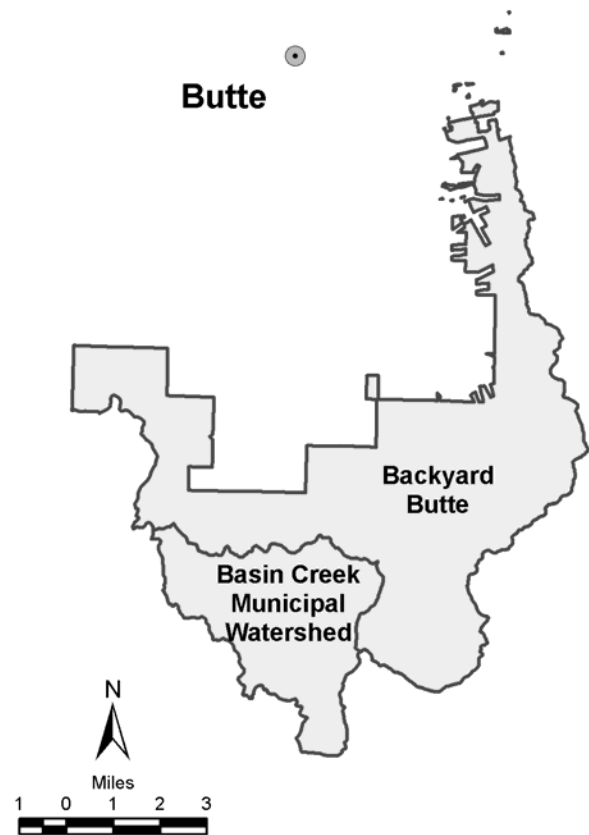
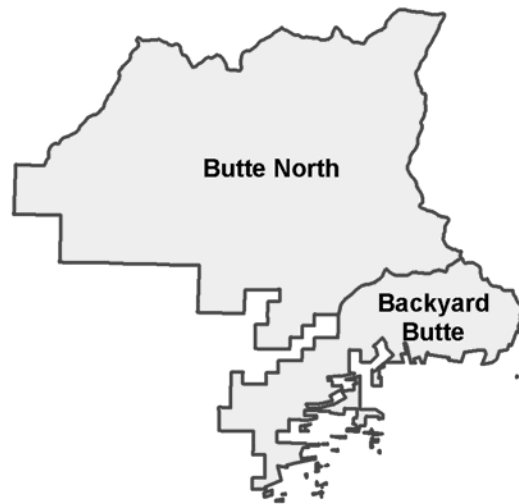
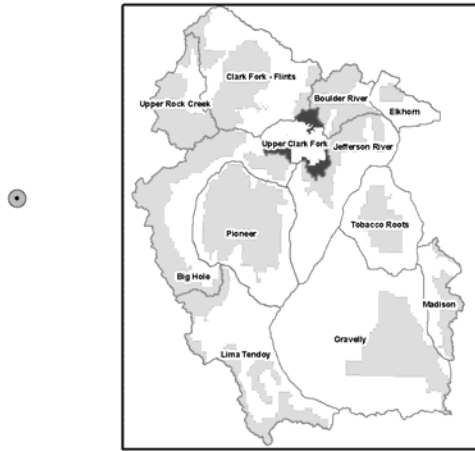


## Upper Clark Fork Landscape Management Areas



## UPPER CLARK FORK LANDSCAPE

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The Upper Clark Fork is one of three landscapes located on the Pacific side of the Continental Divide. Vegetation is dominated by lodgepole pine forests. The headwaters of the Clark Fork River, a tributary of the Columbia River, originate in the forested highlands surrounding Butte. Mountain goats live in the Highland Mountains. Elk in addition to moose, and other wildlife are also found in the area.. Many of the streams contain bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout.

The Upper Clark Fork Basin contains the Butte urban area and the forest is its playground. Land ownership is mixed along the forest fringe. This provides particular management challenges, with private homes and patented mining claims mixed in with forested vegetation and various access needs. The city and county administrators of Butte-Silver Bow take great interest in forest management because of the traditional interdependence between the community and surrounding lands.

