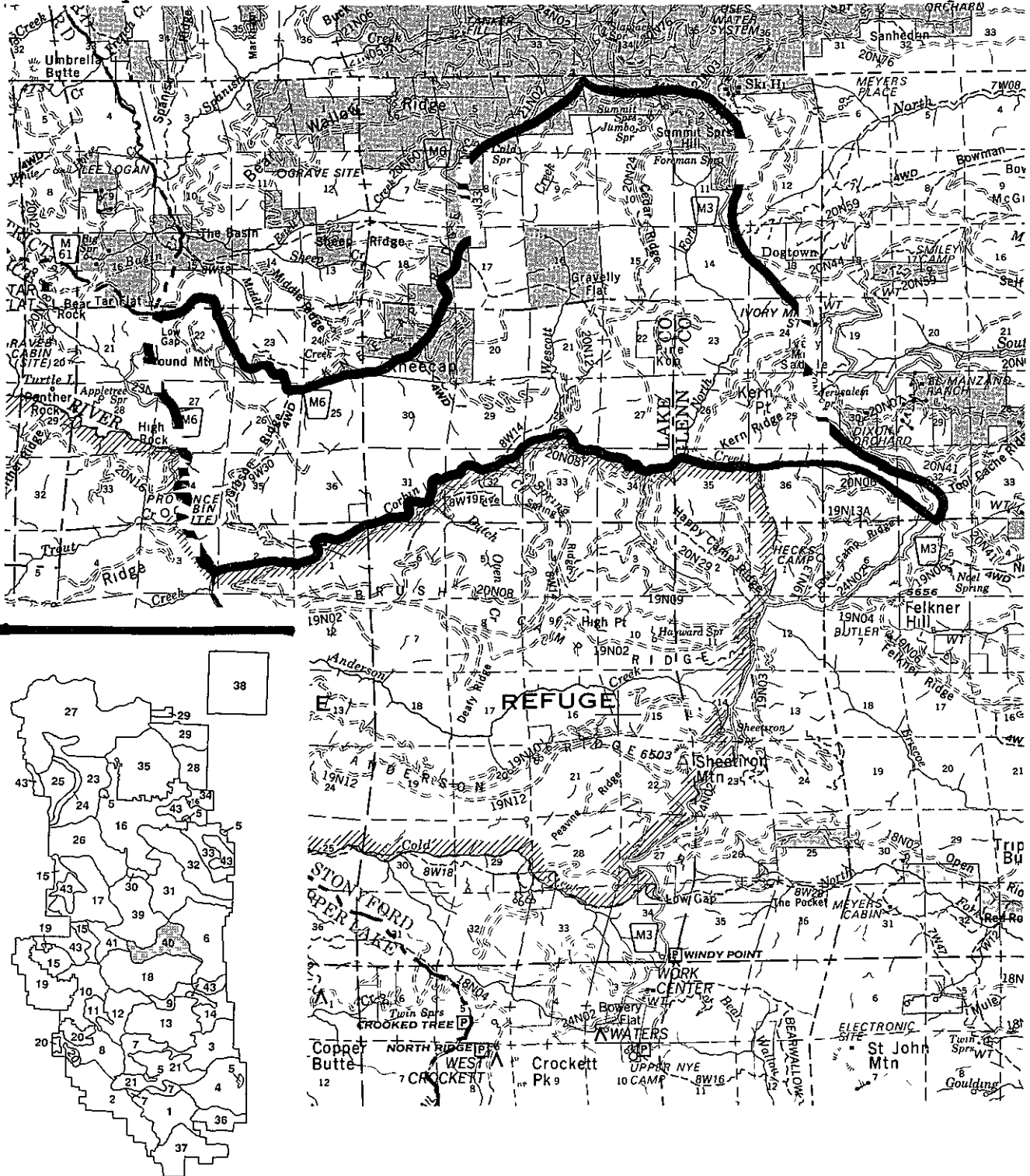


MANAGEMENT AREA # 40

Cedar Ridge



MANAGEMENT AREA #40

CEDAR RIDGE

Total Acres 19,466
NF Acres 17,198

The Cedar Ridge Management Area is bordered on the south by Corbin Creek, and on the north by Kneecap Ridge and Forest Road 24N02. Its western boundary follows the Eel River, and its eastern boundary follows the divide between the Eel River drainage and the Sacramento Valley. This area lies primarily in Lake County with a small portion in Glenn County

Elevations within the management area range from 4,400 feet to 6,000 feet. Vegetation is predominantly mixed conifer species. Oak stands are scattered throughout the area. Landslides occur along drainages. Soil erodibility ranges from severe in some areas, to moderate in others. This management area encompasses some of the most productive soils on this National Forest. There are 3,778 acres of suitable timberland within this area.

Northern spotted owl and goshawk are known to inhabit this management area. Other species which utilize this area include black bear and deer. This management area contains habitat for marten, fisher, and goshawk. Critical habitat for northern spotted owl is located on the southeast portion of this management area.

No sensitive plant species are known to occur in this area.

This area is located within a zone of moderate fire hazards. Continuous fuelbeds of chaparral vegetation are located on south-facing slopes, in the southern portion of this management area. Timbered areas have moderate fuel loadings, consisting of logging slash.

About 65% of all forested lands are accessed by the current transportation system. Several dispersed campgrounds are located within this management area. The majority of use occurs during hunting season, when hunting pressure is generally moderate.

The area contains a few scattered parcels of private land.

MANAGEMENT AREA #40

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis	779
Chaparral Management	664
Minimal Management	11,477
Late Successional Reserve *	500
Timber Modified	3,778

- Estimated Unmapped LSRs

Management Direction

Conduct prescribed burns within the Corbin Creek drainage to reduce fire hazards.

Manage oaks and understory preferred browse species to increase preferred browse in key summer range.

