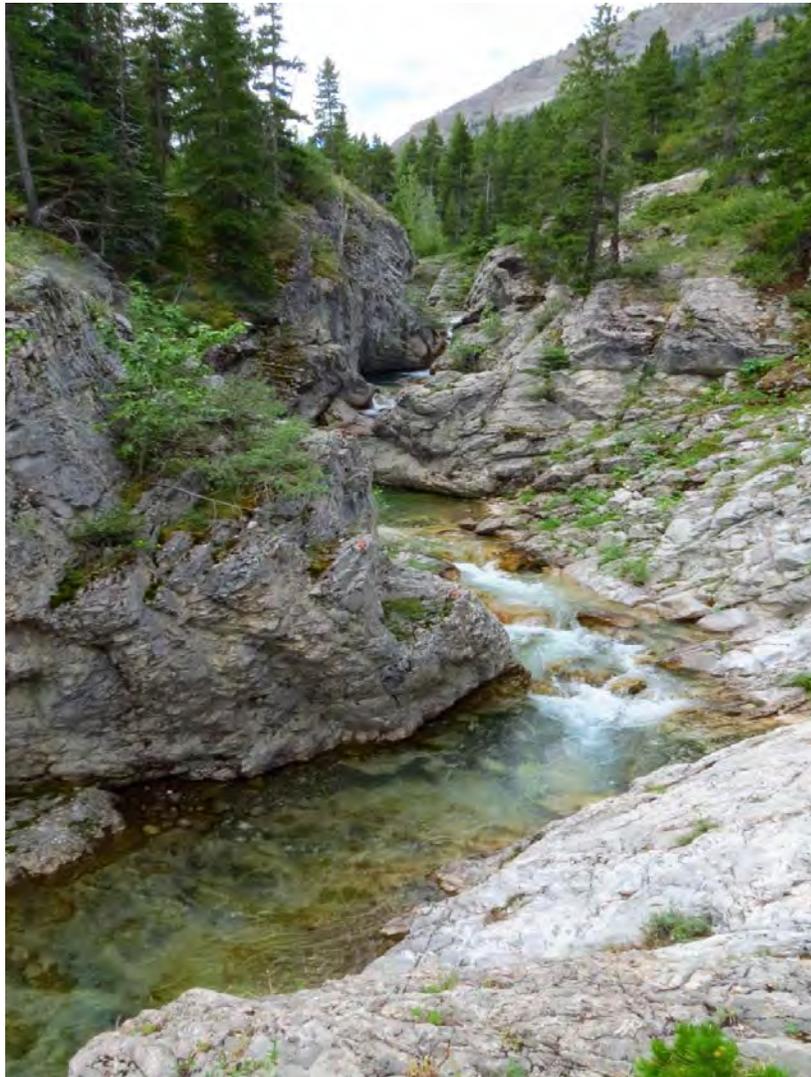


Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Study

2015



South Fork Birch Creek, photo by K. Rumsey

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Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Study

Introduction

Following the adoption of the 1986 Forest Plans, both the Helena and the Lewis and Clark National Forests conducted wild and scenic rivers eligibility studies. During these late 1980's studies the Helena National Forest identified four rivers and the Lewis and Clark National Forest identified nine rivers as eligible for wild and scenic rivers designation. Determinations for eligibility were made using the process outlined in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Act of 1968. The results of these studies were adopted in 1989 as forest plan amendments to both national forest plans.

In 2015, under the direction of the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR Part 219), a new wild and scenic rivers eligibility study was conducted for the Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests (HLC NFs) planning area. The 2015 eligibility study reviewed the earlier work from the 1989 effort and determined that an additional, more comprehensive study was required to fulfill the mandates set forth in the 2012 Planning Rule. In the 2015 study, all named and free flowing streams/rivers within the HLC NFs planning area were considered. The results of that comprehensive look are included in this document.

Relevant Laws, Regulations, and Policy

National Wild and Scenic River System Act of 1968 (WSRA)

Congress passed the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-542; 16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) for the purpose of preserving rivers with outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational values in a free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future generations. The Act is recognized for safeguarding the special character of these rivers, while also allowing for their appropriate use and development. The Act promotes river management across political boundaries and public participation in the development of goals for river protection.

During the forest planning process, whether for revision or initial development, the Forest Service must review all streams for their potential eligibility for designation in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS) as directed under section 5(d)(1) the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (PL 90-542:16 USC 1271-1287, as amended).

Section 1(b) of the Act expresses Congressional policy for America's rivers: It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Congress declares that the established national policy of dam and other construction at appropriate sections of the rivers of the United States needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital conservation purposes.

Regulations

The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) requires the Forest Service to develop a planning rule under the principles of the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960 (MUSYA) which sets the process for the development and revision of land management plans. In 2012, 36 CFR Part 219 was passed to codify the direction in the NFMA and the MUSYA. This regulation is known as the 2012 Planning Rule. The

2012 Planning Rule’s Final Directives (FHH 1909.12 Chapter 80) provide additional guidance for conducting a wild and scenic rivers eligibility study during forest plan revision. The HLC NFs used this guidance to conduct the wild and scenic rivers eligibility study for the HLC NFs planning area.

Eligibility Process Overview

In May 2015, a wild and scenic rivers eligibility process paper was developed which outlined the step by step process planned to be used to conduct a wild and scenic rivers eligibility study within the HLC NFs planning area. This process paper was made available to the public by posting on the HLC NFs Forest Plan Revision website. The following steps to an eligibility study were identified in the process paper.

- Step 1:** Identify free-flowing named streams/river.
- Step 2:** Identify regions of comparison (ROC) for each resource.
- Step 3:** Develop evaluation criteria for identifying outstanding remarkable values (ORVs).
- Step 4:** Evaluate named streams/ivers and determine if they possess ORVs.
- Step 5:** Determine level of importance of the ORV on the stream/river.
- Step 6:** Review level of development/determine classification (wild, scenic, or recreational)
- Step 7:** Develop forest plan management direction (to be included in the proposed action)

The eligibility study was conducted through a series of meetings and workshops aimed at each of the steps identified in the process paper. Much of the base information was developed from geographic information systems (GIS), such as the base maps, determining the number and location of all “named streams”, and identifying the location of developments along or nearby these rivers and streams. Specific resource information about each river/stream was gathered from maps and professional knowledge provided by forest resource specialists.

The results of the eligibility process are contained in this wild and scenic rivers eligibility study document as well as in data spreadsheets. Specific river data, description tables, and maps are located in the summary section starting on page 17.

The following table provides a summary of each step of the process, the timeframe in which it was accomplished and the tasks completed for that step in the process.

Table 1. Summary of the wild and scenic rivers process

WSR Step	Dates Completed	Accomplishments
Pre-process: Process white paper.	May 2015	The Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Study process paper was posted on the website for public information.
Step 1: Identified free-flowing named streams/rivers	March 2015	All free flowing rivers, identified on a USGS 7.5 minute quad map, were identified and organized by Geographic Area. Previously identified rivers/streams were reviewed to determine if changes to their free-flowing characteristics had changed since the earlier 1989 eligibility study.
Step 2: Region of Comparison	April 2015 (Workshop)	A Wild and Scenic Rivers eligibility study workshop was conducted with specialists present to represent the resources of scenery, geology, recreation, wildlife, fisheries, cultural resources, plants and other

WSR Step	Dates Completed	Accomplishments
		natural features. The Region of Comparison (ROC) was decided upon by each resource. All specialists felt that the State of Montana would be the most appropriate ROC.
Step 3: Develop Evaluation Criteria for Outstanding Remarkable Values (ORVs)	April 2015 (Workshop)	Evaluation Criteria were developed for each resource to determine whether an ORV might be present on each stream/river.
Step 4 (Part I): Evaluate each named stream/river.	April 2015 (Workshop)	<p>Each named stream/river within the HLC NFs that had been identified as free-flowing was evaluated against the ORV criteria for each resource. This evaluation determined the presence or absence of a potential ORV.</p> <p>There are 1,016 named streams which are free-flowing on the HLC NFs. At the end of the workshop, 73 of these streams/rivers were identified as having potential ORVs. Some of these needed additional study (or analysis).</p>
Step 4 (Part II): Continue the evaluation of named streams/rivers.	May 2015	Continued evaluation of the potential streams/rivers and the refinement of the location of ORVs.
Step 4 (Part III): Refine the evaluation of named streams/rivers.	June/July 2015	<p>Met with Fisheries, Geology, Wildlife, and Cultural to refine the evaluation of potential streams/rivers and ORVs.</p> <p>At the end of the refinement of Step 4, 40 potentially eligible WSR streams/rivers remained on the list of eligible streams.</p>
Step 5: Determine levels of importance	May 2015	Each potential stream/river was reviewed to determine whether the ORV was “regional” or “national” in significance.
Step 6: Review level of development and determine potential classification	July 2015	Using GIS to determine road and trail density, a classification was assigned each eligible stream/river. These classifications are Wild, Scenic, or Recreational. Different stream/river segments may have different classifications.

WSR Step	Dates Completed	Accomplishments
Step 7 (Part I): Document and describe the ORVs on each potentially eligible stream/river	August 2015	Separate description tables and maps were developed for each potentially eligible stream/river. Each description table provides a narrative for the ORVs of that stream/river.
Step 7 (Part II): Develop management direction for these rivers to be included in the Proposed Action	August/September 2015	Management direction for the eligible rivers was documented and will likely be included in the proposed action.

Eligibility Process Details

Step 1: Identify all free-flowing named streams

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Systems Act (WSRA) defines “free-flowing” as existing or flowing in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway. The existence of low dams, diversion works, or other minor structures at the time any river is proposed for inclusion in the national system does not automatically disqualify it for designation, but future construction of such structures is not allowed. The guidelines state, “the fact that a river segment may flow between large impoundments will not necessarily preclude its designation. Such segments may qualify if conditions within the segment meet the eligibility criteria.”

“Free flowing” includes rivers with intermittent flows that are enough to maintain the ORV. The river doesn't have to be boatable or floatable, as long as the flow is enough to maintain the ORV.

All free-flowing and named rivers/streams, identified on a U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute quadrangle map within the HLC NFs planning area, were identified and organized by geographic area (GA). The named streams were identified using the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) flowline feature class from the NHD and the associated stream names from the geographic names information system (GNIS). Previously identified rivers/streams were reviewed to determine if changes to their free-flowing characteristics had changed since the earlier 1989 eligibility study. Through this review, it was determined that there are 1,016 named rivers/streams within the HLC NFs planning area. These named (not necessarily all free flowing at this point...) rivers/streams are documented in a spreadsheet (see appendix A) and were carried forward to be studied for potential eligibility.

Step 2: Identify the region of comparison for each resource

The region of comparison is a geographic area that provides the basis for meaningful comparative analysis of potentially eligible rivers. The forest plan revision team identified the area of consideration for each resource (and ORV within each resource) which then served as the basis for meaningful comparative analysis. The following further describes aspects and importance of the region of comparison:

- The region of comparison may vary for different rivers and for different resource ORVs.
- The region of comparison should be scaled at an appropriate level for the type of river value being evaluated. For example, the appropriate region of comparison for scenic values may be an entire

national forest or grassland, while for cultural values it may be the portion of the state in which the river is located.

- Alternatively, the responsible official may conclude that a single region of comparison can encompass the evaluation of outstanding remarkable values.
- Once the region of comparison is identified, a river’s values can then be analyzed in comparison with other rivers in that area. Each value may have its own region of comparison and, thus, multiple regions of comparison may be utilized to evaluate one river.

During the April 2015 wild and scenic river workshop, the team determined the regions of comparison for each resource area. Because the HLC NFs planning area is large with a wide variety of unique resource and river values, it was recognized that a large region of comparison would be necessary to adequately study the eligible rivers/streams.

Each specialist considered many potential areas to use for the region of comparison for their resource area. Some of those areas included ecological sections, domain, provinces, regions used in the 1988 Pacific Northwest Rivers Analysis, state of Montana recreation regions from the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Report, state of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks regions, Forest Service Region 1 boundaries, and potential inclusions of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, etc. After considerable discussion, the team chose the boundary for the State of Montana as the region of comparison for the wild and scenic eligibility study. This region of comparison was acceptable for all resource areas and served as the basis for meaningful comparative analysis in the eligibility process.

Step 3: Develop evaluation criteria to identify ORVs

The Wild and Scenic Rivers System Act establishes a set of categories for determining the ORVs for resource areas. The Forest Service has further established baseline criteria to foster greater consistency within the agency and with other federal river-administering agencies in evaluating eligibility under Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 82.14a. The evaluation criteria set minimum thresholds in the establishment of each ORV. The criteria within the resource category may be modified and additional criteria may be included to make them more meaningful in the area of comparison.

During the April 2015 wild and scenic river workshop, the team established baseline evaluation criteria for scenery, recreation, geology, fish populations and habitat, wildlife populations and habitat, historic and cultural resources, and other natural river related values. The final evaluation criteria for each resource area are documented in the following table. These criteria were applied in the 2015 eligibility study process.

Table 2. Final eligibility evaluation criteria

Resource	FINAL Eligibility Criteria
Scenic	The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attractions, that provide river users with scenery that is spectacular and/or not common to other rivers in the region. When analyzing scenic values, additional factors such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and the length of time negative intrusions are viewed, may be considered. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse over the majority of the river or river segment.

Resource	FINAL Eligibility Criteria
Recreation	<p>Recreational opportunities are, or have the potential to be, popular enough to attract visitors from throughout or beyond the region of comparison or are unique or rare within the region. River-related opportunities include, but are not limited to, sightseeing, interpretation, wildlife observation, camping, photography, hiking, fishing, hunting, and boating. The river may provide settings for national or regional usage or competitive events.</p> <p>Recreational Fishing: Recreational fishing opportunities are, or have the potential to be, popular enough to attract visitors from throughout or beyond the region of comparison or are unique or rare within the region.</p>
Geologic	<p>The river, or the area within the river corridor, contains one or more examples of a geologic feature, process, or phenomenon that is unique or rare within the region of comparison. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a “textbook” example, and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (erosional, volcanic, glacial, or other geologic structures).</p>
Fishery	<p>Fish values may be judged on the relative merits of either fish populations or habitat, or a combination of these river-related conditions.</p> <p>Populations: The river is nationally or regionally an important producer of resident and/or anadromous fish species. Diversity of fish species or the presence of wild stocks and/or Federal or State listed or candidate threatened, endangered, or species of conservation concern are of particular significance</p> <p>Habitat: The river provides uniquely diverse or high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region of comparison. Exemplary habitat for wild stocks and/or Federal or State listed or candidate threatened, endangered, or species of conservation concern is of particular significance.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Wildlife values may be judged on the relative merits of either wildlife populations or habitat, or a combination of these river-related conditions.</p> <p>Populations: The river or river corridor contains nationally or regionally important or uniquely diverse assemblage populations of indigenous wildlife species, particularly federal or state listed or candidate threatened or endangered species or species of conservation concern.</p> <p>Habitat: The river or river corridor provides uniquely diverse or uniquely high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance (e.g. federal or state listed or candidate threatened or endangered species or species of conservation concern), particularly where such habitats meet the year-round or important seasonal biological needs of the species.</p>
Cultural	<p>The river, or area within the river corridor, contains important evidence of occupation or use by humans. Sites may have national or regional importance for interpreting history or prehistory.</p> <p>History: Site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare or one-of-a-kind in the region. A historic site or feature, in most cases, is 50 years old or older.</p> <p>Pre-history: Sites may have unique or rare characteristics or exemplary human interest value; represent an area where a culture or cultural period was first identified and described; may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups, or may have been used for rare sacred purposes</p>

Resource	FINAL Eligibility Criteria
Other Natural River Related Values	Populations of plant species are growing in and associated with the area in the river corridor that are judged to be of national or regional significance by virtue of their scarcity; outstanding scientific or educational value; and/or designation as threatened, endangered or proposed for threatened or endangered status. This may include known stands of federally listed threatened or endangered plant species, those listed as category 1 or 2 by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or those proposed for threatened or endangered status by the Montana Rare Plant Project or Montana Natural Heritage Program, and those identified as species of conservation concern.

Step 4: Evaluate named streams and determine if they are free-flowing and possess ORVs

During the April 2015 wild and scenic river workshop, the team systematically reviewed all 1,016 named and free-flowing streams and compared them to the final evaluation criteria to identify the presence of ORVs. In some instances additional unnamed streams were examined for potential ORVs. The interdisciplinary team (IDT) applied the evaluation criteria to each stream along with the following requirements from the WSRA.

- Outstandingly remarkable values must be river related,
- Be located in the river or on its immediate shore lands (generally within ¼ mile on either side of the river),
- Contribute substantially to the functioning of the river ecosystem, and/or
- Owe the location or existence to the presence of the river

The IDT considered the area within one-quarter mile of the high water marks on both sides of a river, as well as other features outside this corridor, such as tributaries supporting rearing and spawning habitat, if their inclusion is essential for the protection of the river's ORVs. Additional factors considered by the IDT for each stream were:

- Determine if resource values/attributes are unique, rare, or exemplary within the region of comparison which is the state of Montana.
- Determine if a river may qualify for a given resource value based upon an aggregate of important values, no one of which would confer eligibility standing alone. For example, a series of unusual and distinctive river-related geologic features may together qualify a segment as exhibiting an “outstandingly remarkable geologic value” even though no one element meets the criteria alone.

