in the Blowdown area.	
Conduct a fuels reduction treatment in the Blowdown area where appropriate to achieve fuels mitigation and forest health in areas with heavy fuel loading.	
Use mechanical timber harvesting to salvage blowdown trees to recover economic and resource benefits and reduce fuels in Blowdown areas.	
Recommend the USDA Forest Service coordinate and collaborate with partners to clear trails to improve access for grazing permittees and outfitters.	
Need help to repair and replace fencing where necessary in the Blowdown area.	
Ensure funding to be able to monitor, prevent and treat invasive species post blowdown clearing and other operations.	
<b>Opportunities in Previously Burned areas.</b>	



Use contracting methods for mechanical treatments that generate funds for other resource benefits.	
When planning projects in previously burned areas, seek opportunities to improve terrestrial and aquatic habitat by addressing management options outlined in the WGFD Statewide Habitat Plan and the Wyoming Range Mule Deer Habitat Plan.	
<b>Muddy Ridge</b>	
Replace Big Sandy bridge on state trust lands and improve roads on Muddy Ridge.	
Conduct cross boundary forest treatments through timber harvested fuels mitigation using Good Neighbor Authority	
<b>Big Sandy Opening</b>	
Conduct a vegetation treatment around Temple Summer Homes and Big Sandy Lodge to reduce fuels.	
Use mechanical treatments to improve forest health.	
Widen and improve the Big Sandy Opening Road and improve bridges to allow large trucks and visitors.	
Improve conditions at the Big Sandy Trailhead and Parking Area to reduce congestion and accommodate visitors.	
<b>Invasive Species</b>	

Develop an Environmental Assessment for the .....(name).... Wilderness Study Area in order to reduce .....(invasive spp.).	
<b>Various</b>	
Seek opportunities to improve native winter range habitat for elk, particularly in areas that are associated with FGs.	
Seek opportunities to restore/improve habitat for wildlife, including both aquatic and terrestrial species. Options may include a variety of treatment scenarios that best fit project objectives with priority given to mechanical and/or prescribed fire in late successional aspen and mixed mountain shrub communities. Treatments to benefit aquatic systems may include, but not limited to, stream restoration, installation of BDAs, riparian vegetation enhancements (such as willow plantings), etc.  In areas of the Upper Green, there are migration bottlenecks for pronghorn created by encroachment of conifers – mechanical treatments to open these areas would be beneficial.	
Improve winter native range for elk. Seek opportunities to improve winter range areas associated with elk feedgrounds. See Troy's additional language.	
Part of the strategy below? Recommend the County pursue sources of funding as means to update the CWPP.	
Consider wildlife values and implement restoration techniques in conjunction with additional projects types when possible (Fuels reduction, timber harvests, etc.) to improve terrestrial and aquatic habitat in crucial and restoration areas as described in the WGFD Statewide Habitat Plan.	

<b>Sublette County Long Term Strategy</b>	
Add Recommendation regarding a 10-year strategy.	
Add recommendation to open things up e.g. around trails and roads outside Wilderness to create effective fuel breaks.	
List is not finite.	
Recommend the Collaborative support creation of a long-term forest management strategy for the benefit of private enterprise for recommendation to the Bridger Teton National Forest, the Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Forestry Division and State Lands and other landowners to create economic, recreational, forest resilience and wildlife habitat benefits.	
Consider a public recreation permit for the future? Explore impacts of too many people in Wilderness?	