Where applicable to National Forest lands, implement watershed improvement needs which have been identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat Critical habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Marten/Fisher	Dispersal habitat
Deer	Portion of Cedar Ridge key summer range

MANAGEMENT AREA #40

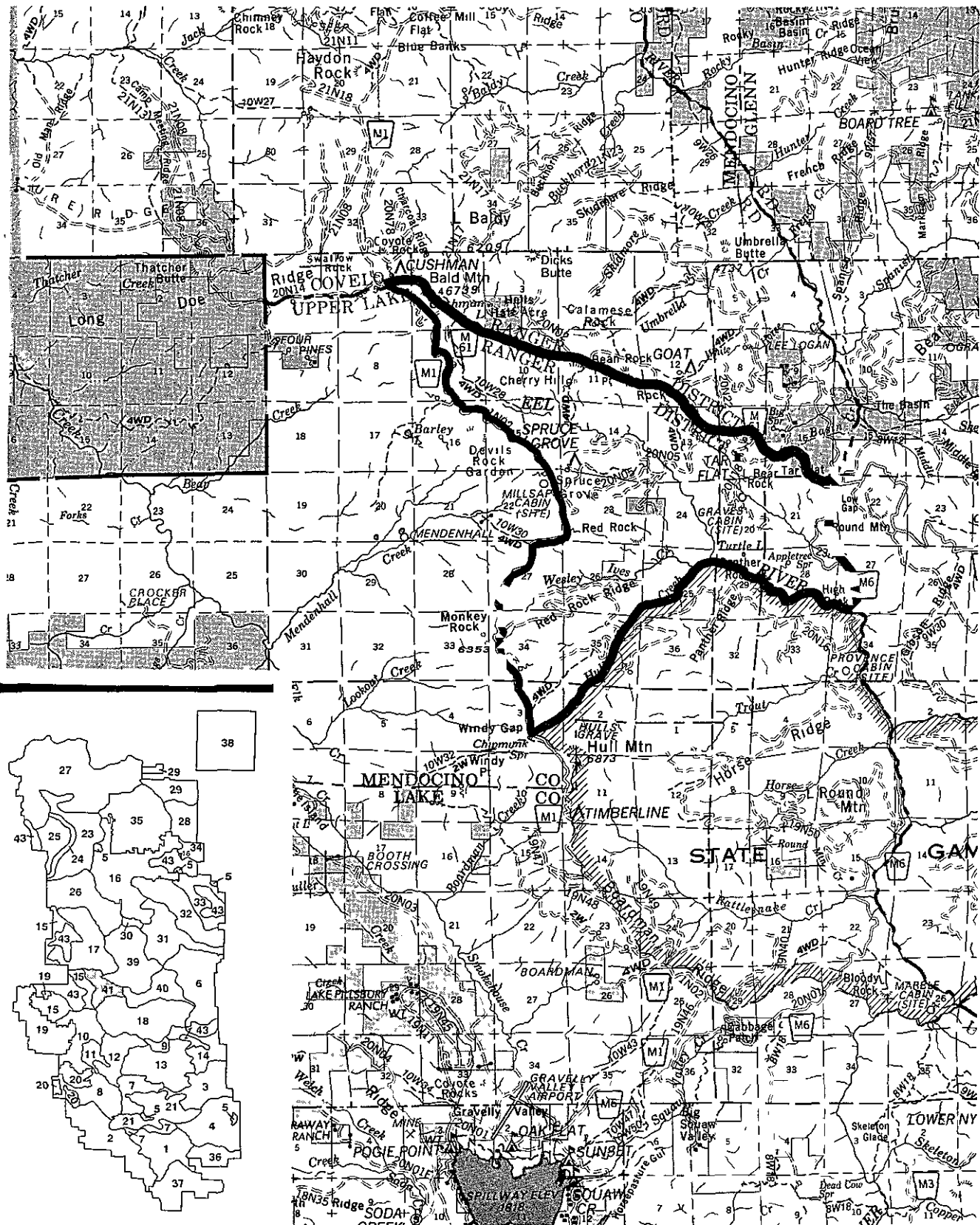
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	60
Chaparral	53
Mixed Conifer	747

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA #41

Spruce Grove



MANAGEMENT AREA #41

SPRUCE GROVE

Total Acres 9,849
NF Acres 9,704

The northern boundary of the Spruce Grove Management Area is the divide between Upper Lake and Covelo districts. Its eastern border is the boundary between Upper Lake and Stonyford districts. Its southern boundary follows Hull Creek and the Eel River, and the western boundary follows road M-1. Most of this management area is in Mendocino County, with the eastern corner in Lake County.

Elevations range from 6,700 feet near Bald Mountain to 3,400 feet at The Eel River. The area is characterized by steep sideslopes. Broad ridges occupy the majority of this area's northern and eastern sectors and are scattered throughout the rest of the area, especially at higher elevations. The majority of the area is located in the Lake Pillsbury watershed. Some of the major creeks are identified as being extremely unstable landslide zones. Older landslides which have stabilized are also located within the area, and most soils have moderate to high erosion hazard ratings. Gully erosion is severe in disturbed areas. Vegetation is predominantly mixed conifer stands, where timber productivity is average and stocking levels are generally low because of previous harvesting. Large acreages of hardwoods, hardwood-conifer mixes, grass, brush, and bare ground also exist within this area. Bare ground areas correspond to ridgetops between Hull Mountain and Bald Mountain and are attributed to overgrazing by sheep in the early 1900's. A rehabilitation program is under way which includes grass seeding, planting grass plugs, fertilizing, liming, installing check dams, and planting trees. Riparian and watershed improvement projects are currently ongoing in the Upper Eel River (also referred to as Sand Creek). This area contains 2,315 acres of suitable timberland.

Several potential peregrine falcon nest sites have been identified in the Upper Eel River Drainage. This area also contains potential bald eagle foraging habitat, as well as northern spotted owl, goshawk, marten, and fisher habitat. Portions of Bald Mountain and Hull Mountain key summer ranges for deer are located in this area. The southern part of this area is used by tule elk.

This management area contains populations of the sensitive plant Lewisia stebbinsii, and it has potential habitat for Epilobium nivium and Linanthus harknessii ssp. condensatus. The special interest species, Asclepias solanoana has been reported in this area, and this area also contains an unusual variety of Phlox diffusa which was previously described as Phlox azurea.

Fire occurrence is moderate in this area and most fire starts are lightning caused. There are no records of large fires within the area during the last 30 years.