The determination that a river area does or does not contain one or more ORVs is a professional judgment on the part the responsible official as informed by an interdisciplinary team, best available scientific information (BASI), and public participation. (FSH 1909.12 Ch 82.17)

The systematic approach used by the ID Team included reviewing the streams within hydrologic unit code (HUC) 10 watersheds that were further grouped by geographic area. ArcMap was used to display the names streams in context with spatial data representing attributes of the resource themes associated with identification of ORVs. The ID Team identified the streams with potential ORVs based on application of the evaluation criteria and comparison to other similar resources in the state of Montana. For each resource value the IDT determined if the values/attributes were unique, rare, or exemplary within the state of Montana.

The status of each stream was documented in the potential eligibility spreadsheet (see appendix A, S1 Full List (1,016) 4/24/15 tab). This included streams with no known ORVs, streams that might have an ORV, and those streams that do possess outstandingly remarkable values.

The process also included review of rivers recommended as eligible in the Montanan's for Healthy Rivers Eligibility Report. Potential ORVs for each of these streams has been documented based on the eligibility criteria established by the IDT. Based on application of the eligibility criteria, the team found that some of the recommended streams not be eligible.

The results of the course filter first look during the April 2015 wild and scenic river workshop resulted in approximately 73 streams remaining on the list of streams to closely examine to confirm or determine that they have outstandingly remarkable values (see appendix A, S4a Summary List (73) 042415 tab). Out of these streams, 14 of the streams were previously identified as eligible and 59 additional rivers were identified as having potential ORVs.

Further review of the 73 streams mentioned above was conducted during meetings in May 2015. ID team members coordinated with forest and regional office staff prior to the meeting regarding any questions or clarification on resource information directly related to potential ORVs. That information was used to change a stream that may have had an ORV to yes or no for the presence of an ORV and in which specific resource area. This information was updated in the wild and scenic river stream table and the revised list had 44 streams with potential ORVs and 5 streams that need further review (see appendix A- Tabs: S4b Interim List A (60) 050815 and S4c,d Interim List B (45) 052215).

Several smaller meetings with individual resource specialists occurred in the months of June and July. Using maps and additional data on hand, these specialists further refined the list of potentially eligible streams. The resulting list consists of 40 streams within the HLC NFs planning area that have ORVs and are considered potentially eligible for future wild and scenic river designation. The results of this work are documented in appendix A (Tab-S4d, 5, 6 Final List (40) 083115) and B.

Step 5: Determine the level of importance of the ORVs

The scale of importance is a level assigned to an ORV based on the significance of that ORV compared to similar values of other rivers on a forest, within the region of comparison (state of Montana), and at a national scale. These scales or levels are referred to as local, regional, and national respectively. Regional comparisons may include a number of rivers with similarly high river-related values. In such a case, outstandingly remarkable values are those values that still distinguish themselves as unique or exemplary in these comparisons. Rivers or segments of rivers with ORVs that are not found to be regionally or nationally significant may be locally important. However, these rivers or segments would be removed from further study.

During the May 20, 2015 team meeting, the team determined the level of importance for each of the potentially eligible rivers/streams. The team used the information in Table 3 as guide for determining the scale of importance. The level of importance was documented in the wild and scenic river stream table excel spreadsheet and within the description tables for each potentially eligible river/stream. See the summary section starting on page 17 and appendix A for details.

Table 3. Factors affecting the scale of importance for outstandingly remarkable values

Resource	Local Importance	Regional Importance	National Importance
Scenic	Locally significant scenic values indicate some variety in the terrain, but landform features are typical throughout the physiographic province. Forest cover is continuous with some variety in vegetation patterns and a common diversity in plant species. River corridors exhibit what would be considered a typical number of "special places" for the local area.	Viewing scenery attracts visitors from within the geographic comparison area. Significant amount of visitors are willing to travel moderate distances to participate in this activity (at least a one hour trip if driving)	Viewing scenery attracts visitors from well outside of the geographic comparison area. Significant amount of visitors are willing to travel long distances to participate in this activity (at least a 24 hour trip if driving)
Recreation	Recreational values provide recreation opportunities which are, or have the potential to be, significant for the Forest; however, they are common throughout the region of comparison.	The activity attracts visitors from within the geographic comparison area. Significant amount of visitors are willing to travel moderate distances to participate in this activity (around a half a day of driving)	Recreation Destination- The activity attracts visitors from well outside of the geographic comparison area. Significant amount of visitors are willing to travel long distances to participate in this activity (at least a 24 hour trip if driving)
Geologic	Geomorphic features and formations may be significant in the forest, but area typical of those commonly found in the geographic area of analysis.	Geologic values indicate that the river or the area within the river corridor contains geologic features, processes or a phenomenon that is nationally recognized. The geologic feature is unusual, one-of-a-kind in the geographic area of analysis.	The river or the area within the river corridor contains geologic features, processes or a phenomenon that is nationally recognized. The feature (s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a textbook example, and/or represent a significant or rare combination of geologic features.
Fishery	Locally significant fisheries/aquatic values indicate high quality fish or aquatic community	An area within a river corridor which provides quality habitat for fish or aquatic organisms that is	Wild and native trout or resident fish populations occurring solely because of the character of the

Resource	Local Importance	Regional Importance	National Importance
	<p>habitat and are usually associated with quality fishing areas. However these types of areas are common throughout the geographical area of analysis.</p>	<p>unique to the geological area of reference in which the area is located. Diversity and quality of habitats may also be a factor to consider.</p>	<p>stream. The area within the river corridor provides exceptionally high quality habitat for fish and aquatic organisms of national importance or may provide unique habitat for fish or an essential bridge in habitat conditions for federal or state TES. Diversity and quality of habitats may also be a factor to consider.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Wildlife values indicate high quality wildlife habitat. These values are usually associated with quality hunting or wildlife viewing areas in relation to the river corridor. However, these habitat types are common throughout the geographical area of comparison.</p>	<p>The area within the river corridor provides quality habitat for wildlife not common to the geographical area of reference. Diversity of habitats is an important factor to consider.</p>	
Cultural	<p>The river corridors contain sites of state and local significance that meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic places. Sites may be similar to other sites known throughout the geographic area of analysis but are unique to the local area. Some sites may have been disturbed prior to being archeologically recorded. This also includes known sites that have not been evaluated respective to National Register of Historic Places criterial.</p>	<p>Cultural/historic values indicate that the river corridors contain sites of regional significance that meet the criteria for listing on the National register of Historic Places. Sites contain cultural or historic characteristics significant to the geographic unit of analysis. The river or area within the river corridor contains a site or sites or feature(s) associated with a significant event, and important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare or unusual in the region. A historic site or feature in most cases is at</p>	<p>Cultural/ historic values indicate the cultural resource sites within the corridor have unusual characteristics or exceptional research or interpretive values of national significance. These river corridors contain sites of national importance and meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of historic Places (36 CFR 60). The river or area within the river corridor contains a site or sites or feature(s) associated with a significant event, and important person, or</p>

Resource	Local Importance	Regional Importance	National Importance
		least 50 years old.	a cultural activity of the past that was rare or unusual in the nation.
Other Natural River Related Values	Botanical and ecological values indicate that the riparian forest along the river corridor remains largely contiguous, however there may be fragmentation caused by human activity. Locally significant plant communities may be present along the river corridor. There may also be some uncontrolled invasions of exotic weed species.	The riparian or bottomland forest along the river corridor is contiguous, with no human-cause fragmentation. There may be some localized invasion of exotic and/or invading weedy species, however the invasions are localized enough to be controllable. Geologic feature which harbor plants or plant communities unique in the region of comparison or the occurrence of plant species or plant communities uncommon or rare in the region of comparison could in itself lead to a determination of regionally important if it thrives in a high quality habitat.	Riparian forest along the river corridor is contiguous with no human-caused fragmentation. Geologic features which harbor unique plants or plant communities may be present. No exotic and/or invading weed species is present. The area within the river corridor could provide exceptionally high quality habitat for plant species of national importance, or may provide unique habitat for federal or state TES. The occurrence of nationally rare plant species and/or communities could in itself lead to a determination of national importance if it thrives in a high quality habitat.

Step 6: Classification of eligible streams

Once a watercourse has been determined eligible the level of development needs to be reviewed to determine which preliminary classification category (ies) apply to the entire stream or segments of the stream. The categories for consideration under the WSRA are: wild, scenic, or recreational.

Potential classification should be based on the situation existing at the time of the study. It should not anticipate expected development or other changes along the river corridor; this is an aspect of evaluating suitability. A variety of things to consider regarding classification include livestock grazing, past management activities (such as timber harvesting, or exploration and development of oil and gas), special lands uses (such as utility corridors and other special use permits), and any types of development along the shore of the river.

Core team members evaluated the potentially eligible streams/rivers for preliminary classification. This preliminary classification is described in the river description form for all potentially eligible rivers (see the summary section starting on page 17). The other team members and the leadership team reviewed the

preliminary classification information and provided feedback. The following factors were used to determine classification of river segments.

Table 4. Classification criteria for wild, scenic and recreational rivers

ATTRIBUTE	WILD	SCENIC	RECREATIONAL
Water Resource Development	Free of impoundment.	Free of impoundment.	Some existing impoundment or diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions, or other modifications of the waterway is acceptable, provided the waterway remains generally natural and riverine in appearance.
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity. The presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value, is acceptable. A limited amount of domestic livestock grazing or hay production is acceptable. Little or no evidence of past timber harvest. No ongoing timber harvest.	Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable. The presence of grazing, hay production, or row crops is acceptable. Evidence of past or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable, provided the forest appears natural from the riverbank.	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of extensive residential development and a few commercial structures is acceptable. Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural and forestry uses. May show evidence of past and ongoing timber harvest.
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail. No roads, railroads, or other provision for vehicular travel within the river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.	Accessible in places by road. Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.	Readily accessible by road or railroad. The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks as well as bridge crossings and other river access points is acceptable.

ATTRIBUTE	WILD	SCENIC	RECREATIONAL
Water Quality	Meets, or exceeds criteria, or federally approved State standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish, and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except where exceeded by natural conditions.	No criteria are prescribed by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 have made it a national goal that all waters of the United States are made fishable and swimmable. Therefore, rivers will not be precluded from scenic or recreational classification because of poor water quality at the time of their study, provided a water quality improvement plan exists, or is being developed in compliance with applicable Federal and State laws.	

Eligible rivers may be divided into segments having differing classifications when the levels of human use and activity create different degrees of development within the study area. In cases where a river has one or more classifications, each river segment identified should be of sufficient length to warrant its own unique management. Regarding segment length; FSH 1909.12 Chapter 80.62 states that, “there is no minimum length of a segment, but segment length should be sufficient to enable protection of the outstandingly remarkable values if the area were managed, apart from other segments, as a wild, scenic, or recreational river”.

Classification of the individual river segments for the 2015 eligibility study are described in the summary section starting on page 17.

Step 7: Develop management direction to be included in the proposed action

Rivers determined to be eligible within the national system must have certain interim protection measures. These protection measures apply until a decision is made of the future use of the river and the adjacent lands through an act of Congress or a determination that the river is not suitable. Along with the interim protective measures additional statutory, regulatory, or policy requirements may apply if the study river is located within a wilderness area or other designated area.

The 2012 Planning Rule provides direction for the interim management of Forest Service identified eligible rivers/streams. This can be found in 36 CFR 219.10 (b, v).

- (b) The plan must provide plan components, including standards and guidelines, to provide for:
 - (v) Protection of designed wild and scenic rivers as well as management of rivers found to be eligible or determined to be suitable for the National Wild and Scenic River system to protect the values that provide the basis for their suitability for inclusion in the system.

Site-specific projects and activities on National Forest System lands within eligible corridors may be authorized only where the project and activities are consistent with the following:

- The free-flowing character of the identified river is not adversely modified by the construction or development of stream impoundments, diversions, or other water resources projects.
- Outstandingly remarkable values of the identified river are protected.
- Classification of an eligible river/stream on National Forest System lands must be maintained as inventoried (eligible) unless a suitability study is completed that recommends management at a less restrictive classification (such as from wild to scenic or scenic to recreational).

Project/Activity	Interim Protective Measures		
	WILD	SCENIC	RECREATIONAL
Saleable	<u>Saleable</u> – Disposal of saleable mineral material is prohibited.	<u>Saleable</u> – Disposal of saleable mineral material is allowed if the values of the river corridor that make it eligible for inclusion in the National System are protected.	
Transportation System	<p>Roads and railroads are generally not compatible.</p> <p>New trail construction should generally be designed for non-motorized users.</p> <p>New airfields may not be developed.</p>	<p>Roads and railroads may parallel the river for short segments or bridge the river if such construction protects the river values.</p> <p>Bridge crossings and access points are allowed.</p> <p>New trail construction and airfield development must be compatible and fully protect river ORVs.</p>	<p>Roads and railroads are permitted to parallel the river if such construction fully protects river ORVs.</p> <p>Bridge crossings and access points are allowed.</p> <p>New trail construction and airfield development must be compatible and fully protect river ORVs.</p>
Utility Proposals	Wild, Scenic, and Recreational: New transmission lines such as gas lines, water lines, and similar linear features are not compatible with eligible wild and scenic rivers and are discouraged.		
Recreation Developments	<p>Major public use areas such as large campgrounds, interpretive centers, or administrative headquarters must be located outside of the river corridor (1/4 mile either side of river).</p> <p>Minimum facilities such as toilets and refuse containers may be provided to protect and enhance water quality and other river values.</p> <p>Facilities must be</p>	<p>Public facilities, such as moderate sized campgrounds, simple sanitation and convenience facilities, public information centers, administration sites, and river access developments are allowed.</p> <p>Facilities must be designed to harmonize with the natural and cultural settings, must protect river values, and must be screened from view to the extent possible.</p>	<p>Recreation, administration, and river access facilities may be located in close proximity to the river. However, recreational classification does not require recreation development.</p> <p>Facilities must be designed to harmonize with the natural and cultural settings, must protect river values, and must be screened from view to the extent possible.</p>

Project/Activity	Interim Protective Measures		
	WILD	SCENIC	RECREATIONAL
	designed to harmonize with the primitive character, must protect river values, and must be screened from view to the extent possible.		
Motorized Travel	Wild Motorized travel on land or water may be permitted but is generally not compatible. Where motorized travel is deemed necessary, uses should be carefully defined and impacts mitigated.	Scenic and Recreational: Motorized travel on land or water may be permitted, prohibited, or restricted to protect river ORVs.	
Wildlife and Fish Projects	Construction of minor structures and vegetation management to protect and enhance wildlife and fish should harmonize with the area's primitive character and protect river ORVs. Proposed wildlife or fisheries restoration or enhancement projects that have potential to affect the rivers free-flowing character must be evaluated as a water resources project.	Construction of structures and vegetation management designed to protect and enhance wildlife and fish should harmonize with the area's largely undeveloped character and protect river ORVs. Any portion of a wildlife or fisheries restoration or enhancement projects that have potential to affect the rivers free-flowing character must be evaluated as a water resources project.	Construction of structures and vegetation management designed to protect and enhance wildlife and fish should fully protect river ORVs. Any portion of a wildlife or fisheries restoration or enhancement projects that have potential to affect the rivers free-flowing character must be evaluated as a water resources project.
Vegetation Management	Wild Cutting of trees and other vegetation is not permitted except when needed in association with a primitive recreation	Scenic and Recreational: A range of vegetation management and timber harvest practices are allowed, if these practices are designed to protect users, or protect, restore, or enhance the river environment, including the long-term scenic character.	

Project/Activity	Interim Protective Measures		
	WILD	SCENIC	RECREATIONAL
	experience, to protect users, or to protect identified ORVs.		
Domestic Livestock Grazing	Domestic livestock grazing should be managed to protect ORVs. Existing structures may be maintained. New facilities may be developed so long as they maintain the ORVs and the area's primitive character.	Domestic livestock grazing should be managed to protect ORVs. Existing structures may be maintained. New facilities may be developed so long as they maintain the ORVs and the area's largely undeveloped character.	Domestic livestock grazing should be managed to protect ORVs. Existing structures may be maintained. New facilities may be developed so long as they maintain the ORVs for which the river was found eligible.

Summary of Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Process

As directed by the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219.12 Chapter 80), the HLC NFs planning team developed and conducted a comprehensive inventory and evaluation to determine which rivers are eligible for inclusion in the wild and scenic rivers system on National Forest System lands. The team initiated the study process with 1,016 rivers/streams free-flowing and named streams. During the process, outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) for each of the rivers were determined within a region of comparison. The scale of importance of these ORVs was evaluated to determine whether they were regional or national in scale. At the end of the study, 40 rivers/streams were identified as eligible for inclusion. These rivers were then given a potential classification based on the amount of development present within the river corridor.

The following map displays the locations of the 40 river/streams is located within the GAs defined in the HLC NFs planning area. Table 6 further describes each river, its length, its outstandingly remarkable value(s), and the potential classification for which it is being proposed as eligible. Following Table 6, the 40 potentially eligible wild and scenic rivers are displayed by geographic area and include a descriptive table and map for each one.