Mining was the reason for settlement of this area. Remnants of the mining culture provide historic features which visually dominate some valley and hillsides. Streams, soils, vegetation, and landform have been altered by mining. Nearly all present conifer stands are regenerated clear-cuts from over a century ago. Some forested areas have been logged a second time. Mining and timber harvest continue within the landscape, but their contribution to the local economy has declined.

The Forest contributes to the scenic backdrop around Butte. The landscape is the smallest on the forest, yet the level of development and recreation use is high. Recreation tends toward day use gatherings, picnicking, and trail outings.



# Backyard Butte Management Area

- Forest Boundary
- Management Area Boundary
- Research Natural Areas (RNA's)
- National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails

### Travel Restrictions

- 34% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed
- 55% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed

### Recreation Allocations

- 9% Non-FS Inholding
- 0% Wilderness
- 0% Recommended Wilderness

### Summer

- 34% Summer Non-motorized
- 2% Backcountry Recreation
- 55% Road-based
- 0% Wilderness Study Area

### Winter

- 55% Winter Non-motorized
- 36% Winter Motorized Recreation
- 0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized
- 0% Wilderness Study Area

### Key Watersheds

- 58% Fisheries Key Watersheds
- 0% Restoration Key Watersheds

### Eligible Wild, Scenic, & Recreation Rivers

- Eligible Wild Segments
- Eligible Scenic Segments
- Eligible Recreation Segments