Approximately 75% of the forested land is accessed by the existing transportation system. The area contains many miles of OHV trails and roads which are not part of the Forest's transportation system. In the area west of road 1N02, OHV use is prohibited, and there are no system and few non-system OHV roads or trails. Recreation use is moderate with the major uses being seasonal deer hunting, sightseeing, OHV use, and hiking. A developed campsite is located at Spruce Grove, and numerous additional areas are suitable for development as low-density, dispersed campsites. Trout fishing along the Eel River is another recreational use within this area.

There is no grazing use permitted within this management area.

No active mining claims exist within this area. The area contains a few scattered parcels of private land.

MANAGEMENT AREA #41

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis	323
Chaparral Management	377
Minimal Management	6,689
Timber Modified	2,315

Management Direction

Emphasize protection of rehabilitated areas, key fawning areas, and riparian habitat from livestock grazing. Protect wet meadows and glades for deer fawning and elk forage

Manage oaks and understory browse species to increase preferred deer browse in key summer range

Inventory non-system roads and trails Evaluate suitability of these roads and trails, and close or obliterate any that are causing unacceptable resource damage.

Continue rehabilitation of barren areas and riparian areas using native plant species.

Where applicable to National Forest lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

Emphasize fuels treatment in areas adjacent to and within plantations as a means to provide protection for plantations from wildfire.

Do not allow grazing in this management area east of road 1N02.

Do not permit organized OHV events in this management area.

MANAGEMENT AREA #41

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Bald Eagle	Foraging habitat
Marten/Fisher	Dispersal habitat
Deer	Portions of Bald Mountain and Hull Mountain key summer ranges
Tule Elk	Year-round habitat

Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	5
Chaparral	30
Mixed Conifer	436

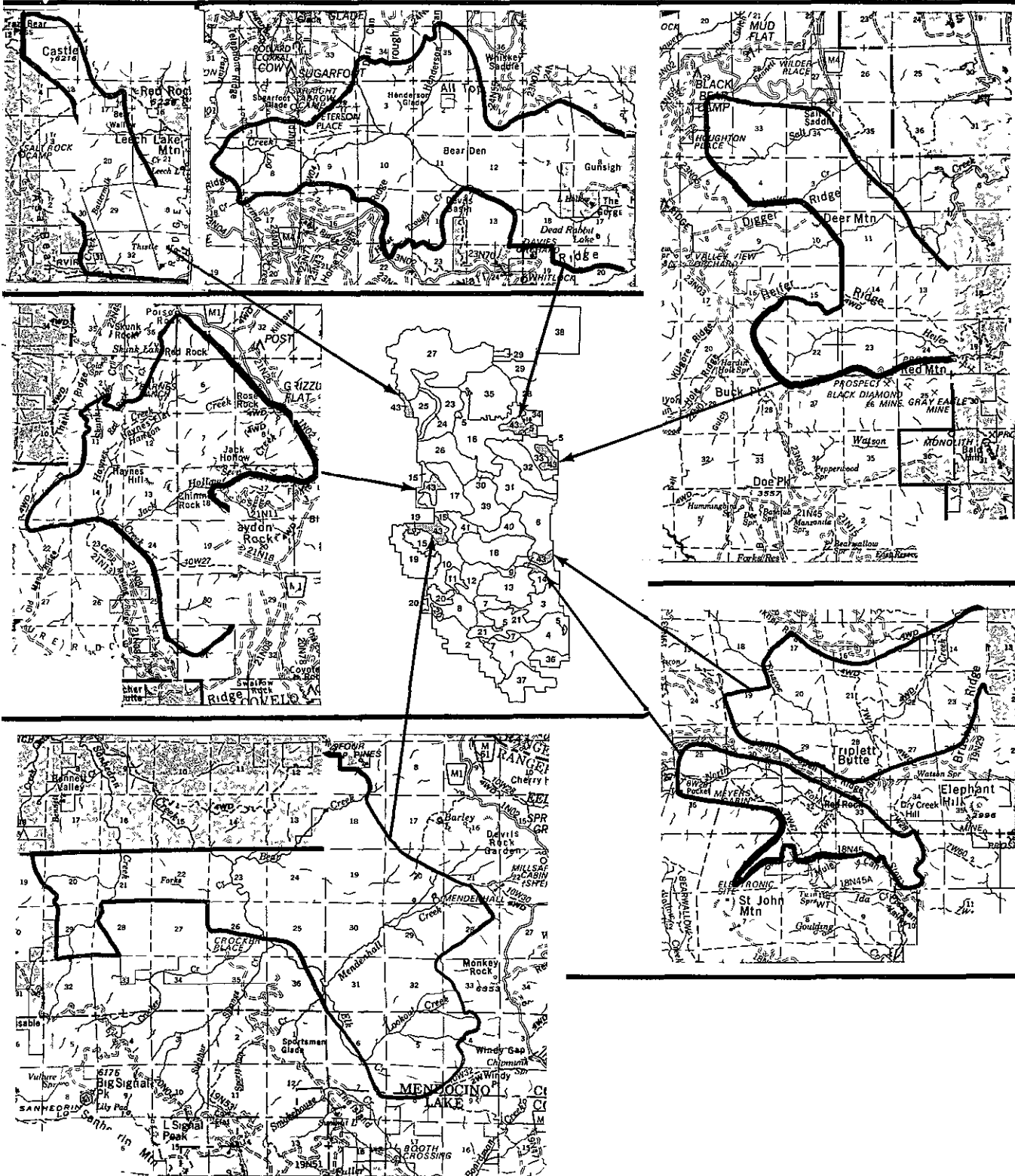
* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

There is no Management Area #42.



There is no Management area #42.

Backcountry Areas



MANAGEMENT AREA #43

BACKCOUNTRY AREAS

Total Acres 53,029
NF Acres 51,690

Backcountry Areas are set aside for management of the undeveloped forest environment in such a way that a diversity of plant and animal life is maintained and an opportunity for the enjoyment of primitive and/or semi-primitive recreational activities is provided. Future options for management of these areas will be maintained by maintaining the undeveloped character of the areas. Access is limited to foot and horse trail. Timber harvest, road construction, and other land disturbing activities are not permitted within these areas except in those situations which pose a serious and immediate threat to life, private property, or significant resource loss.