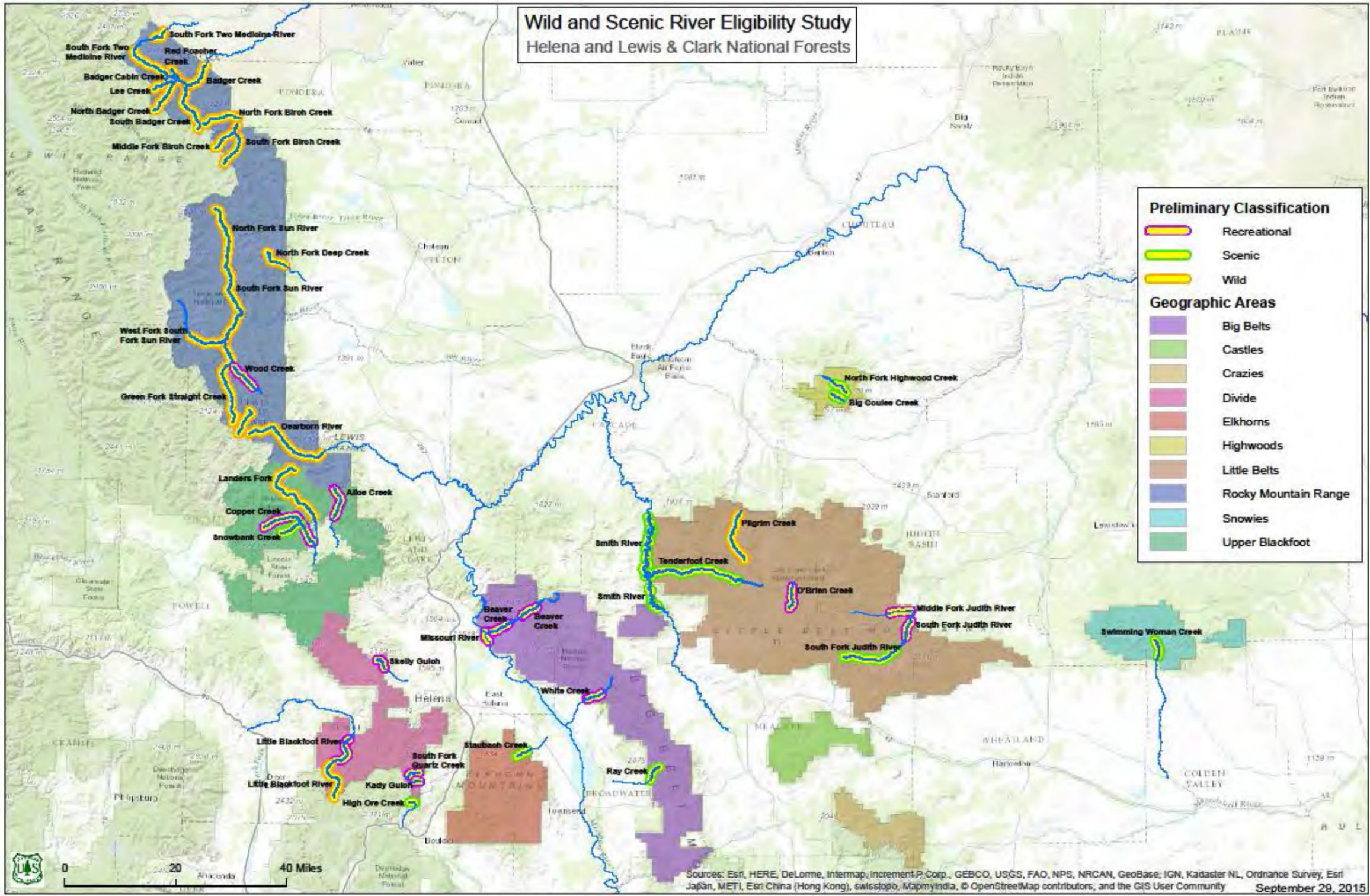


Table 6. Potential wild and scenic rivers by geographic area

Potential River Name	Segment Description	Miles	Potential Classification	Outstanding Remarkable Values	Past Eligibility Notes
Big Belts Geographic Area					
Beaver Creek	<u>Segment 1:</u> From mouth to Bridge Creek, west of Nelson	5.5	Recreational	Recreation Geology	Eligible in 1989 for Fish.
	<u>Segment 2:</u> From Sheep Gulch to Pike Creek	3.7	Recreational	Fish Cultural	
White Creek	From FS boundary west to private boundary.	3.0	Recreational	Fish	
Missouri River	Hauser Dam to Cochran Gulch	2.2	Recreational	Recreation Geology Wildlife	Eligible in 1989 for Rec, Geology, Fish, Wildlife, and Natural.
Ray Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters.	3.4	Scenic	Fish	
Divide Geographic Area					
Little Blackfoot River	<u>Segment 1:</u> From mouth to private land boundary near Charter Oaks.	0.8	Recreational	Fish Cultural	Eligible in 1989 for Fish.
	<u>Segment 2:</u> From private land boundary south of Sawmill Creek to private land boundary north of Conner's Gulch.	5.0	Recreational		
	<u>Segment 3:</u> From private land boundary north of Kading Campground to the headwaters.	9.0	Wild		
High Ore Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters	1.1	Scenic	Fish	
Kady Gulch	From FS boundary to mining claim boundary	1.1	Recreational	Fish	
South Fork Quartz	From mouth to mining claim boundary	2.2	Recreational	Fish	
Skelly Gulch	From FS boundary to headwaters	2.5	Recreational	Fish	
Elkhorns Geographic Area					
Staubach Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters	2.4	Scenic	Fish	
Highwoods Geographic Area					
Big Coulee Creek	From cascade fish barrier to upper tributary fork	2.1	Scenic	Fish	
North Fork Highwood Creek	From fish barrier to headwaters	3.4	Scenic	Fish	

Potential River Name	Segment Description	Miles	Potential Classification	Outstanding Remarkable Values	Past Eligibility Notes
Little Belts Geographic Area					
Pilgrim Creek	From cascade fish barrier to headwaters	10.7	Wild	Fish	
Middle Fork Judith River	From FS boundary to Big Arch Coulee	4.8	Recreational	Cultural	Eligible in 1989 for Cultural.
South Fork Judith River	<u>Segment 1:</u> From Bower Creek to Dry Pole Creek	3.6	Recreational	Fish	
	<u>Segment 2:</u> From Bluff Creek to headwaters	11.3	Scenic	Cultural	
Smith River <i>(FS lands only)</i>	The Smith River is comprised of 14 small segments of Forest Service lands interspersed with private lands. Only Forest Service lands are considered for eligibility. To view individual segments, see detail maps located in the summary.	17.3	Scenic	Scenic Recreation Geology Wildlife Cultural	Eligible in 1989 for Rec, Scenery, Geology, Fish, Wildlife and Cultural.
Tenderfoot Creek	From FS boundary to Iron Mines Creek	21.5	Scenic	Scenery Recreation Fish	Eligible in 1989 for Fish.
O'Brien Creek	From Shorty Creek to headwaters	4.7	Recreational	Geology	
Rocky Mountain Range Geographic Area					
South Fork Two Medicine River	<u>Segment 1:</u> From FS boundary to Box Creek	3.4	Wild	Scenery Cultural	
	<u>Segment 2:</u> From private land boundary to headwaters	9.5	Wild		
Badger Creek	From FS boundary to confluence with North and South Badger Creeks	7.2	Wild	Cultural	
North Badger Creek	From confluence with main Badger and South Badger Creeks to headwaters	10.4	Wild	Fish Cultural	Eligible in 1989 for Fish.
South Badger Creek	From confluence with main Badger and North Badger Creek to headwaters	10.9	Wild	Cultural	
Lee Creek	From mouth to headwaters	4.6	Wild	Fish	
Badger Cabin Creek	From mouth to headwaters	3.2	Wild	Fish	
Red Poacher Creek	From confluence with North Badger Creek to headwaters	3.1	Wild	Fish	
North Fork Birch Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters	7.8	Wild	Cultural	Eligible in 1989 for Scenery and

Potential River Name	Segment Description	Miles	Potential Classification	Outstanding Remarkable Values	Past Eligibility Notes
					Geology.
Middle Fork Birch Creek	From confluence to the headwaters	5.2	Wild	Scenery Cultural	
South Fork Birch Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters	9.8	Wild	Scenery Recreation Fish Wildlife Cultural	
North Fork Deep Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters	5.3	Wild	Scenery	
North Fork Sun River	From wilderness boundary to the headwaters	26.2	Wild	Scenery Recreation	
South Fork Sun River	From wilderness boundary to headwaters	25.4	Wild	Recreation Wildlife	
West Fork South Fork Sun River	From mouth to junction with Ahorn Creek	8.5	Wild	Recreation Wildlife	
Green Fork Straight Creek	From mouth to headwaters	5.9	Wild	Scenery Geology	Eligible in 1989 for Scenery and Geology.
Wood Creek	From below the dam on Wood Lake to the confluence with Straight Creek	7.1	Recreational	Wildlife	
Dearborn River	From FS boundary to headwaters	19.0	Wild	Scenery	Eligible in 1989 for Scenery.
Snowies Geographic Area					
Swimming Woman Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters	3.9	Scenic	Scenery Geology	
Upper Blackfoot Geographic Area					
Alice Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters	7.0	Recreational	Cultural	
Copper Creek	From FS boundary to headwaters	14.0	Recreational	Fish	Eligible in 1989 for Fish.
Landers Fork	From FS boundary to headwaters	18.8	Wild	Fish	
Snowbank Creek	From confluence with Copper Creek to headwaters	4.4	Scenic	Fish	
Total Miles of eligible sections of wild and scenic rivers		341.9 miles			

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Big Belts Geographic Area



Looking north at bluffs along a short free flowing section of the Missouri River between Houser and Upper Holter Lakes, photo by D. Fothergill

Potentially Eligible WSR Rivers

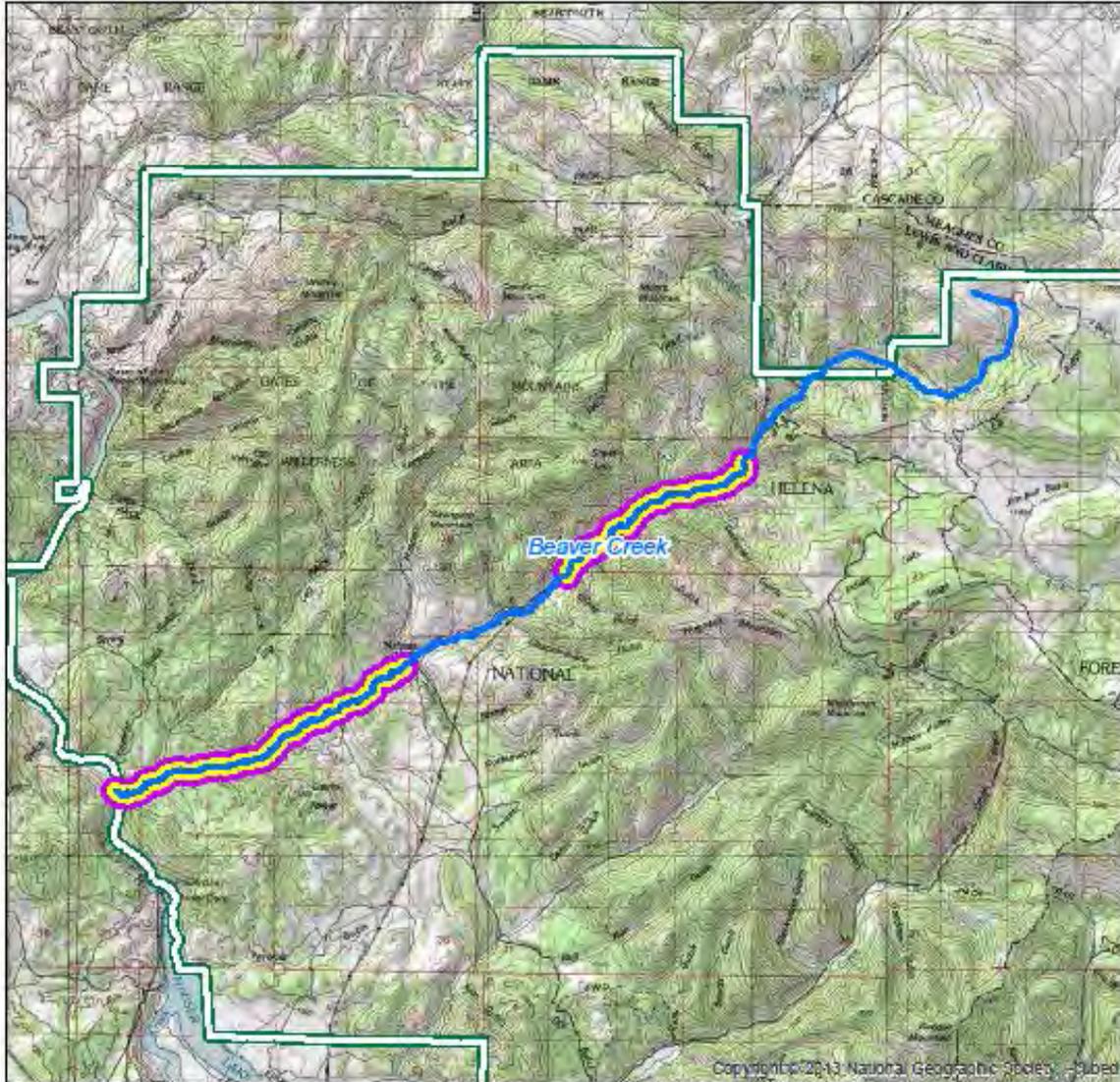
- Beaver Creek
- White Creek
- Missouri River
- Ray Creek

Beaver Creek

Beaver Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Recreation, Geology, Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Recreation - National Geology – Regional Cultural – Regional
Eligible Segments	Segment 1: From mouth to Bridge Creek. Segment 2: Sheep Gulch to Pike Creek
Miles of each segment	Segment 1: 5.5 miles Segment 2: 3.7 miles
Potential Classification	Segment 1: Recreational Segment 2: Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Big Belts HUC 10: Beaver Creek Beginning Point: T12N R2W Section 19
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	Beaver Creek is a popular national fishing destination for Rainbow Trout. Recreation sport fishing occurs on the entire stream, including both segments, with over 10,000 out of state fishermen per year.
Geologic	The geology of Beaver Creek, in segment 2, is outstanding for geology because it shows intricately and complexly folded and faulted lodgepole limestone. This formation shows many classic over thrust faulting deformation features. The geology of segment 1 is also spectacular. Geology in segment 1 is of the Madison formation and offers a cross sectional view highlighted by the deeply dissected valley.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	There are high prehistoric site concentrations on segment 1 and there are potential sites in segment 2. These sites offer excellent examples of culture use of limestone geologic formations close to waterways.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

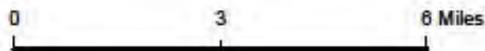
Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *Beaver Creek*
Geographic Area: *Big Belts*
HUC10 Name: *Beaver Creek*



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- Preliminary Classification
- Recreational
- National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015