### Communication Sites

- Existing
- Proposed

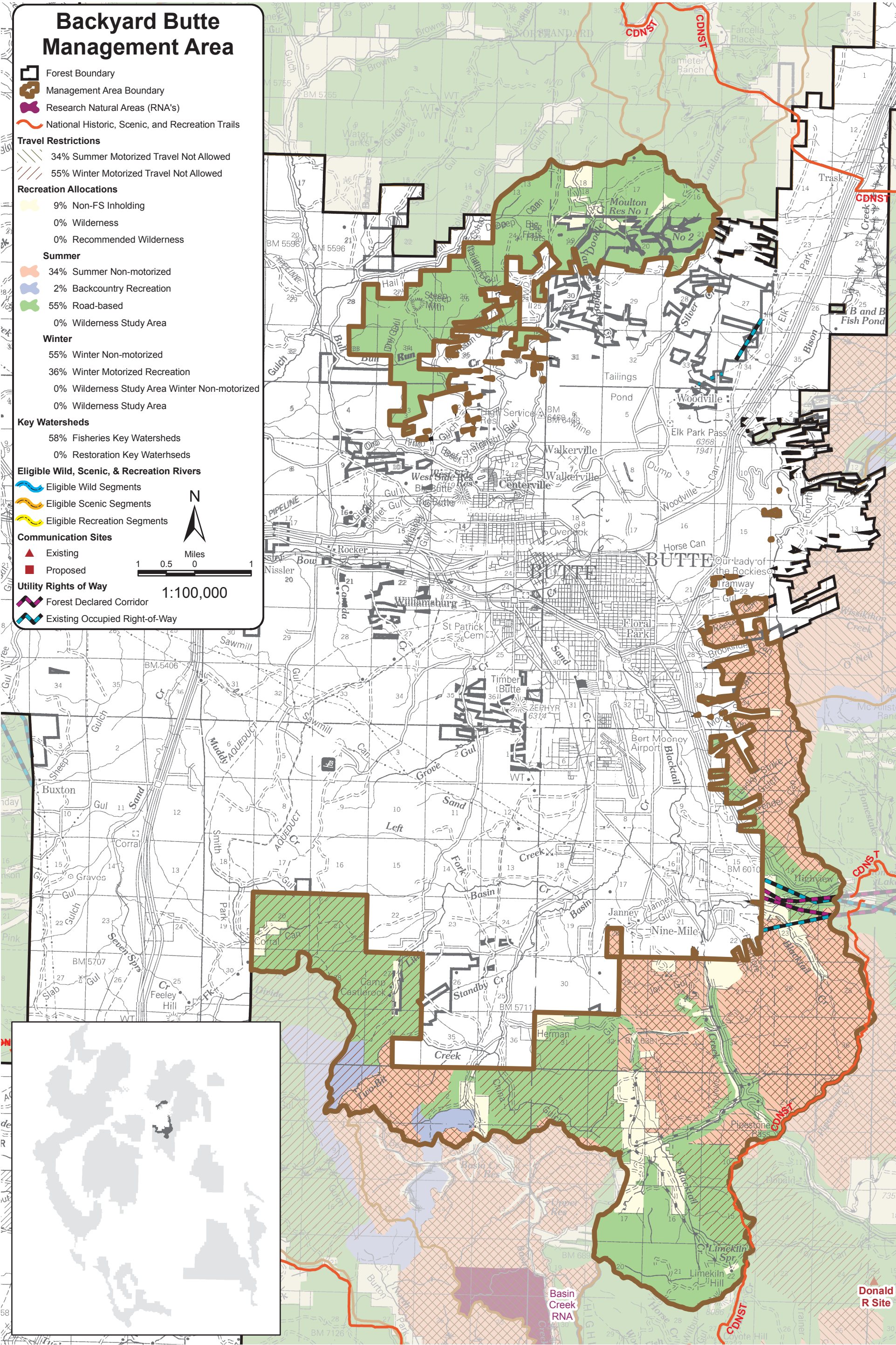
### Utility Rights of Way

- Forest Declared Corridor
- Existing Occupied Right-of-Way



Miles  
1 0.5 0 1

1:100,000





### ***Backyard Butte Management Area***

This area is managed for concentrated recreation and other resource uses.

The recreation settings include rural, roaded, and semi-primitive areas. Areas of private land are intermixed with Forest lands. A mix of motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities are optimized for local citizens year around. Thompson Park, along the Continental Divide, and Old Milwaukee Rails to Trails are non-motorized routes and the Moulton Cross-Country Ski Trails are groomed by the local club. The East Ridge serves as a scenic backdrop for the city and scenic base for the Lady of the Rockies, located on private land.

The mix of ownership leads to local concern about fuels buildup around homes and in municipal watersheds. Responsibility for managing the municipal water supply and the Thompson Park Municipal Recreation Area is shared with Butte-Silver Bow Consolidated City-County Government (BSCCCG). Recreation residence tracts are authorized here.

Winter non-motorized allocations provide wildlife security above the East Ridge. South of Butte, the allocation provides wildlife security as well as a place for quiet recreation accessible from town.

Vegetation is managed to provide wood products, reduce fuels, and produce forage for livestock and wildlife. Blacktail and Columbia Gulch are fisheries key watersheds, managed to conserve native fish populations.

#### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Roads for timber harvest

Hikers, picnickers and skiers concentrated in developed areas and on trails

Motor vehicles on roads and trails

Remnants of historic mining and current mining activity or reclamation

Livestock

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#### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**

Develop a master plan for Thompson Park in cooperation with BSCCCG to ensure community needs are met in addition to federal regulations for NFS management

Reduce risk of wildfire to private property by managing vegetation and fuel loads in wildland urban interface

#### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**

None

# Basin Creek Management Area



Forest Boundary



Management Area Boundary

## Travel Restrictions

74% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed

76% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed

## Recreation Allocations

10% Inholding

0% Wilderness

0% Recommended Wilderness

### Summer

74% Summer Non-motorized

5% Backcountry Recreation

11% Road-based

0% Wilderness Study Area

### Winter

76% Winter Non-motorized

14% Winter Motorized Recreation

0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized

0% Wilderness Study Area

National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails

Research Natural Areas (RNA's)