The areas included in this Management Area are:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ACREAGE</u>
Thomes Creek	10,235
Deer Mountain	8,668
Briscoe	5,967
Snow Mountain	2,803
Elk Creek	12,092
Thatcher	8,485
Big Butte-Shinbone	4,440

Management Direction

Management Direction for this management area is set forth in the Backcountry Management Prescription, described earlier in this chapter. This management area corresponds exactly to the area where that prescription applies. Further direction applicable to this management area can be found in the Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines.

Activities proposed in those portions of this management area which also fall within Late Successional Reserves (LSR) are to be implemented in accordance with the LSR management prescription where it is more restrictive than the Backcountry management prescription.

Manage the road entering the Thomes Creek Backcountry Area in section 4, T23N, R8W, via a special use permit which limits use of this road to the private landowner whose property the road accesses. Exclude all other motorized use of this road. Rehabilitate watershed damage that has occurred along this road.

Conduct channel improvement projects, including landslide stabilization and debris jam removal, in the upper end of the North Fork Stony Creek watershed, within the Snow Mountain Backcountry Area.

Implement gully erosion control measures in the Thatcher Backcountry Area.

Thomes Creek Backcountry Area



MANAGEMENT AREA #43

THOMES CREEK BACKCOUNTRY AREA

Total Acres 10,235
NF Acres 9,838

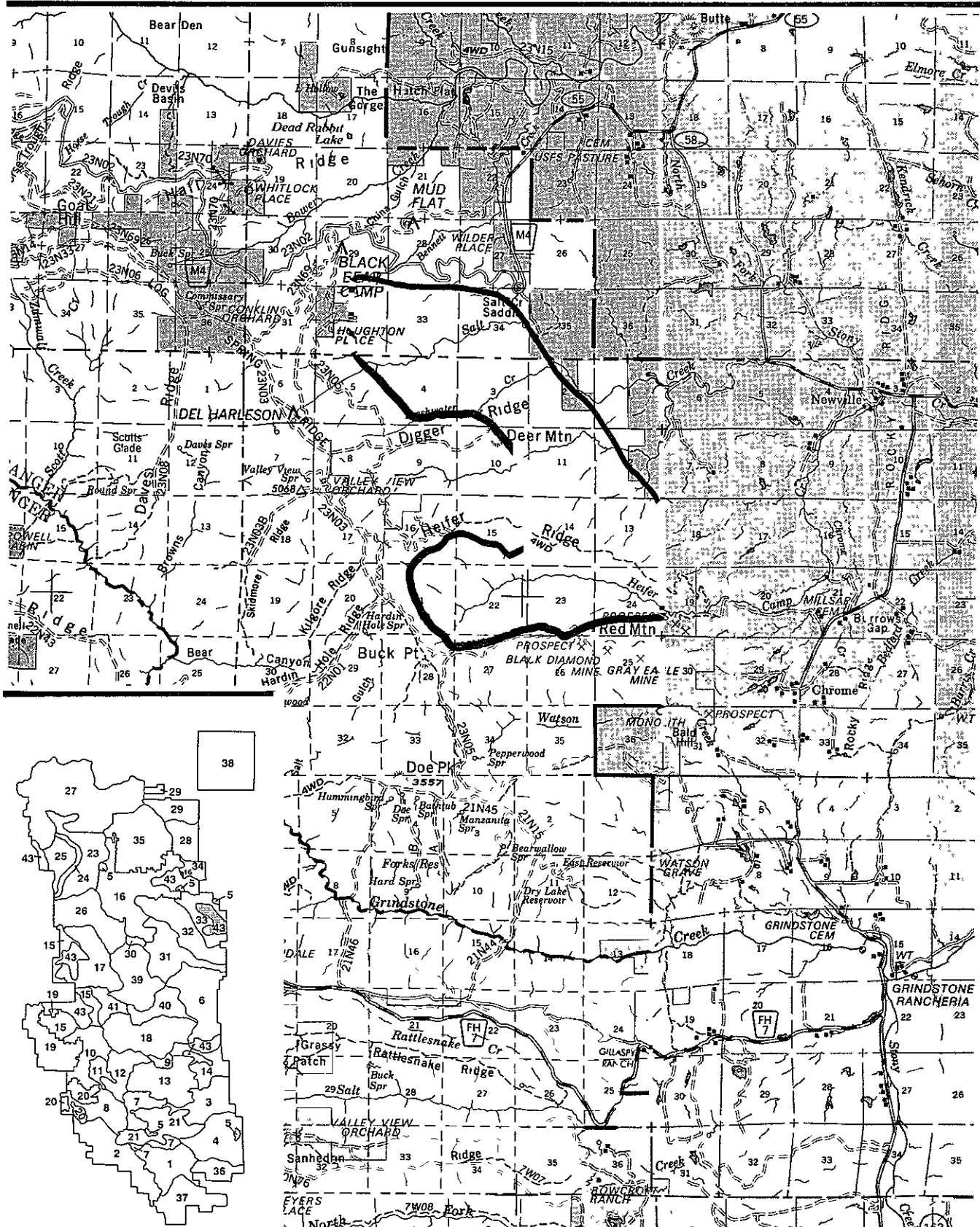
Opportunities for semi-primitive recreation are available on about 86% of this area. Several trails exist or are under development within this area. Visual quality within the area is considered to be high (Variety Class A) on about 14% of the area, common (Variety Class B) on 63%, and minimal on the remaining 23%. Wildlife values are considered to be relatively high, with deer winter range and suitable habitat for bald eagle, goshawk, and prairie falcon found within the area. The western half of the Thomes Creek Backcountry Area is located within LSR RC309. The western half of the Thomes Creek Backcountry Area is also located within critical habitat for northern spotted owl. A potential peregrine falcon nest site is located within the Thomes Creek Backcountry Area. No sensitive plants are known to occur in this area. However, because a population of *Brodiaea coronaria* ssp. *rosea* has been located immediately east of this area, potential habitat for that species may exist within this area. Thomes Creek contains an interesting assemblage of native warmwater species in the area of The Gorge. Summer water temperatures limit the rainbow trout population. The Gorge is a natural barrier to anadromous fish. The proposed Devils Basin Research Natural Area (Management Area #5) forms a portion of boundary of this management area. This section of Thomes Creek has been proposed for Wild and Scenic River status.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Portion of LSR RC309 Dispersal habitat Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat Dispersal habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat Dispersal habitat
Bald Eagle	Potential foraging habitat
Peregrine Falcon	Potential nest site
Deer	Portion of Thomes Creek key winter range