White Creek

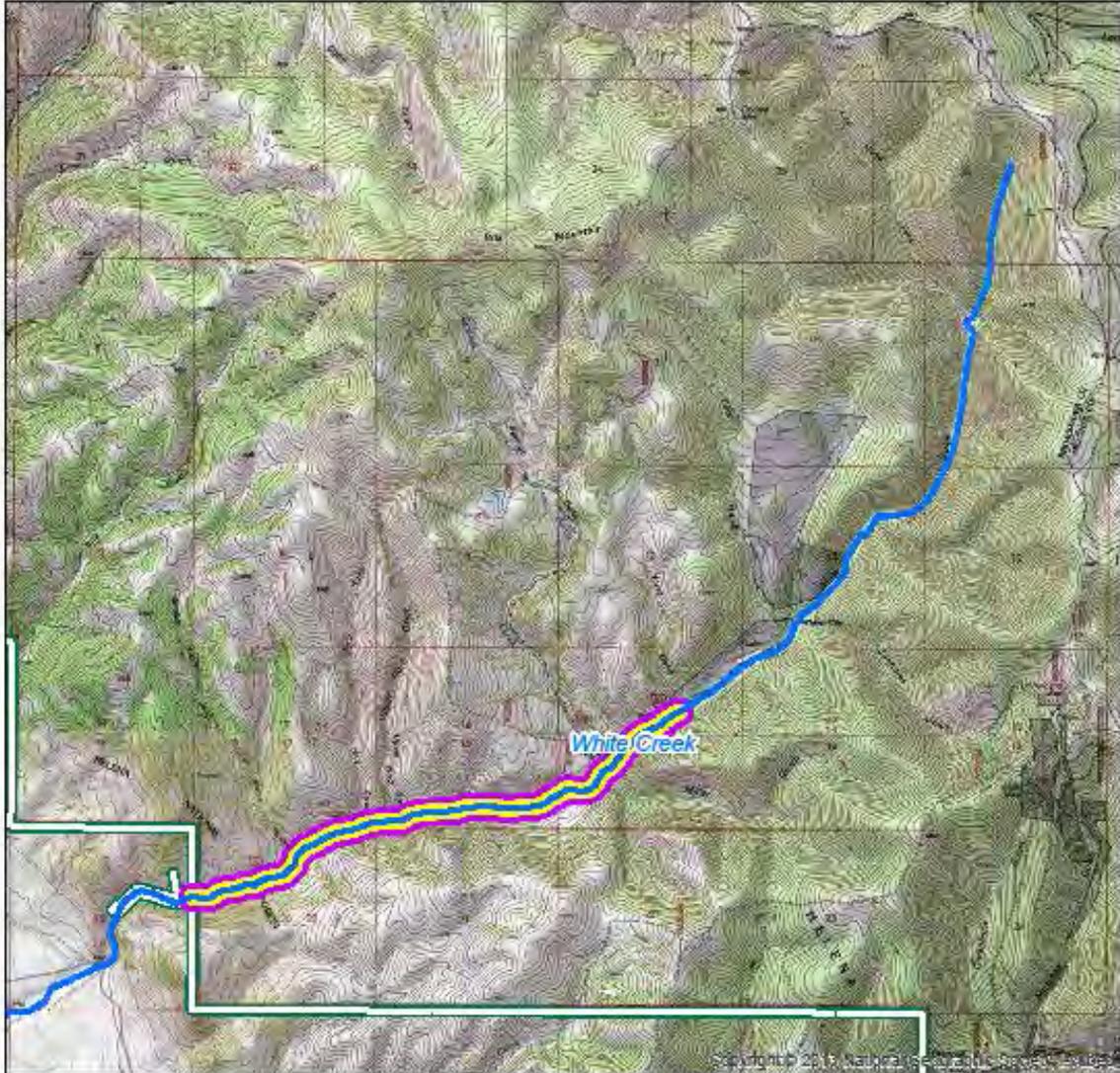
White Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From FS boundary west to the private land boundary.
Miles of each segment	3.0 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Big Belts HUC 10: Middle Canyon Ferry Lake- Missouri River Beginning Point: T10N R2E Section 16
County(ies)	Broadwater
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	This stream has a pure westslope cutthroat trout population that is protect by two cascade fish barriers which protect the fish.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *White Creek*

Geographic Area: *Big Belts*

HUC10 Name: *Middle Canyon Ferry Lake-Missouri River*



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification



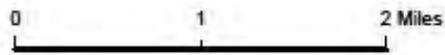
Recreational



National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

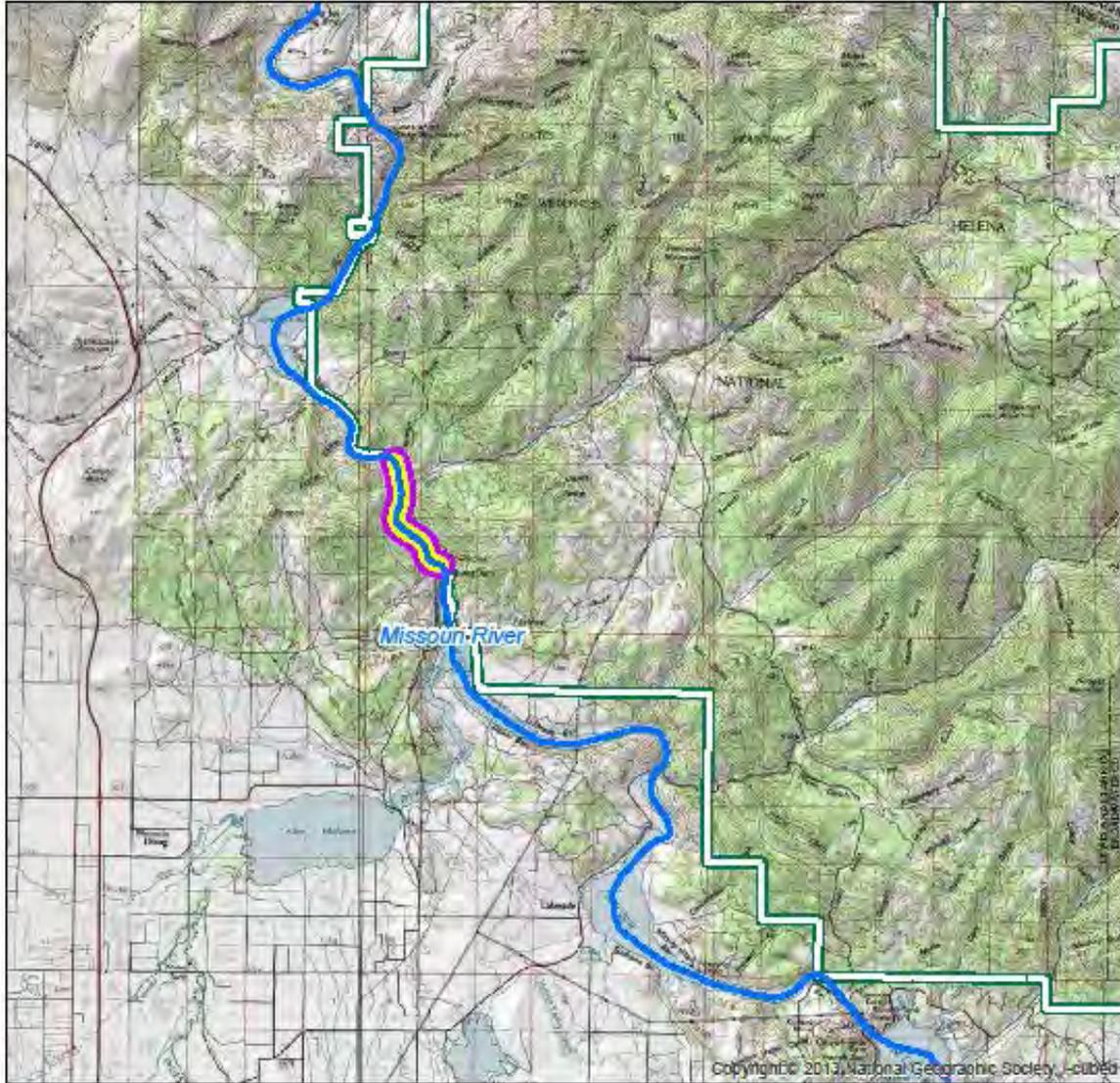


Missouri River

Missouri River	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Recreation, Geology, Wildlife
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Recreation – National Geology – National Wildlife - National
Eligible Segments	From Houser Dam to Cochran Gulch.
Miles of each segment	2.2 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Big Belts HUC 10: Rattlesnake Gulch- Missouri River Beginning Point: T12N R2W Section 19
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	Recreation sport fishing of rainbow trout is the ORV. The area receives over 10,000 out of state fishermen per year. Due to the proximity to the dams it is also an important tail-water fishery.
Geologic	The geology is of spectacular exposures of Madison limestone cliffs. Part of the Eldorado thrust fault.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	Yes, bald eagle, golden eagle, peregrine falcon nesting, multiple wildlife values, remarkable to all be there together, diversity of raptor nesting, important as a group.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.
Notes	Existing Eligible

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *Missouri River*
Geographic Area: *Big Belts*
HUC10 Name: *Rattlesnake Gulch-Missouri River*



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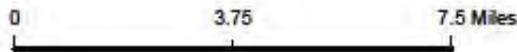
Preliminary Classification



Recreational



National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015



Ray Creek

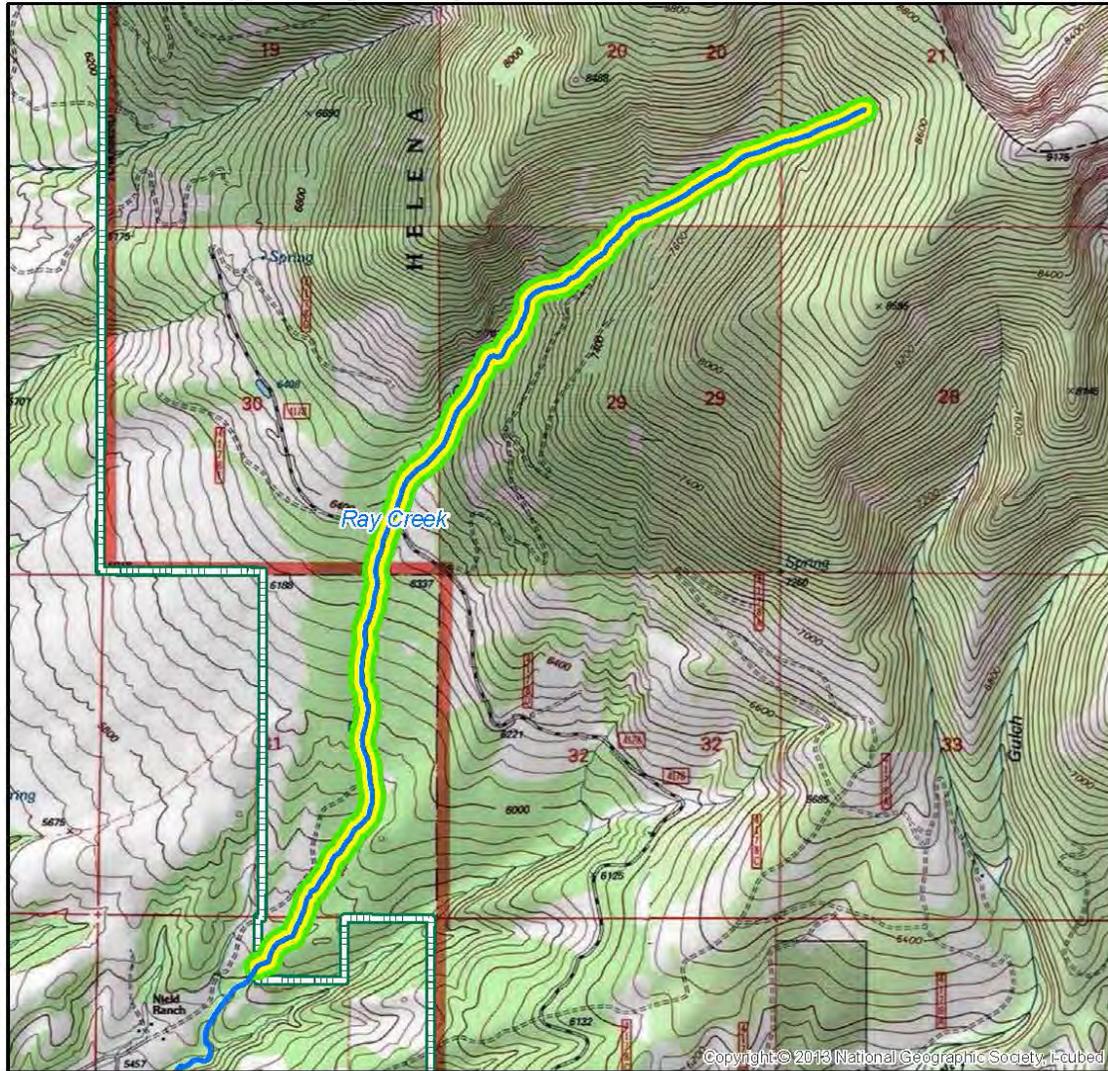
Ray Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From Forest Boundary to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	3.4 miles
Potential Classification	Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Big Belts HUC 10: Upper Canyon- Ferry Lake- Missouri River Beginning Point: T8N R4E Section 30
County(ies)	Broadwater
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Pure westslope cutthroat trout in an Upper Missouri River HUC.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Ray Creek

Geographic Area: Big Belts

HUC10 Name: Upper Canyon Ferry Lake-Missouri River



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification



Scenic

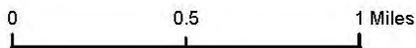


National Forest System Boundary



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Divide Geographic Area



Pasture in the Little Blackfoot Valley, photo by D. Fothergill

Potentially Eligible WSR Rivers

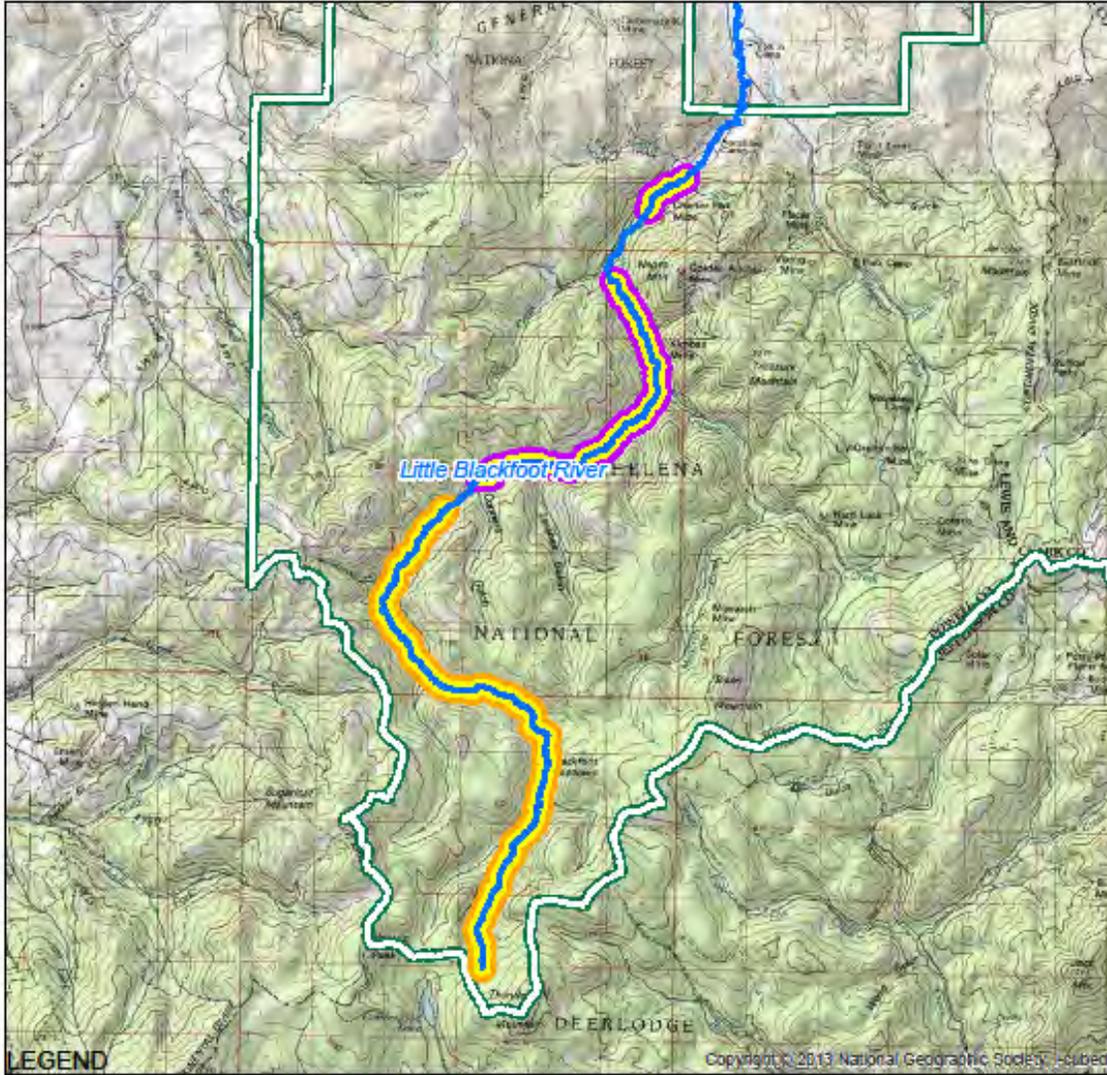
- Little Blackfoot River
- High Ore Creek
- Kady Gulch
- South Fork Quartz Creek
- Skelly Gulch

Little Blackfoot River

<i>Little Blackfoot River</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Fish – Regional Cultural – National
Eligible Segments	Segment 1: From mouth to private land boundary near Charter Oaks. Segment 2: From private land boundary south of Sawmill Creek to private land boundary north of Conners Gulch. Segment 3: From private land boundary north of Kading Campground to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	Segment 1: 0.8 miles Segment 2: 5.0 miles Segment 3: 9.0 miles
Potential Classification	Segment 1: Recreational Segment 2: Recreational Segment 3: Wild
Location	Geographic area: Divide HUC 10: Little Blackfoot River Beginning Point: T8N R7W Section 12
County(ies)	Powell
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Eligible for fisheries. Large reach with westslope cutthroat, but non-natives present. DNA sampling this field season. Headwaters still contains westslope cutthroat trout population.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	Charter Oak is an historic mine and mill located within segment 1. It is currently interpreted and on the National Register of Historic Places.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.
Notes	Research currently in progress on fish, existing eligible for bull trout, but the bull trout populations don't meet the ORV criteria now. Review again after the research is completed. May go out in the field.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Little Blackfoot River
Geographic Area: Divide
HUC10 Name: Little Blackfoot River Headwaters



Preliminary Classification

- Recreational
- Wild

National Forest System Boundary



0 3 6 Miles

August 05, 2015



High Ore Creek

High Ore Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwaters
Miles of each segment	1.1 miles
Potential Classification	Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Divide HUC 10: Middle Boulder River Beginning Point: T7N R5W Section 25
County(ies)	Jefferson
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Isolated genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout population.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: High Ore Creek
Geographic Area: Divide
HUC10 Name: Middle Boulder River