## Key Watersheds

0% Fisheries Key Watersheds

0% Restoration Key Watersheds

## Eligible Wild, Scenic, & Recreation Rivers

Eligible Wild Segments

Eligible Scenic Segments

Eligible Recreation Segments

## Communication Sites

Existing

Proposed

## Utility Rights of Way

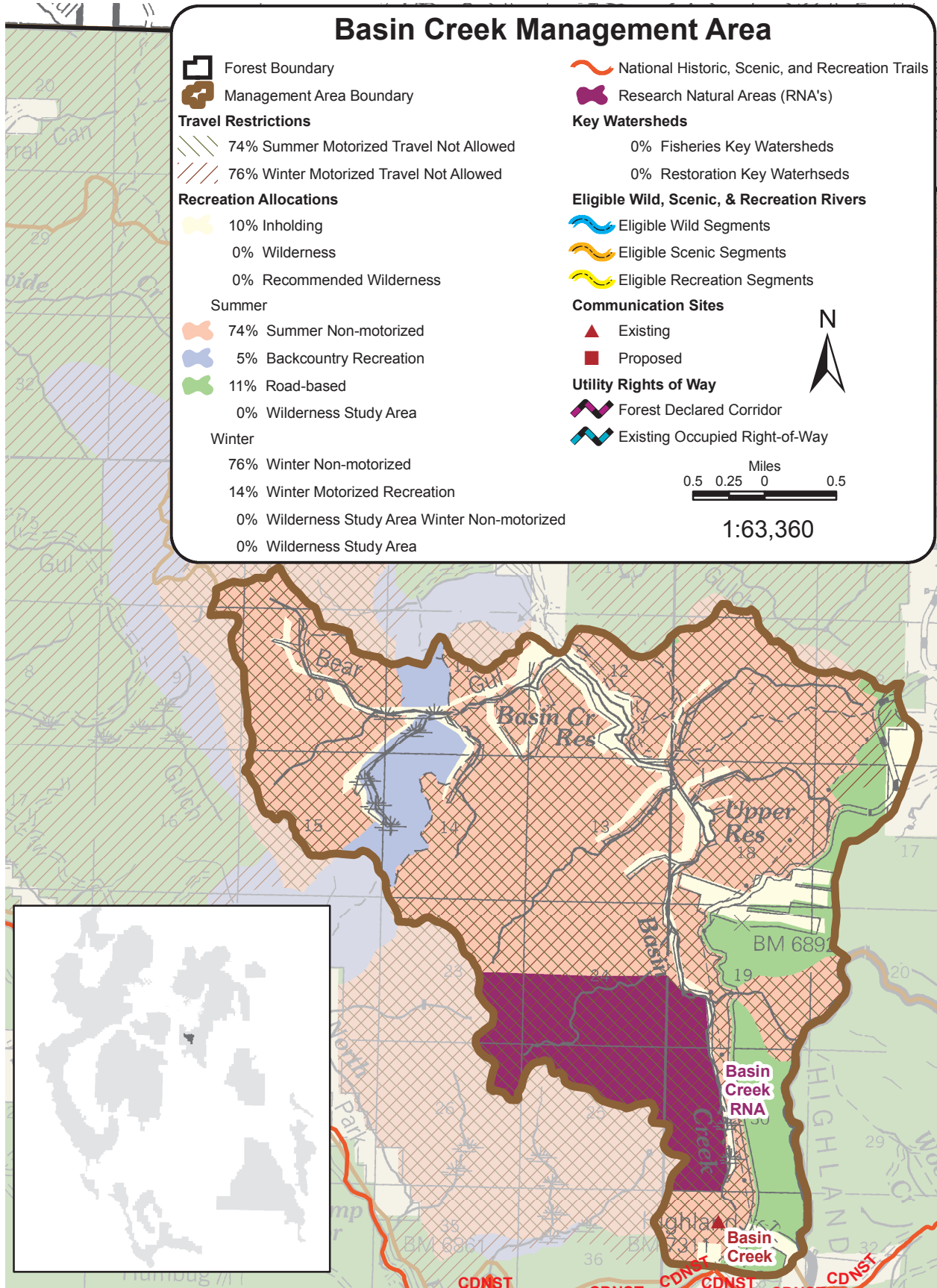
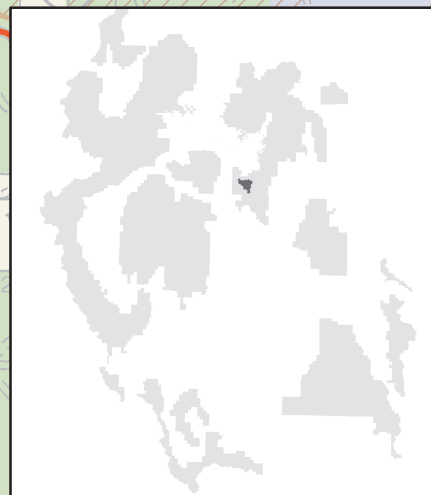
Forest Declared Corridor