MANAGEMENT AREA #43

Deer Mountain Backcountry Area



MANAGEMENT AREA #43

DEER MOUNTAIN BACKCOUNTRY AREA

Total Acres 8,668

NF Acres 8,575

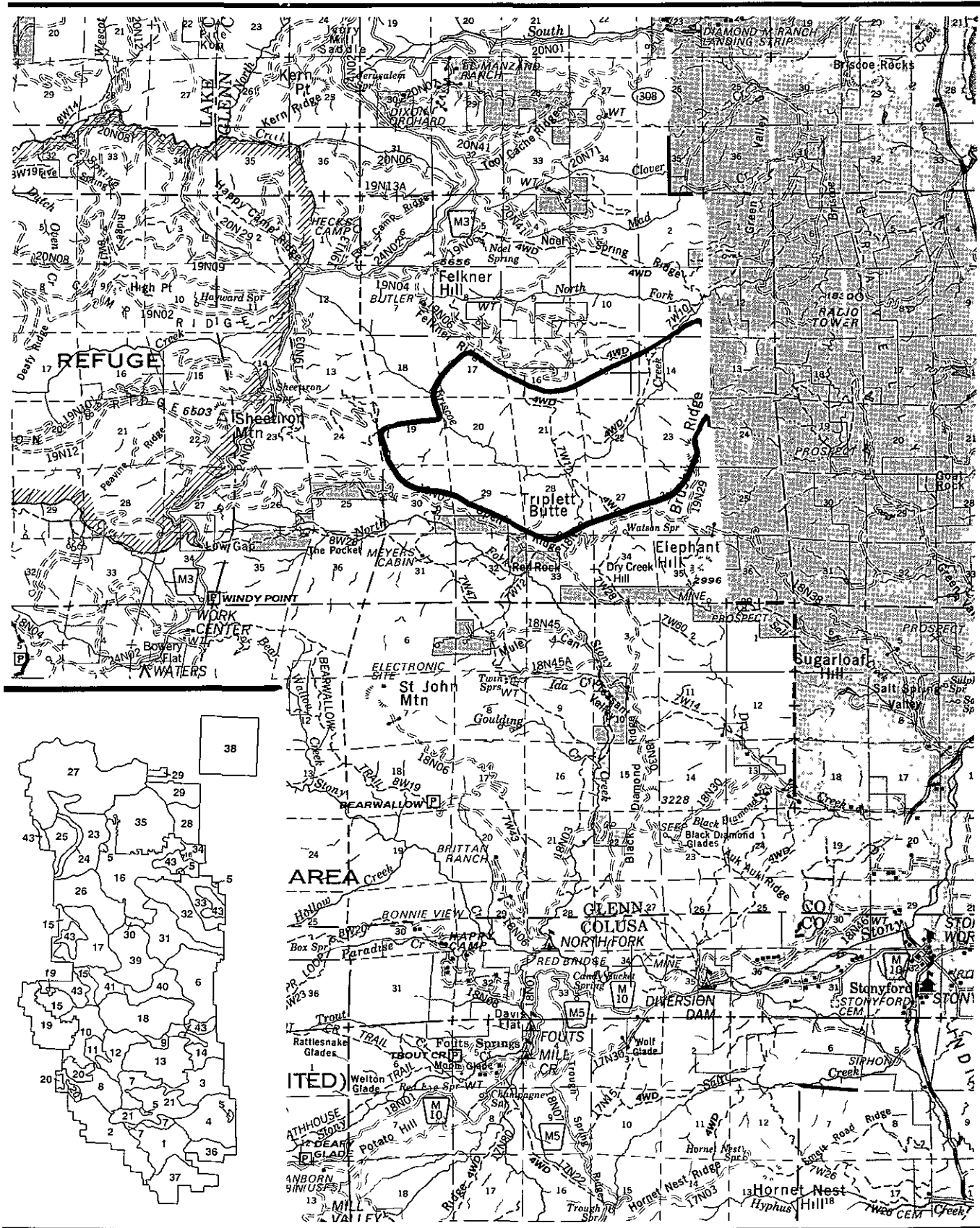
The area consists primarily of the brush slopes along the eastern portion of the Forest. Semi-primitive recreation opportunities are available on approximately 79% of the area. The area contains a distinctive (Variety Class A) level of visual quality on approximately 4% of the area, a common (Variety Class B) level on 22% of the area, and a minimal (Variety Class C) level of visual quality on the remaining 74% of the area. Wildlife values are considered to be low throughout most of the area with only limited winter deer range being provided. No populations of sensitive plants have been recorded in this area. However, a special interest species which occur here is Orobanche valida ssp. howellii. Potential habitat exists for Antirrhinum subcordatum, Eriastrum brandegeae, Fritillaria pluriflora, Hesperolinon drymaroides, Hesperolinon tehamense, and Madia stebbinsi.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
None	