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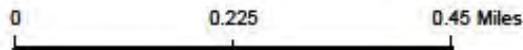
Preliminary Classification



Scenic



National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

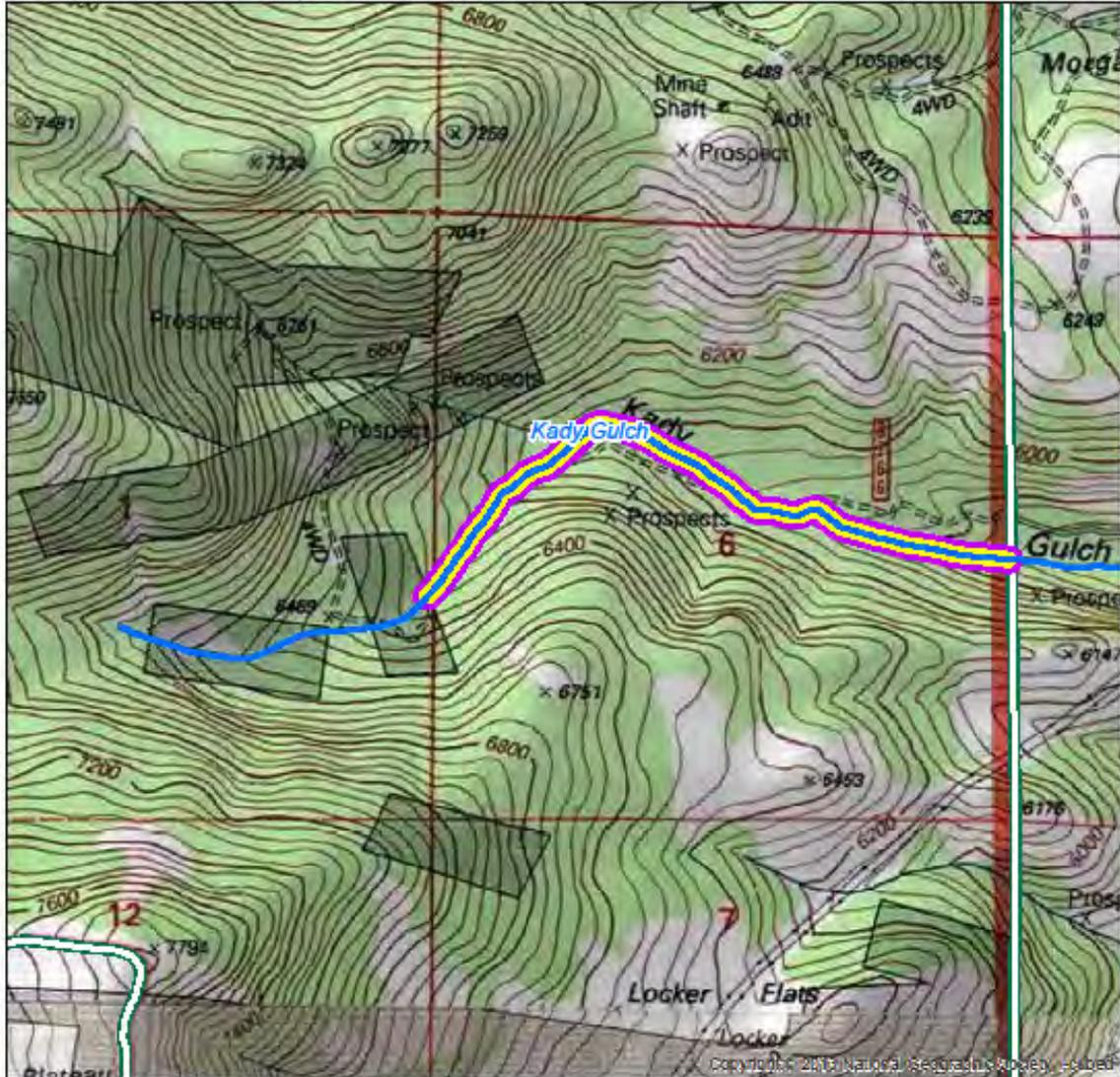


Kady Gulch

<i>Kady Gulch</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to the mining claim boundary.
Miles of each segment	1.1 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Divide HUC 10: Prickly Pear Creek Beginning Point: T7N R4W Section 6
County(ies)	Jefferson
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Isolated westslope cutthroat trout population with unique genetic makeup that is rare to this drainage basin.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
 Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Kady Gulch
 Geographic Area: Divide
 HUC10 Name: Prickley Pear Creek



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- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Preliminary Classification |  | National Forest System Boundary |
|  | | Recreational |



August 05, 2015

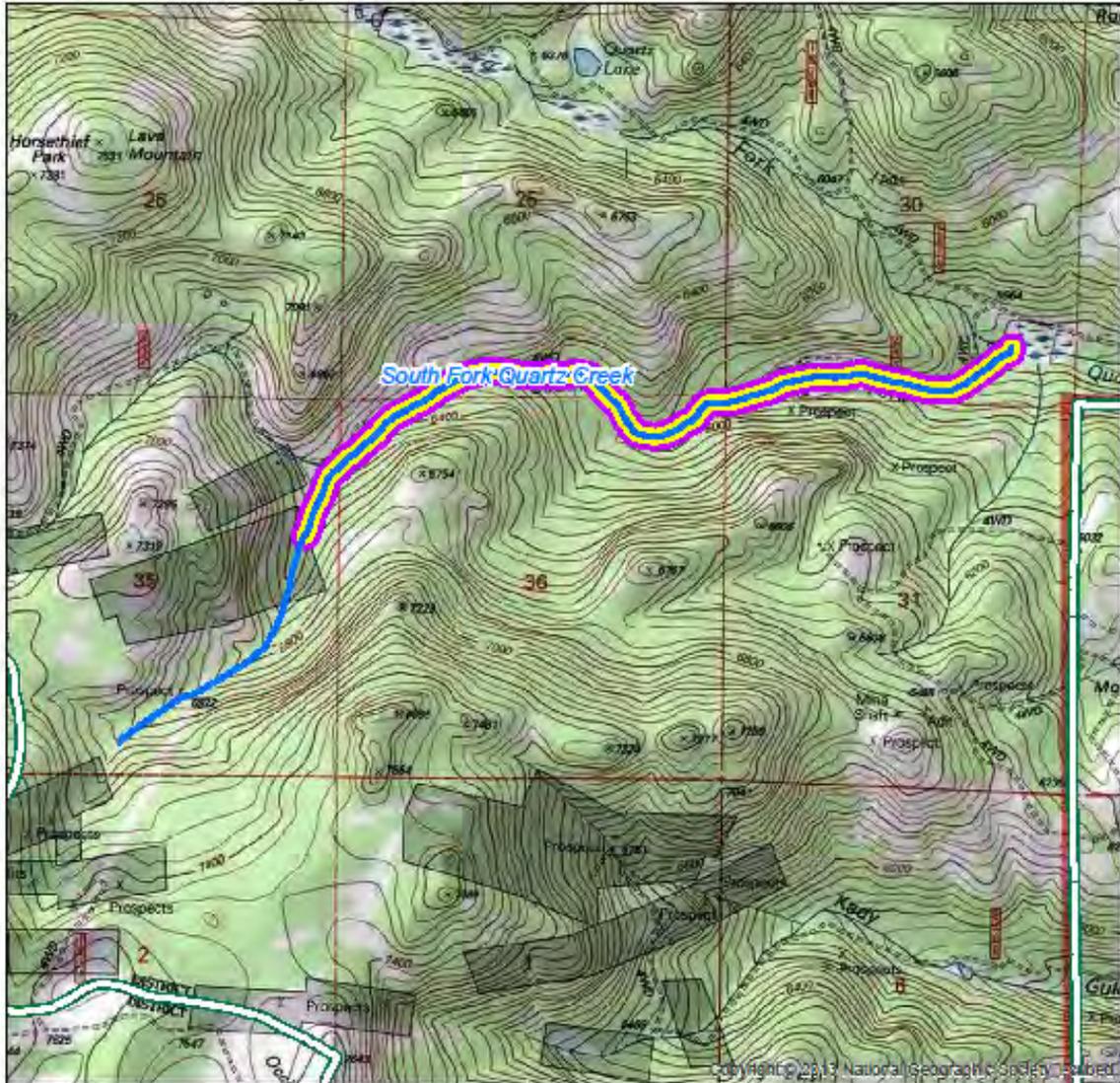


South Fork Quartz

South Fork Quartz	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From mouth to the mining claim boundary.
Miles of each segment	2.2 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Divide HUC 10: Prickly Pear Creek Beginning Point: T8N R4W Section 30
County(ies)	Jefferson
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Isolated westslope cutthroat trout population with unique genetic makeup that is rare to this drainage basin.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: South Fork Quartz Creek
Geographic Area: Divide
HUC10 Name: Prickley Pear Creek



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification
 Recreational

 National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

0 0.5 1 Miles



Skelly Gulch

Skelly Gulch	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	2.5 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Divide HUC 10: Tenmile Creek Beginning Point: T11N R6W Section 24
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Isolated westslope cutthroat trout population with unique genetic makeup that is rare to this drainage basin.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Skelly Gulch
Geographic Area: Divide
HUC10 Name: Tenmile Creek



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification
Recreational

National Forest System Boundary

August 05, 2015

0 0.375 0.75 Miles



DRAFT

Elkhorns Geographic Area



Fish shocking on Staubach Creek, photo by R. Spoon

Potentially Eligible WSR Rivers

- Staubach Creek

Staubach Creek

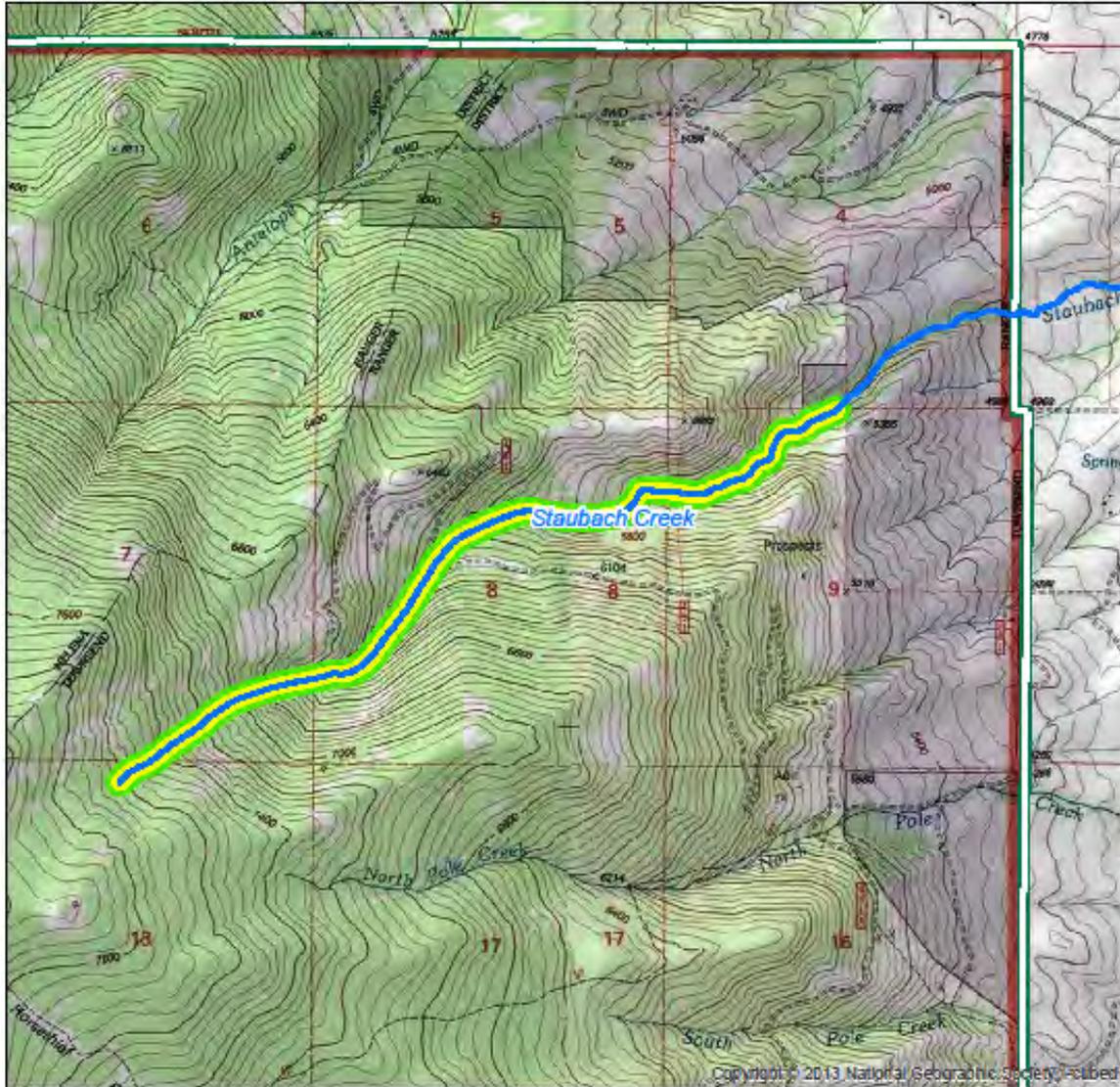
<i>Staubach Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	2.4 miles
Potential Classification	Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Elkhorns HUC 10: Middle Canyon Beginning Point: T8N R1W Section 9
County(ies)	Broadwater
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Isolated westslope cutthroat trout population with unique genetic makeup that is rare to this drainage basin
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Staubach Creek

Geographic Area: Elkhorns

HUC10 Name: Middle Canyon Ferry Lake-Missouri River



LEGEND

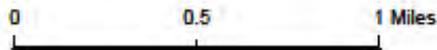
Preliminary Classification



Scenic



National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

CFK



DRAFT

Highwoods Geographic Area



Willows along Highwood Creek, photo by D. Fothergill

Potentially Eligible WSR Rivers

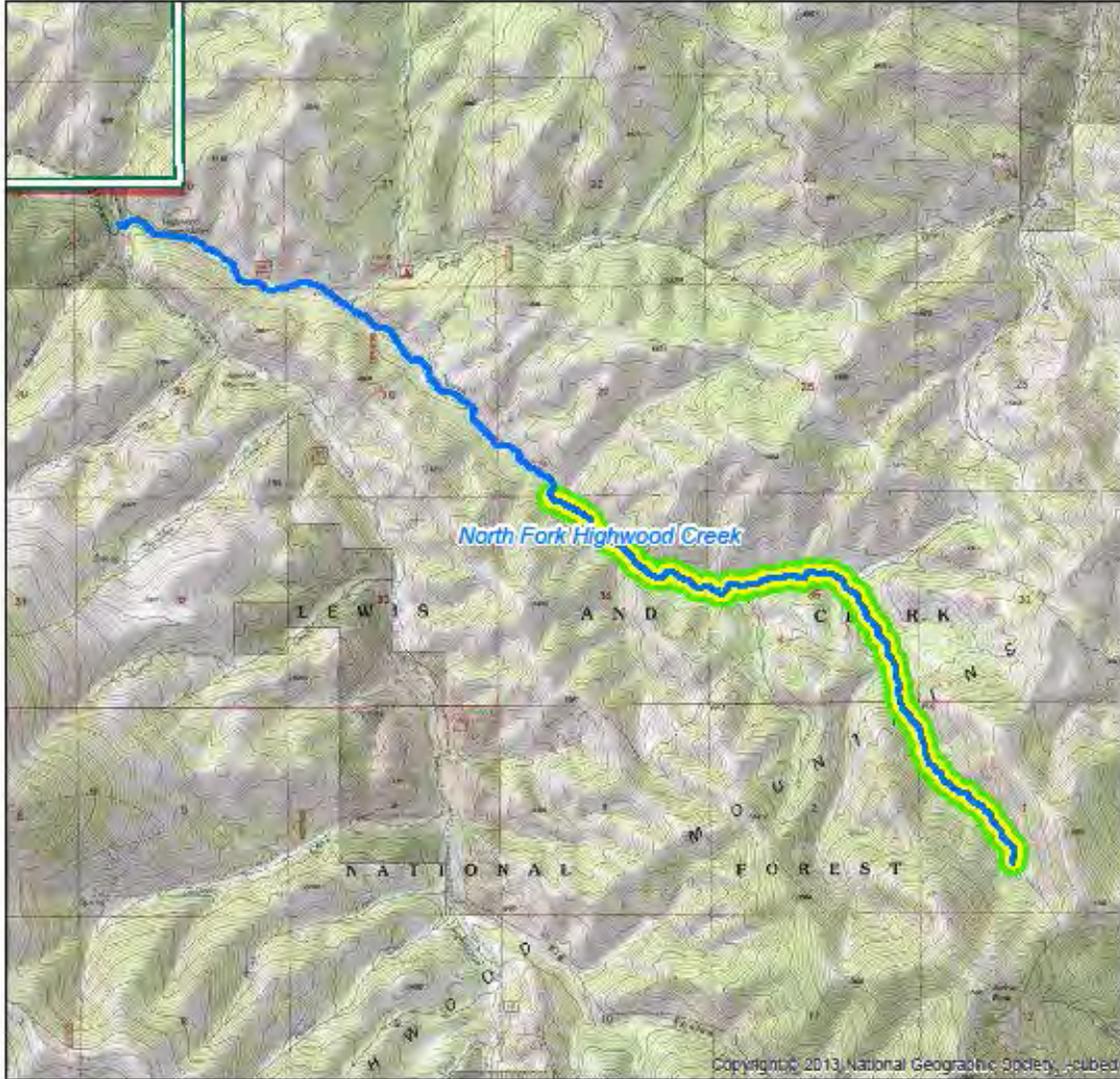
- North Fork Highwood Creek
- Big Coulee Creek