Existing Occupied Right-of-Way



Miles  
0.5 0.25 0 0.5

1:63,360



### ***Basin Creek Management Area***

This area is managed to protect water quality within a designated Class A watershed. Entry into a portion of the area is prohibited yearlong by a closure order for the protection of public health and safety.

The setting is a mix of roaded and semi-primitive; however, recreation use is not encouraged. Exceptions are the Highland (Moose Creek) Road which traverses the east side, Trail #108 on the west side, and the CDNST along the upper boundary.

Winter non-motorized allocations provide wildlife security and protect water quality.

Activities above the Basin Creek Dam are restricted to those which contribute to watershed protection.

#### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire



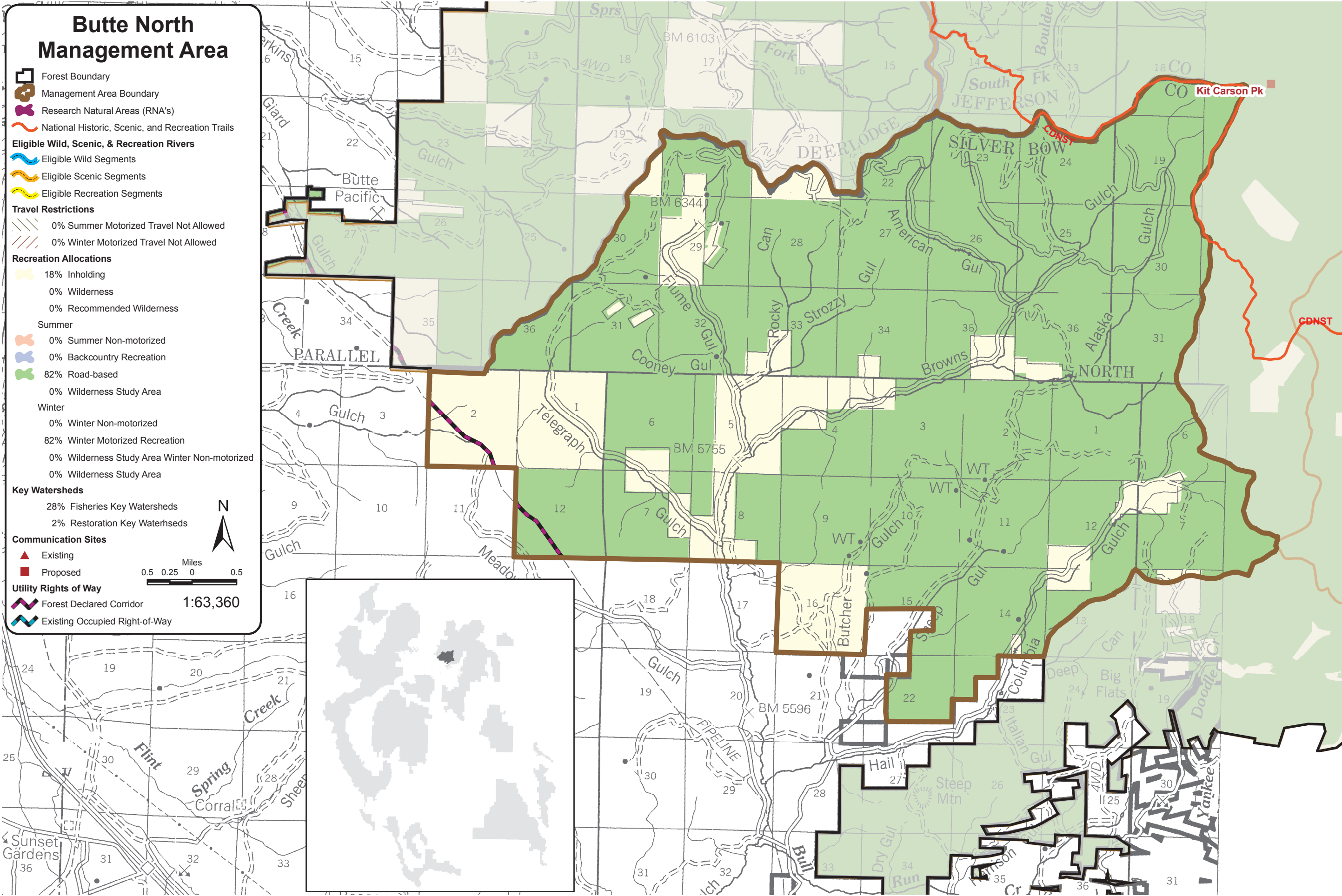
#### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**