MANAGEMENT AREA #43

Briscoe Backcountry Area



MANAGEMENT AREA #43

BRISCOE BACKCOUNTRY AREA

Total Acres 5,967

NF Acres 5,967

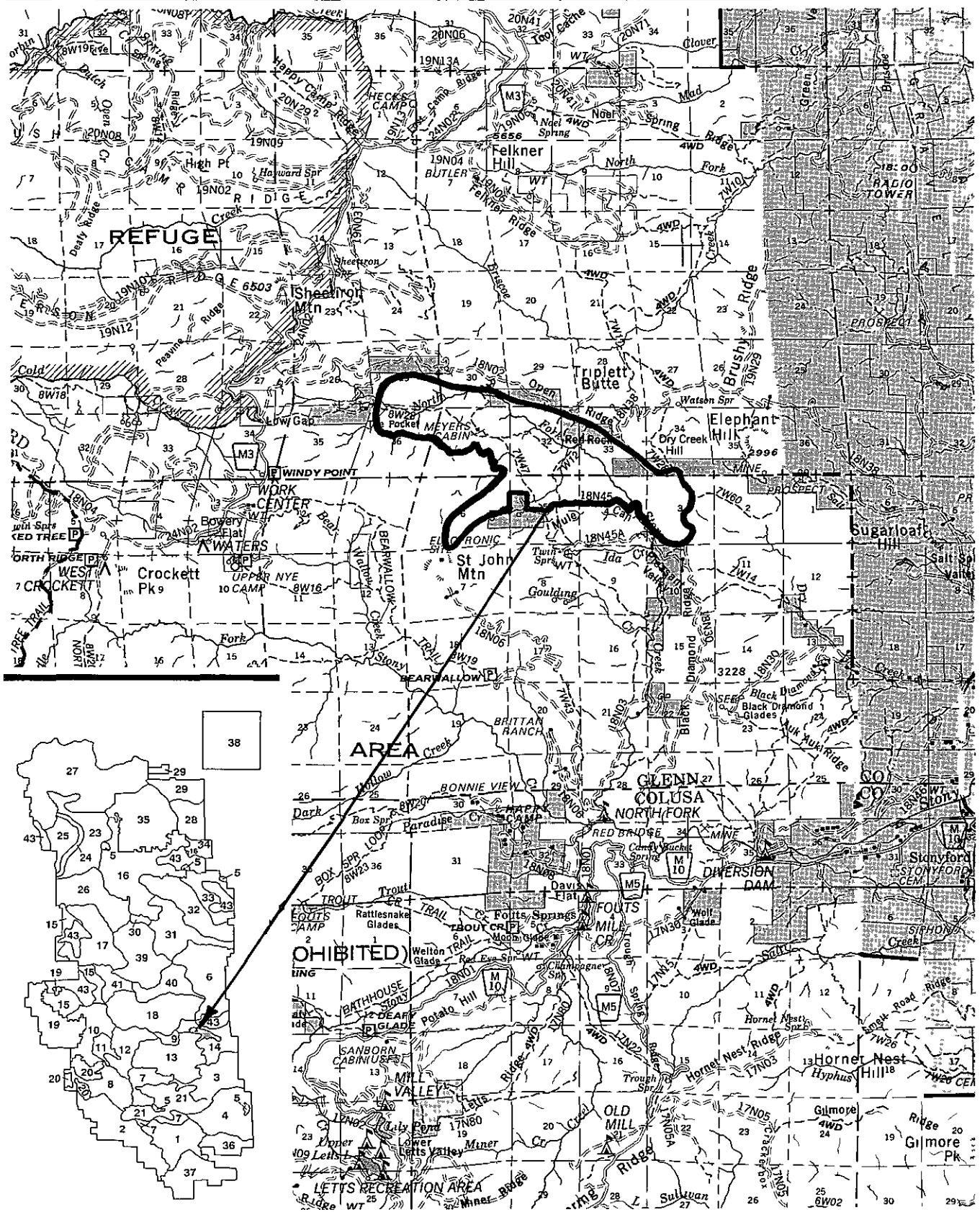
This majority of this area is situated on the brush covered slopes along the eastern side of the Forest. About 90% of the area provides opportunities for semi-primitive recreation. Approximately 5% of the area is classified as having distinctive (Variety Class A) visual quality, 31% common (Variety Class B) visual quality, and 64% minimal (Variety Class C) visual quality. Wildlife values are relatively low with deer winter range being the primary value. A portion of the Briscoe Backcountry Area is located within LSR RC311 and critical habitat for northern spotted owl. Briscoe Creek has a good population of rainbow trout. The access is difficult and the fishing pressure is generally very light. No sensitive plant species are known to occur in this area.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Portion of LSR RC311 Dispersal habitat Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat Dispersal habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat Dispersal habitat
Deer	Portions of Briscoe Creek and Elephant Hill key winter ranges