North Fork Highwood Creek

North Fork Highwood Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From fish barrier to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	3.4 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Highwoods HUC 10: Highwood Creek Beginning Point: T20N R9E Section 20
County(ies)	Chouteau
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	One of two remaining pure westslope cutthroat trout populations in the Highwood Creek drainage system which represents the only known pure populations in this segment of the Upper Missouri River basin.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: North Fork Highwood Creek
Geographic Area: Highwoods
HUC10 Name: Highwood Creek



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification  National Forest System Boundary
 Scenic



August 05, 2015



Big Coulee Creek

<i>Big Coulee Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From the cascade fish barrier to upper tributary fork.
Miles of each segment	2.1 miles
Potential Classification	Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Highwoods HUC 10: Highwood Creek Beginning Point: T 19N R9E Section 4
County(ies)	Chouteau
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	One of two remaining pure westslope cutthroat trout populations in the Highwood Creek drainage system which represents the only known pure populations in this segment of the Upper Missouri River basin.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *Big Coulee Creek*
Geographic Area: *Highwoods*
HUC10 Name: *Highwood Creek*



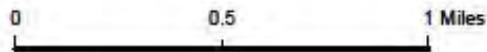
LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Scenic



August 05, 2015



DRAFT

Little Belt Mountains Geographic Area



Smith River Canyon, photo by D. Fothergill

Potentially Eligible WSR Rivers

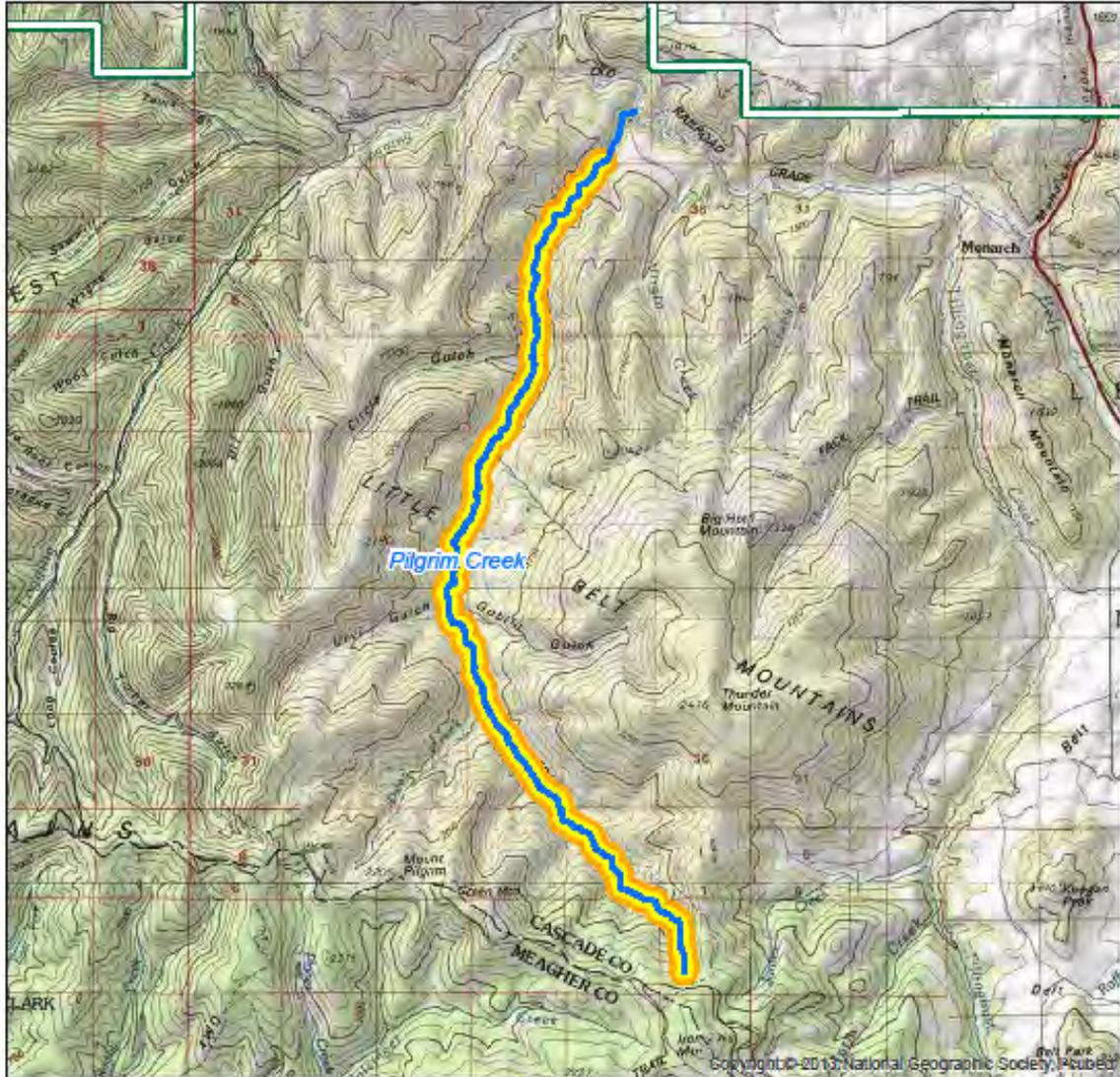
- Pilgrim Creek
- Middle Fork Judith River
- South Fork Judith River
- Smith River
- Tenderfoot Creek
- O'Brien Creek

Pilgrim Creek

<i>Pilgrim Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From cascade fish barrier (north end of Section 35) to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	10.7 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Little Belt Mountains HUC 10: Middle Belt Creek Beginning Point: T 16N R6E Section 26
County(ies)	Cascade
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Most productive and largest population of pure westslope cutthroat trout in this section of Belt Creek.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *Pilgrim Creek*
Geographic Area: *Little Belts*
HUC10 Name: *Middle Belt Creek*



LEGEND

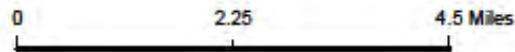
Preliminary Classification

 Wild

 National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015



Middle Fork Judith River

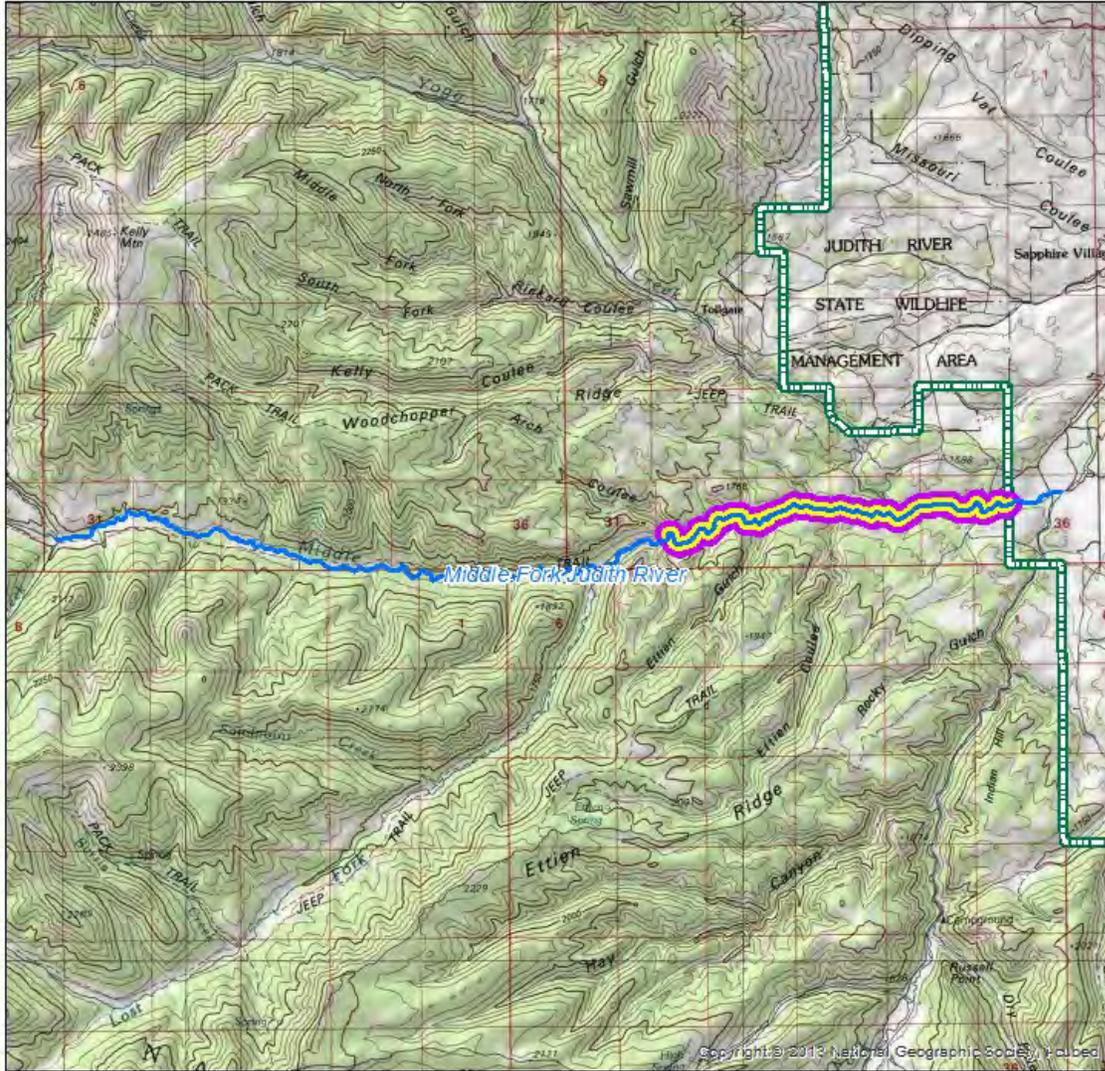
<i>Middle Fork Judith River</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From FS boundary to Big Arch Coulee.
Miles of each segment	4.8 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Little Belt Mountains HUC 10: Middle Fork Judith River Beginning Point: T13N R11E between Section 35 and 36
County(ies)	Judith Basin
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	Nine recorded historic properties within this stretch of river have been recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The sites represent a site type which is no longer common, and form a complex of similar site-types. The sites possess the potential to yield significant information; therefore, presenting the opportunity to ask a variety of research questions. The Judith Guard Station is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and has the strong potential for public interpretation. All known historic properties possess an integral relationship to the Middle Fork Judith River.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Middle Fork Judith River

Geographic Area:

HUC10 Name: Middle Fork Judith River



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Recreational



September 16, 2015

0 2.25 4.5 Miles

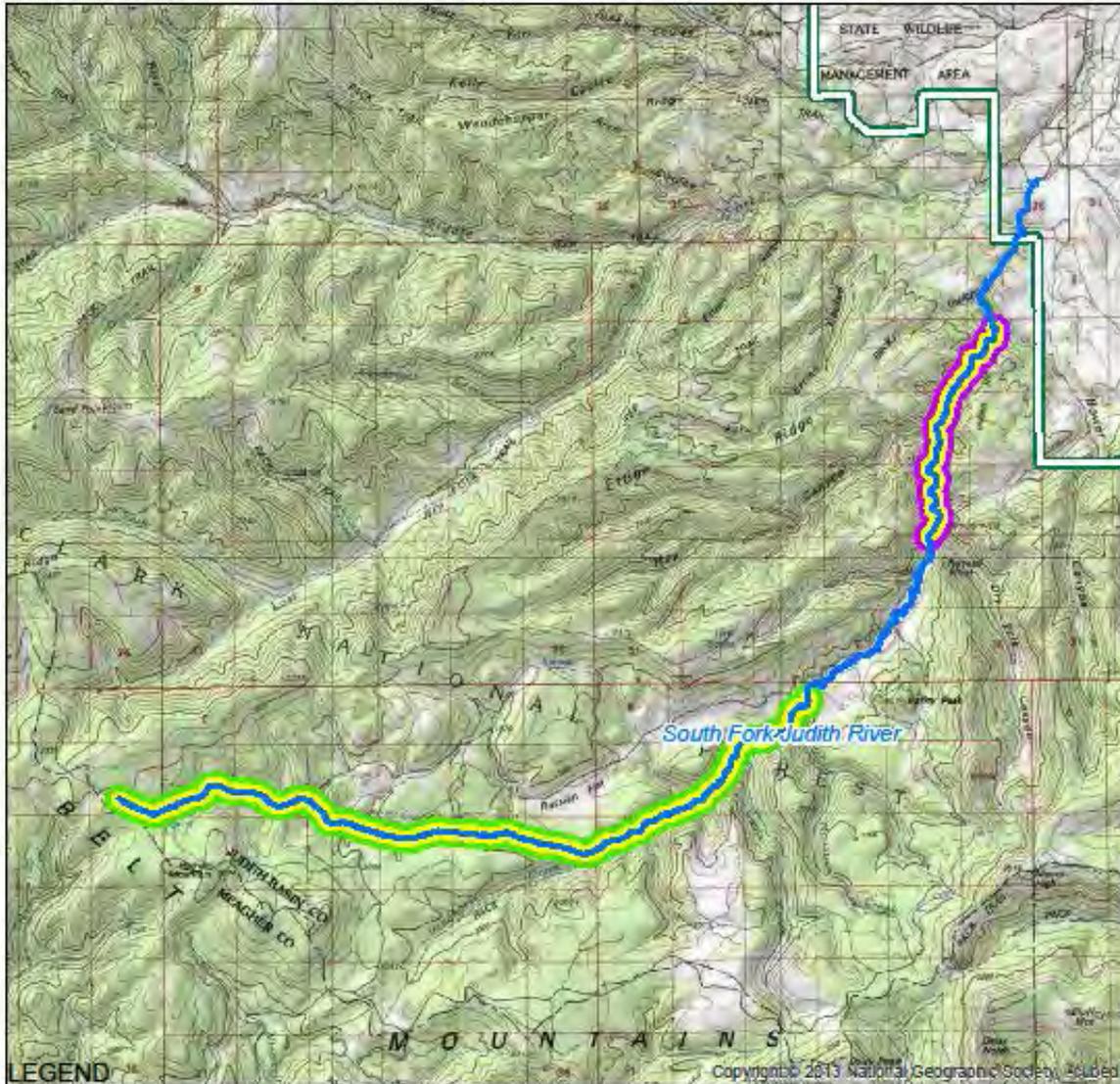


South Fork Judith River

South Fork Judith River	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish, Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Cultural – Regional Fish - Regional
Eligible Segments	Segment 1 – From Bower Creek to Dry Pole Creek Segment 2 – From Bluff Creek to headwaters
Miles of each segment	Segment 1: 3.6 miles Segment 2: 11.3 miles
Potential Classification	Segment 1: Recreation Segment 2: Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Little Belt Mountains HUC 10: South Fork Judith river Beginning Point: T13N R11E Section 36
County(ies)	Judith Basin
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Second longest, contiguous westslope cutthroat trout populations east of the Continental Divide for both segments.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	There is a high concentration of cultural sites along both Segments. These sites offer excellent examples of culture use of travel routes, river terraces, and occupation sites close to waterways. The cowboy artist CM Russell lived, worked and painted in this area.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: South Fork Judith River
Geographic Area: Little Belts
HUC10 Name: South Fork Judith River



LEGEND

- | | | |
|--|----|---------------------------------|
| Preliminary Classification | == | National Forest System Boundary |
|  Recreational | | |
|  Scenic | | |



0 3 6 Miles

August 05, 2015



Smith River

The following section includes a description table and 7 maps. The first map is a general vicinity map of the Smith River followed by 6 maps of all the segments of the river.