None

#### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**

Livestock grazing is not allowed

New permanent roads or trails are not allowed





### ***Butte North Management Area***

This area is managed for timber harvest, livestock grazing and dispersed recreation.

Recreation takes place in a roaded setting with a mix of modified and natural appearing scenery. Recreation opportunities are dispersed and motorized. Most of the recreation use is motorized. Snowmobile use in winter is common. One route is groomed. The area is important to local residents for fall hunting. Along with the neighboring management areas it is considered a part of Butte's backyard.

Columbia Gulch is a fisheries key watershed managed to conserve native fish populations.

#### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Motor vehicles on designated roads and trails year-round

Livestock



#### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**

Segregate opportunities for full size highway vehicles and ATVs

Convert some roads to trails


Reduce risk of wildfire to private property by managing vegetation and fuel loads in wildland urban interface


#### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**

None





# Northeast Fleece Management Area

 Forest Boundary


 Management Area Boundary


**Travel Restrictions**


 0% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed

 21% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed


**Recreation Allocations**


 5% Non-FS Inholding


 0% Wilderness


 0% Recommended Wilderness

**Summer**


 0% Summer Non-motorized


 39% Backcountry Recreation


 56% Road-based


 0% Wilderness Study Area


**Winter**


 21% Winter Non-motorized

 74% Winter Motorized Recreation


 0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized


 0% Wilderness Study Area

 Research Natural Areas (RNA's)