MANAGEMENT AREA #43

Snow Mountain Backcountry Area



MANAGEMENT AREA #43

SNOW MOUNTAIN BACKCOUNTRY AREA

Total Acres 2,803

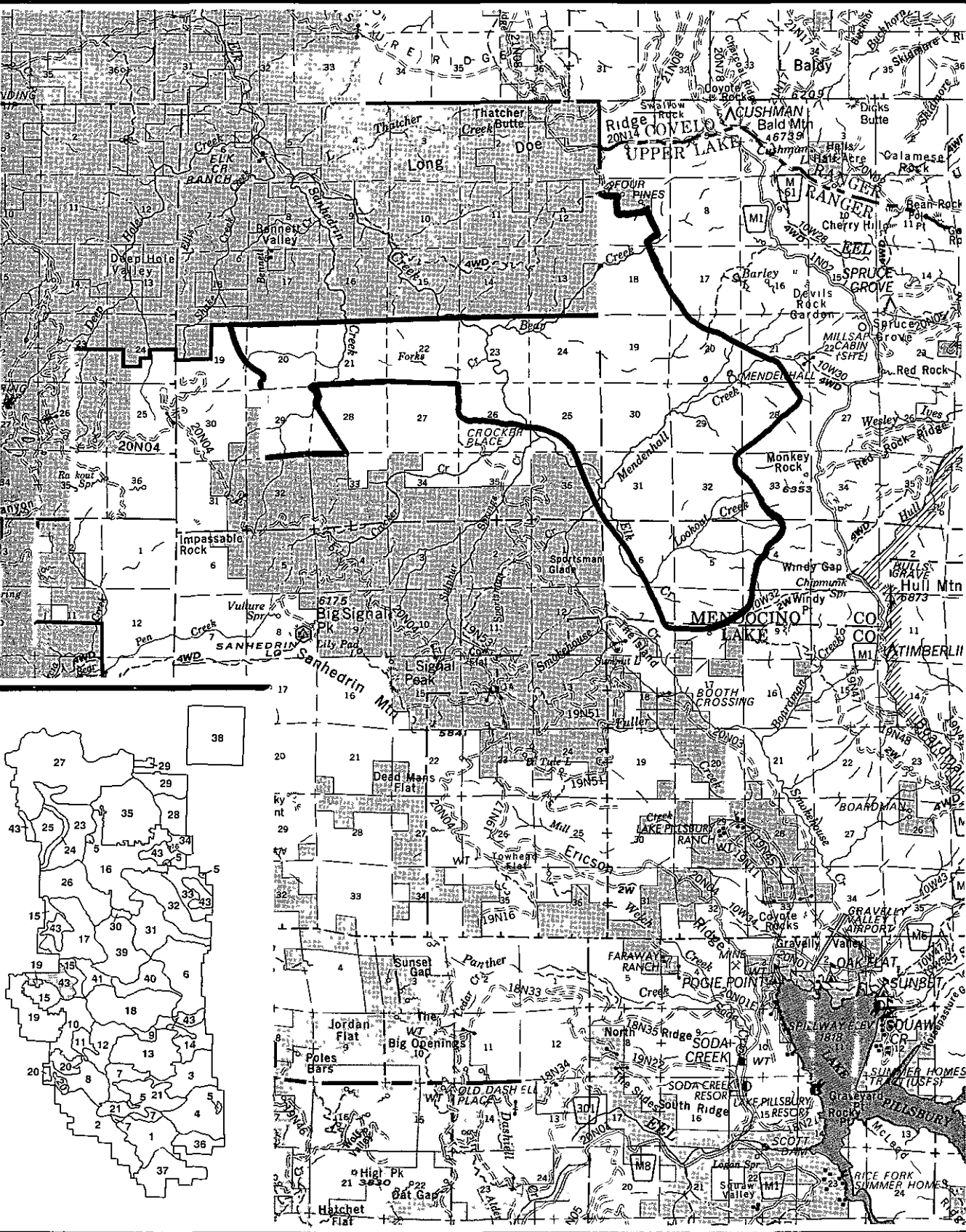
NF Acres 2,565

This area includes part of the original roadless area not included within the Snow Mountain Wilderness under the California Wilderness Act. The area is located adjacent to the existing Wilderness along its northern boundary. A semi-primitive recreation setting is provided throughout almost the entire area. Approximately 16% of the area is classified as having distinctive (Variety Class A) visual quality, 77% with common (Variety Class B) visual quality, and 7% with minimal (Variety Class C) visual quality. Wildlife values in the area are considered to be relatively high and include habitat for peregrine falcon, and key summer and winter range for deer. No sensitive plants are known to occur in this area, but a feature of botanical interest that is located here is an area referred to as "Ferndale."

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Peregrine Falcon	Verified nest site
Deer	Portions of St John Mountain key summer range & Elephant Hill key winter range

Elk Creek Backcountry Area



MANAGEMENT AREA #43

ELK CREEK BACKCOUNTRY AREA

Total Acres 12,092

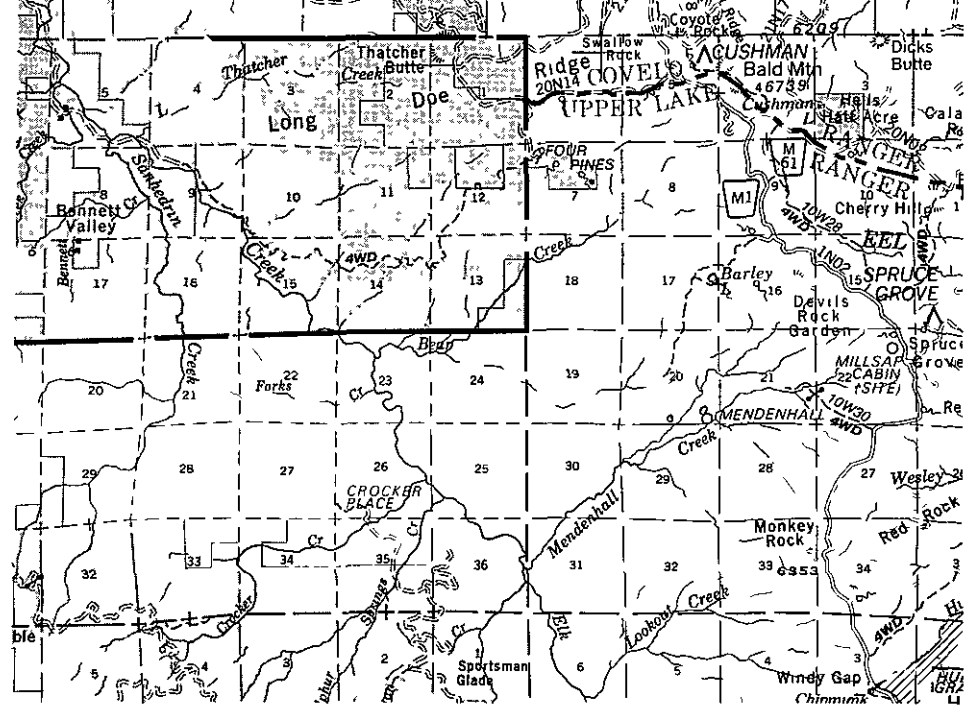
NF Acres 12,019

This area is situated along the western slopes of the Forest and is adjacent to the southern portion of the Bureau of Land Management Thatcher-Eden Valley Wilderness Study Area. The area was included in a 1994 proposal by the California Wilderness Coalition to establish the Yuki Wilderness. The western portion of this area was burned by the Mendenhall Fire of 1987. Revegetation of the burned area is occurring naturally. A semi-primitive recreation setting is provided throughout almost the entire area. Visual quality is classified as distinctive (Variety Class A) on about 10% of the area, common (Variety Class B) on 60% of the area, and minimal (Variety Class C) on 30% of the area. Wildlife values are considered high and include habitat for elk, northern spotted owl, marten, and fisher, as well as key winter and summer range for deer. The western portion of this area lies within LSR RC315 and critical habitat for northern spotted owl. Elk Creek provides anadromous fish and rainbow trout habitat. No sensitive plant species are known to occur in this area.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Portion of LSR RC315 Dispersal habitat Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat Dispersal habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat Dispersal habitat
Tule Elk	Year-round habitat Potential reintroduction site
Deer	Portions of Elk Creek and Gravelly Valley key winter ranges and portion of Hull Mountain key summer range