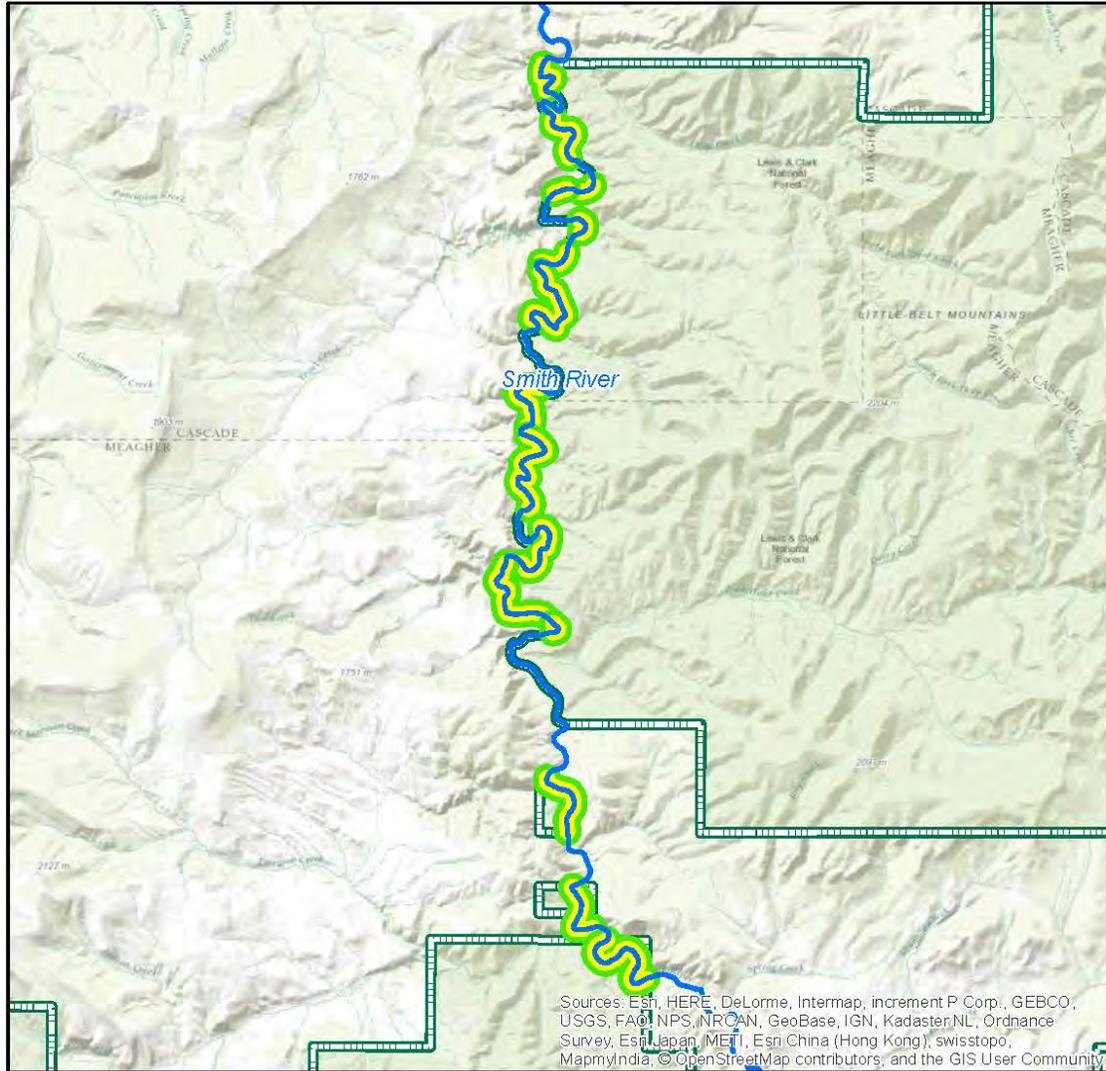
Smith River	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery, Recreation, Geology, Wildlife, Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Scenery – National Recreation - National Geology – Regional Wildlife - Regional Cultural – Regional
Eligible Segments	The Smith River is comprised of 14 small segments of Forest Service System lands interspersed with private lands. Only Forest Service System lands are considered for eligibility. See the following maps for details.
Miles of eligible segments	Total segment mileage: 17.3 miles
Potential Classification	For all segments - Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Big Belts/Little Belts HUC 10: Eagle Creek- Smith River/ Deep Creek-Smith River Beginning Point: T16N R4E Section 31
County(ies)	Cascade/Meagher
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
Resource Description	
Scenery	Scenery is tied strongly to the outstanding geology and river setting in the river corridor.
Recreation	Important sport fisheries as people come from across the country to fish here. This is also an important river corridor for floating/camping. Montana FWP has a permit system to regulate numbers of floaters along the river corridor.
Geologic	Spectacular exposures of Madison limestone cliffs.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	Important diversity of raptor nesting. Important as a group.
Cultural	There is a high concentration of cultural sites along both segments. These sites offer excellent examples of culture use of limestone geologic formations highlighting the use of travel routes, river terraces, and occupation sites close to waterways.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name:

Geographic Area: Little Belts/Big Belts

HUC10 Name: Deep Creek-Smith River/Eagle Creek-Smith River



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification



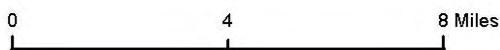
Scenic



National Forest System Boundary

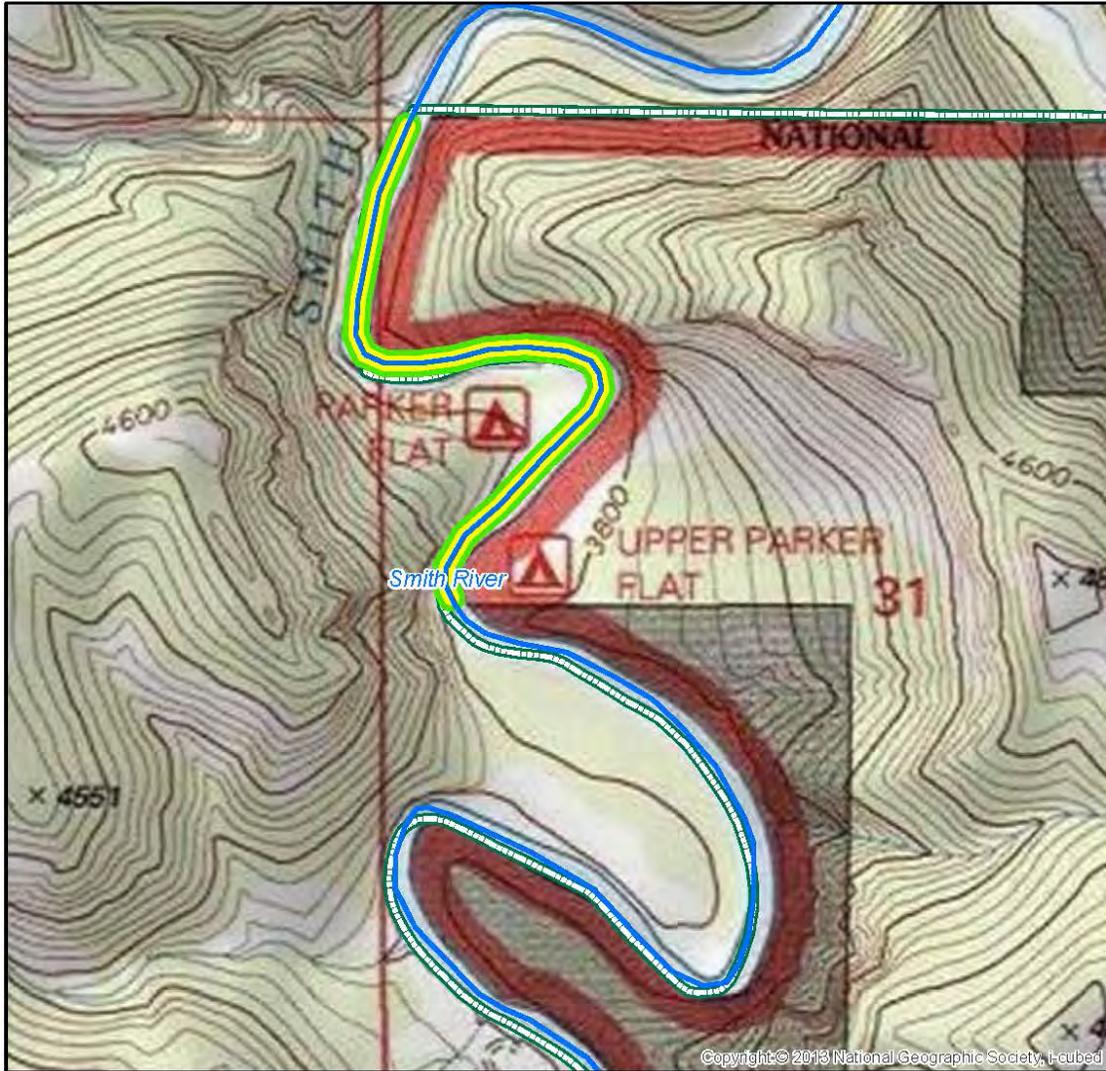


August 12, 2015



Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Smith River
Geographic Area: Little Belts/Smith River Map 1 of 5
HUC10 Name: Deep Creek-Smith River



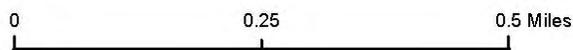
LEGEND

Preliminary Classification  National Forest System Boundary

 Scenic

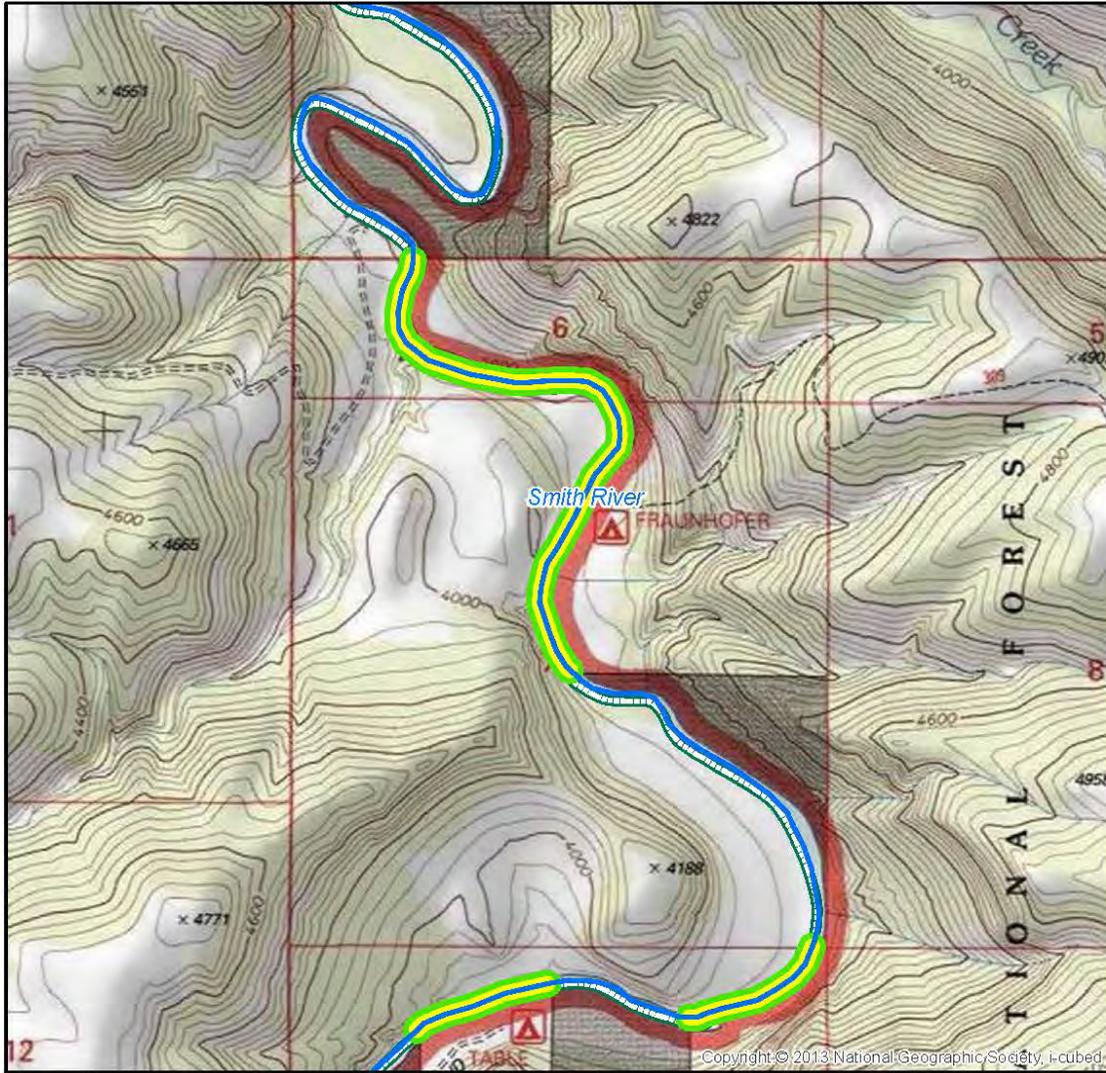


August 12, 2015



Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Smith River
Geographic Area: Little Belts/Smith River Map 2 of 5
HUC10 Name: Deep Creek-Smith River

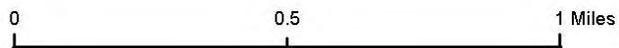


LEGEND

Preliminary Classification  National Forest System Boundary
 Scenic

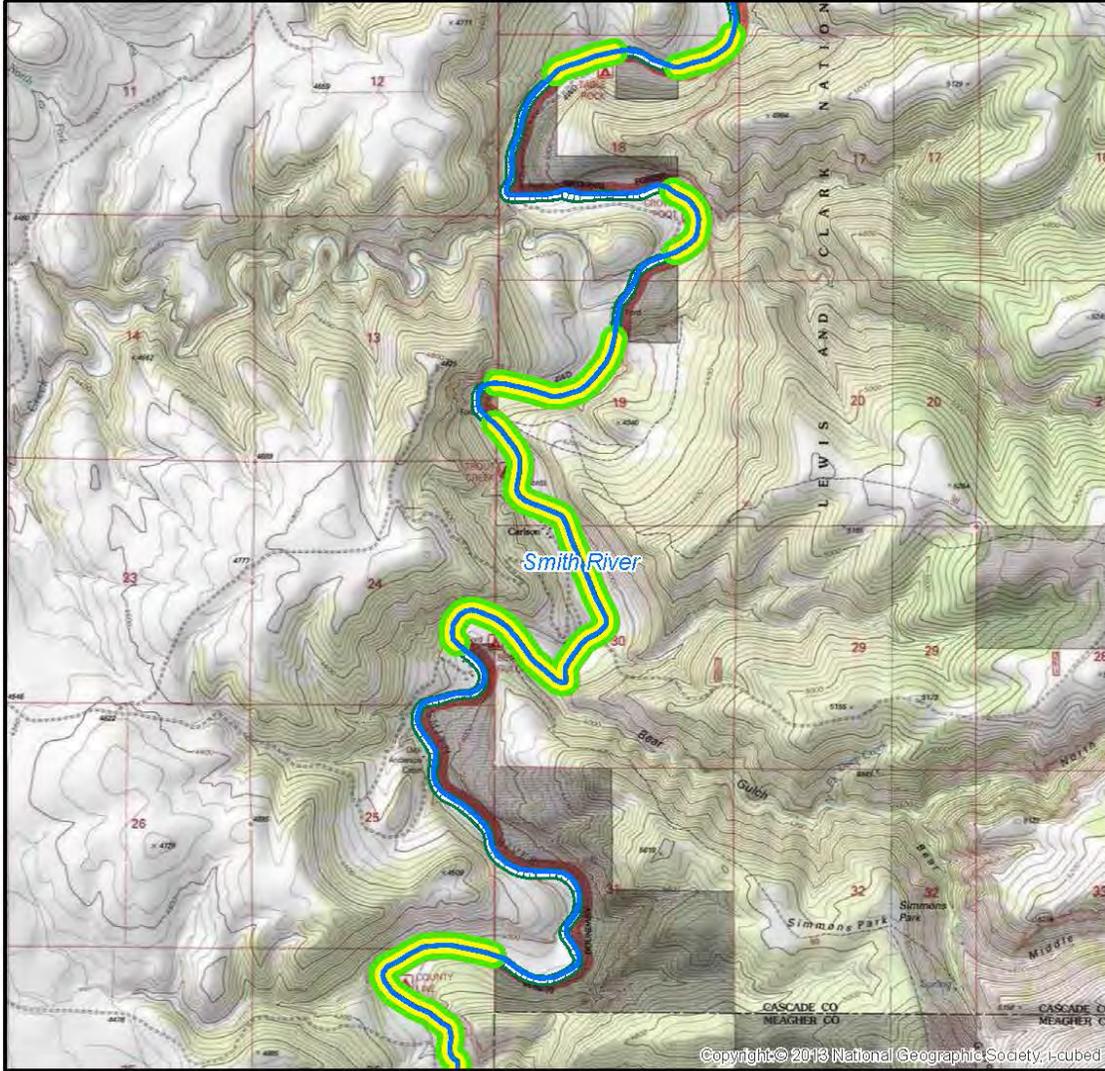


August 12, 2015



Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Smith River
Geographic Area: Little Belts/Smith River Map 3 of 5
HUC10 Name: Deep Creek-Smith River