 National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails


**Key Watersheds**


 42% Fisheries Key Watersheds

 0% Restoration Key Watersheds


**Eligible Wild, Scenic, & Recreation Rivers**


 Eligible Wild Segments

 Eligible Scenic Segments


 Eligible Recreation Segments


**Communication Sites**


 Existing

 Proposed

**Utility Rights of Way**

 Forest Declared Corridor

 Existing Occupied Right-of-Way

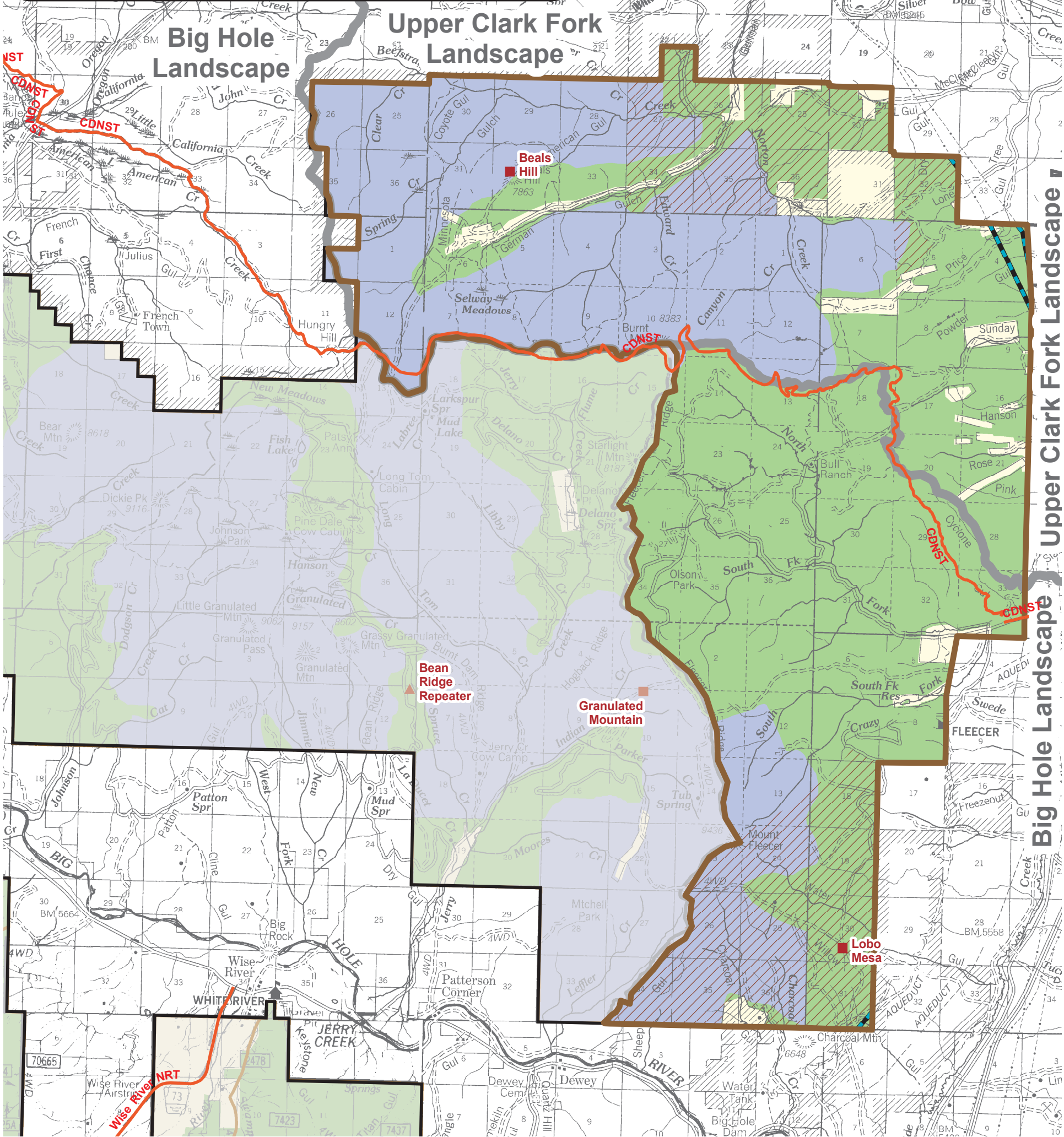


10 Miles

0.5 Miles

0 Miles

1:100,000



### *Northeast Fleecer Management Area*

This area is managed for dispersed recreation; secure fall and winter wildlife habitat, and other resource uses.

The recreation setting is a mix of roaded and semi-primitive with a few exceptions to the natural appearing scenery, including Beal Mine. Proximity to Butte and Anaconda make this area attractive for a day of challenging motorized trail riding in summer and winter.

Motorized loop trails cross this portion of the Fleecer Range and connect to the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. Hunting is the biggest use, with some of the highest hunter densities in the State. Dispersed camping is common along Forest roads, especially near streams and riparian zones.

Vegetation management provides wood products and forage for livestock and big game.

The area provides supplemental secure wildlife habitat adjacent to two wildlife management areas. Travel is regulated to provide late fall and winter security for elk. Winter non-motorized allocations protect winter elk security adjacent to Fleecer Mountain Wildlife Management Area.

German Gulch is a Key Fish Watershed managed to conserve natural fish populations.

#### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Roads for timber harvest

Motor vehicles on roads and trails year-round

Scattered campsites along roads

Remnants of historic mining and current mining activity or reclamation

Livestock



#### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**

Manage, harden and designate dispersed camping sites to concentrate campers and reduce impact to soils and aquatic resources

Provide a separate loop opportunity for non-motorized use

#### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**

None