Thatcher Backcountry Area



MANAGEMENT AREA #43

THATCHER BACKCOUNTRY AREA

Total Acres 8,485
NF Acres 8,485

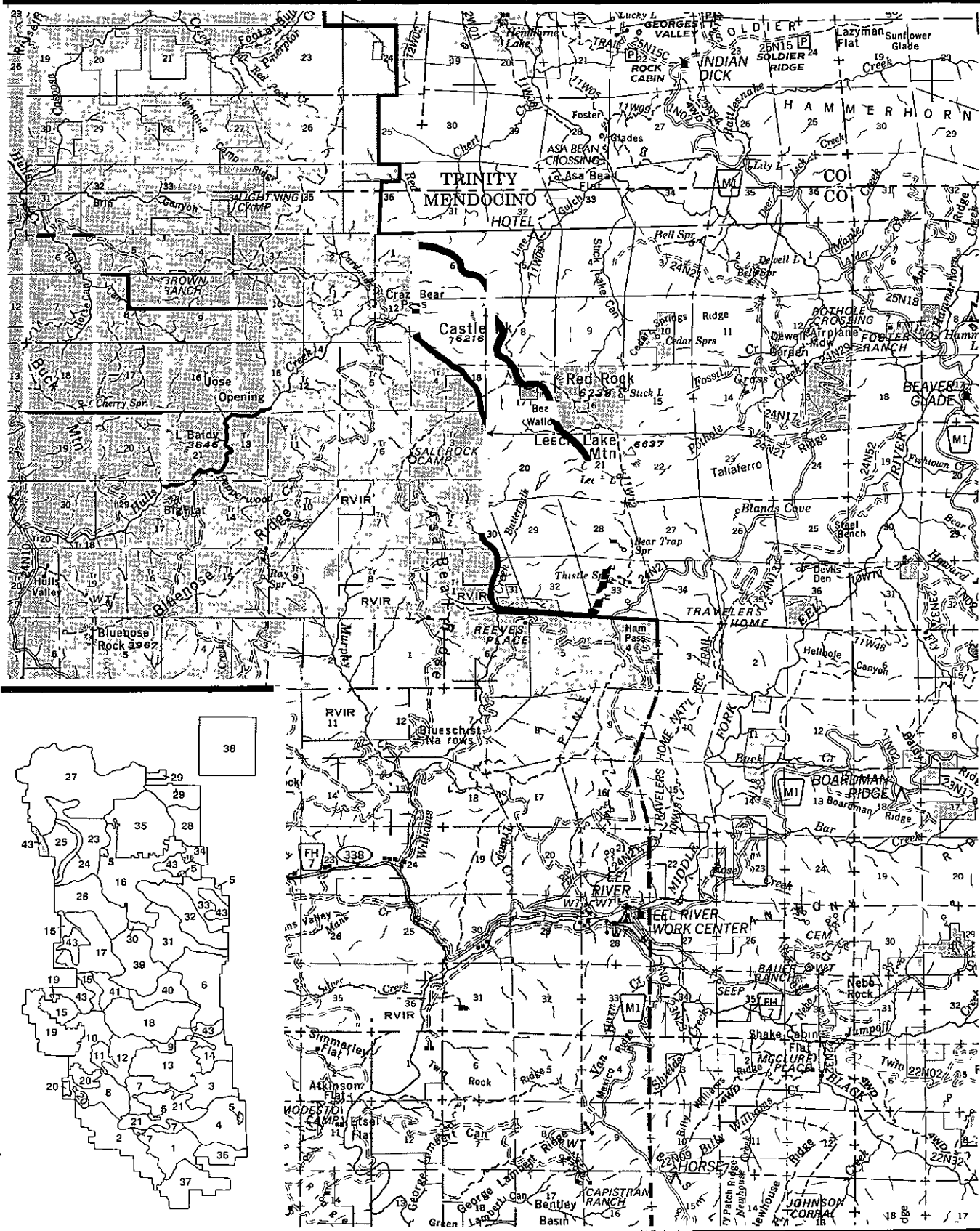
This area is situated along the western slopes of the Forest and is adjacent to the northeastern portion of the Bureau of Land Management Thatcher-Eden Valley Wilderness Study Area. The area was included in a 1994 proposal by the California Wilderness Coalition to establish the Yuki Wilderness. A semi-primitive recreation setting is provided over about 85% of the area. Approximately 14% of the area is classified as having distinctive visual quality (Variety Class A), 61% as having common visual quality (Variety Class B), and 25% as having minimal visual quality (Variety Class C). The area contains relatively high wildlife values which include suitable habitat for marten, fisher, northern spotted owl, and goshawk. The Thatcher Backcountry Area is located entirely within the Thatcher key watershed. A portion of the area is within LSR RC310, and the majority of the Thatcher Backcountry Area is located within critical habitat for northern spotted owl. No sensitive plant species are known to occur in this area.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Portion of LSR 310 Dispersal habitat Critical habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat
Peregrine Falcon	Potential nest site
Deer	Portion of Old Man Ridge key winter range and Etsel Ridge key summer range

MANAGEMENT AREA #43

Big Butte-Shinbone Backcountry Area



MANAGEMENT AREA #43

BIG BUTTE-SHINBONE BACKCOUNTRY AREA

Total Acres 4,440
NF Acres 4,242

This area is situated adjacent to the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness and includes the remaining portion of the original roadless area not included in the Wilderness under the California Wilderness Act. This area also includes approximately 275 acres of Late Successional Reserves which falls outside of the RARE II boundary for Big Butte-Shinbone. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are considered good within the area. Primitive recreation opportunities are available on approximately 32% of the area, with semi-primitive opportunities on about 57%. About 30% of the area has a high level of visual quality (Variety Class A) with the remaining area having visual quality common to the Forest (Variety Class B). Wildlife values are considered to be very high with suitable habitat for northern spotted owl, peregrine falcon, goshawk, marten and fisher found within the area. The area is entirely within LSR RC320. The sensitive plants Epilobium nivium and Raillardella scabrida occur in this area.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Entirely within LSR RC320 Nesting habitat Dispersal habitat
Goshawk	Nesting habitat Dispersal habitat
Marten/Fisher	Denning habitat Dispersal habitat
Deer	Portion of Leech Mountain key summer range