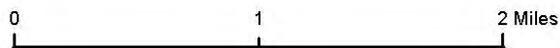


LEGEND

- Preliminary Classification  National Forest System Boundary
-  Scenic

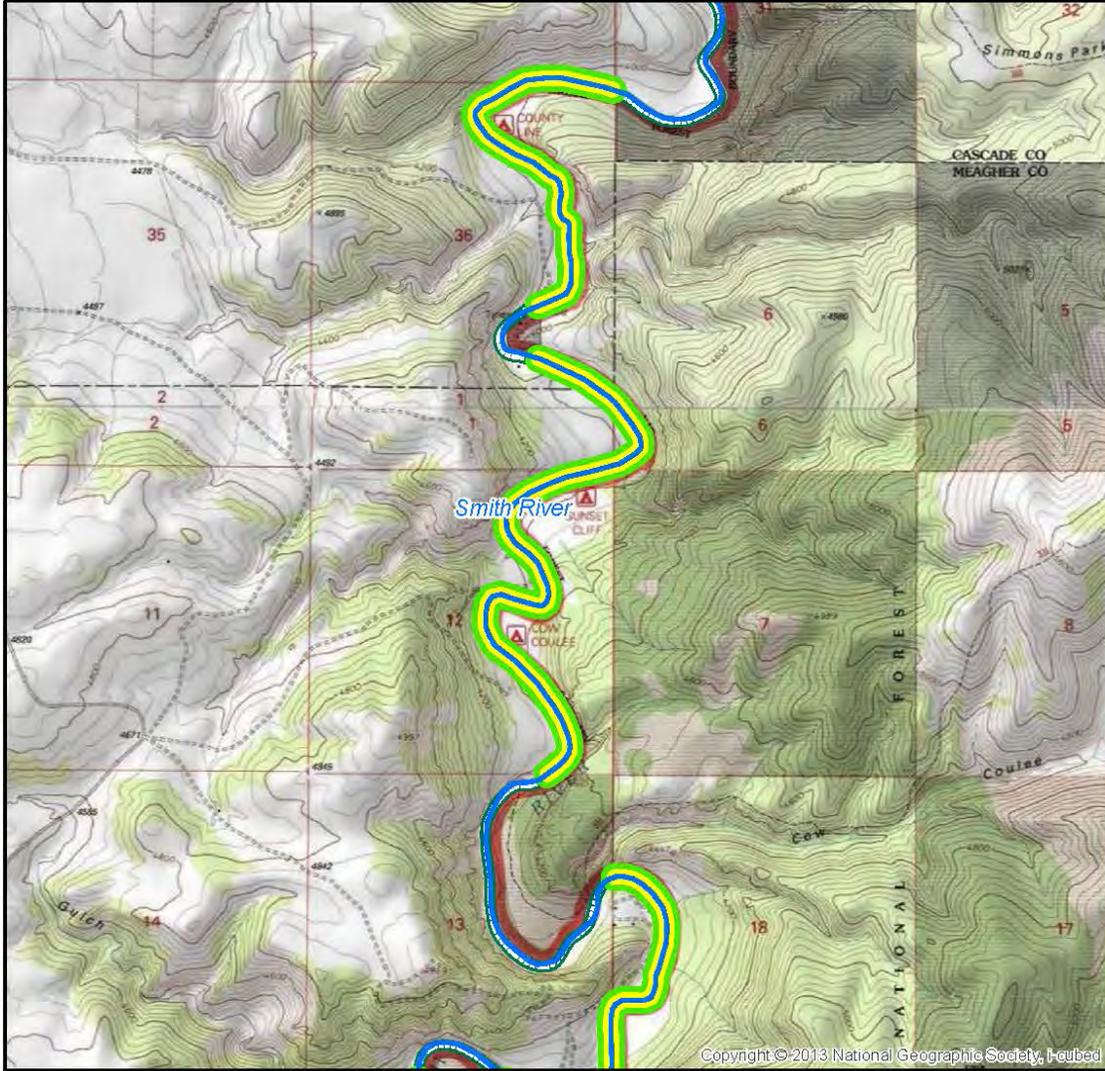


August 12, 2015



Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Smith River
Geographic Area: Little Belts/Smith River Map 4 of 5
HUC10 Name: Deep Creek-Smith River



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification



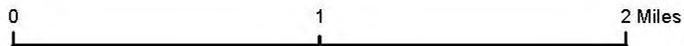
Scenic



National Forest System Boundary

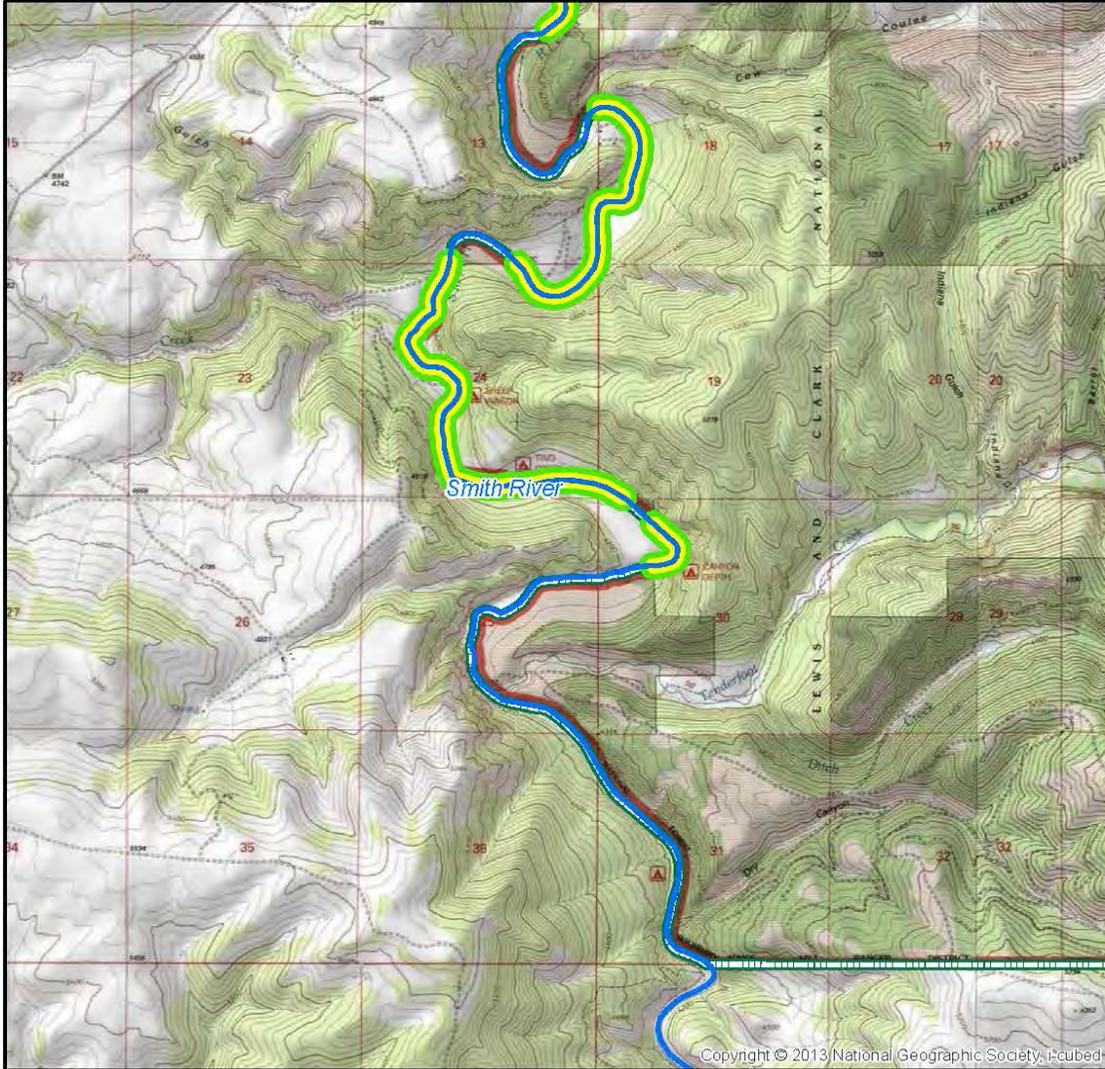


August 12, 2015



Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Smith River
Geographic Area: Little Belts/Smith River Map 5 of 5
HUC10 Name: Deep Creek-Smith River



LEGEND

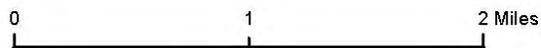
Preliminary Classification



Scenic



National Forest System Boundary

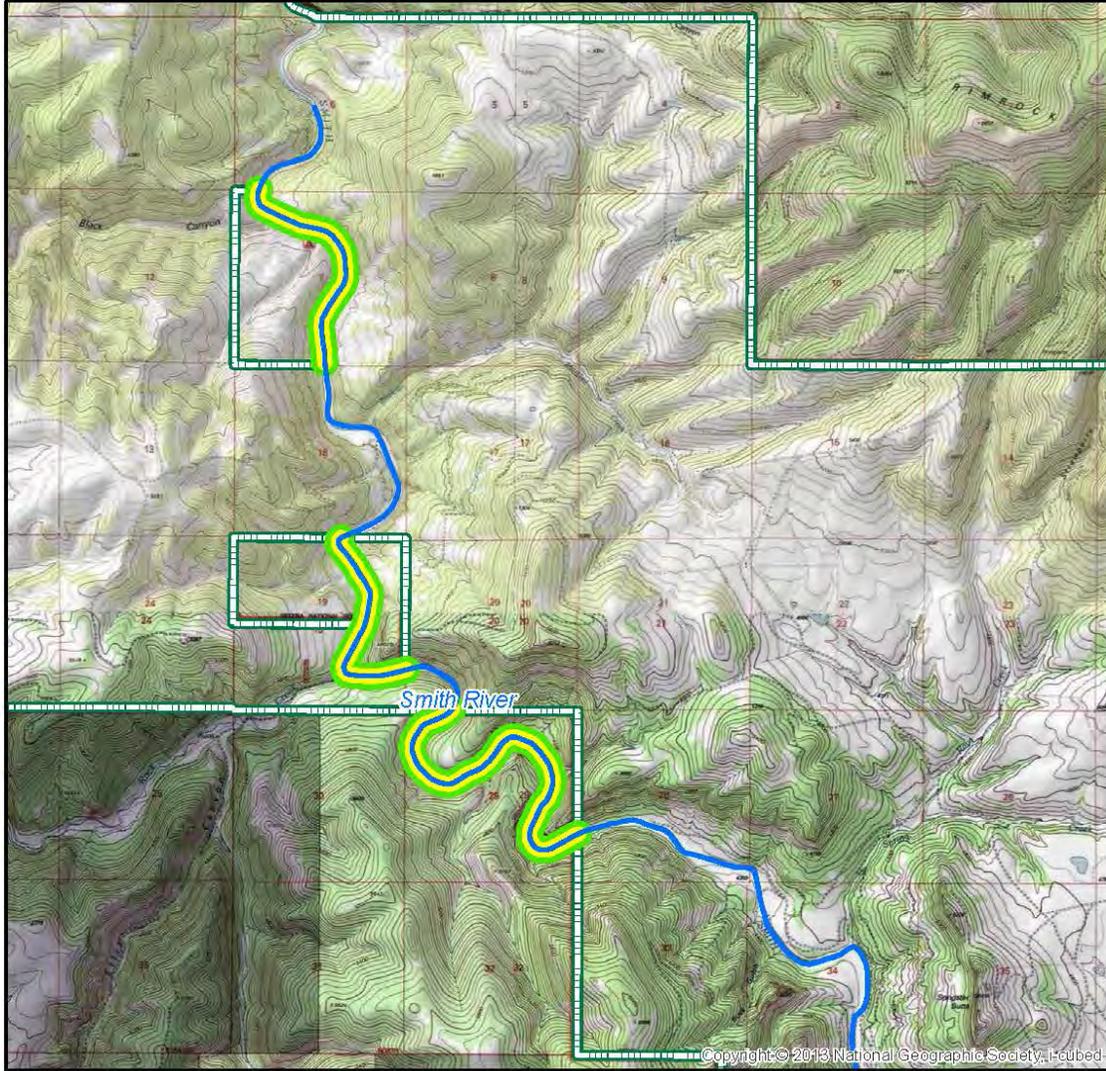


August 12, 2015



Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *Smith River*
Geographic Area: *Big Belts/Smith River Map 1 of 1*
HUC10 Name: *Eagle Creek-Smith River*



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification



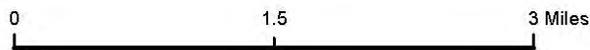
Scenic



National Forest System Boundary



August 12, 2015



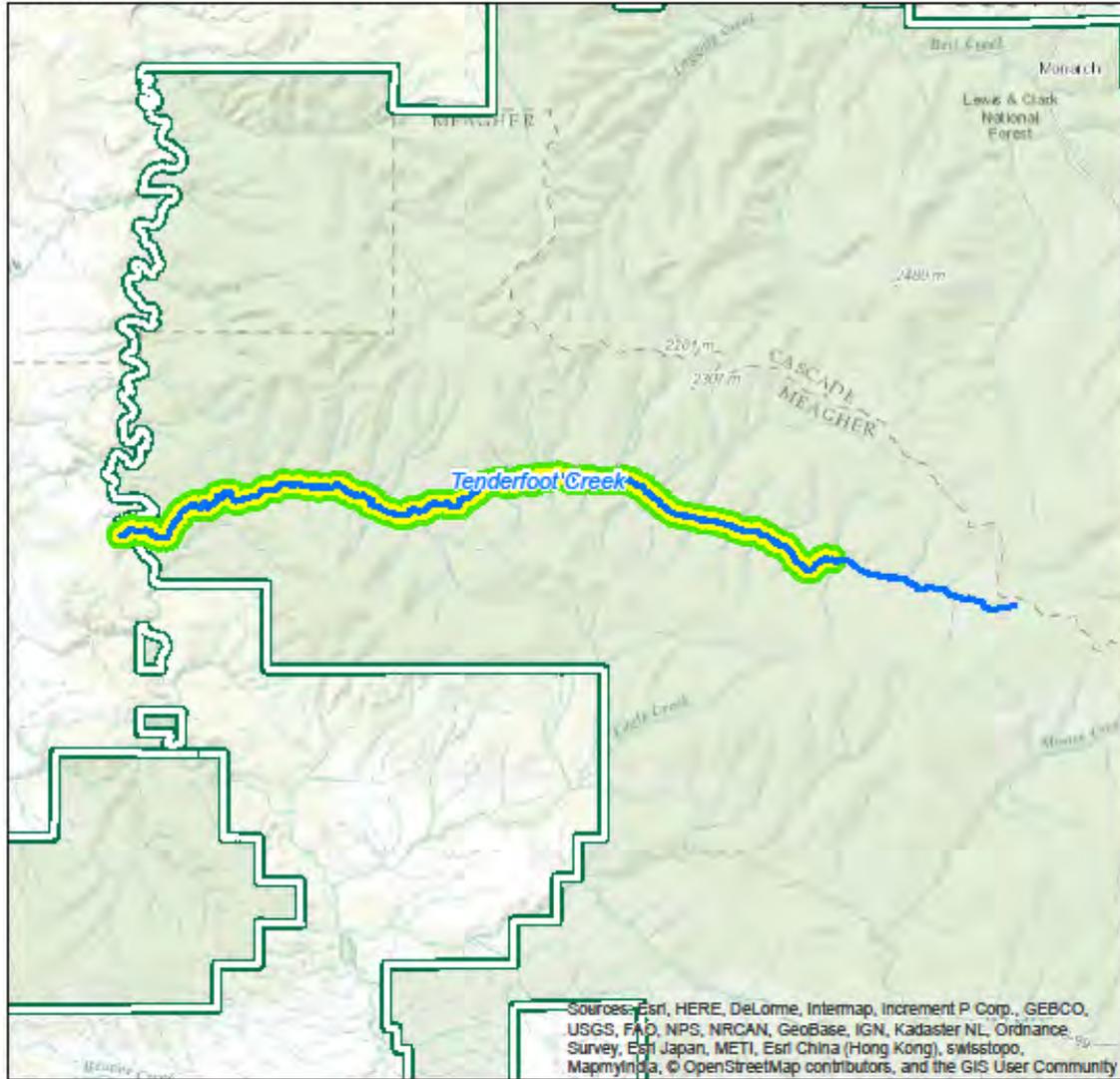
CFK

Tenderfoot Creek

<i>Tenderfoot Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery, Recreation, Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Scenery - Regional Recreation - Regional Fish - National
Eligible Segments	From Forest Service boundary to Iron Mines Creek.
Miles of each segment	21.5 miles
Potential Classification	Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Little Belt Mountains HUC 10: Tenderfoot Creek Beginning Point: T14N R4E Section 30
County(ies)	Meagher
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	Spectacular 20 foot tall waterfall that is very aesthetic.
Recreation	The Tenderfoot Creek area offers exceptional and unique recreational opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, fishing, and camping in a non-motorized, quiet area. The main trail generally follows the stream for most of its length. Tenderfoot Creek also has spectacular waterfalls that are often a focal point for hikers along the trail.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Tenderfoot Creek provides a considerable portion of the spawning habitat for the fish in the Smith River. Important spawning habitat for rainbow trout and whitefish below the waterfall. Important habitat for west throat cutthroat trout throughout the drainage.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Tenderfoot Creek
Geographic Area: Little Belts
HUC10 Name: Tenderfoot Creek



LEGEND

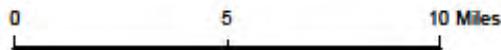
Preliminary Classification



Scenic



National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

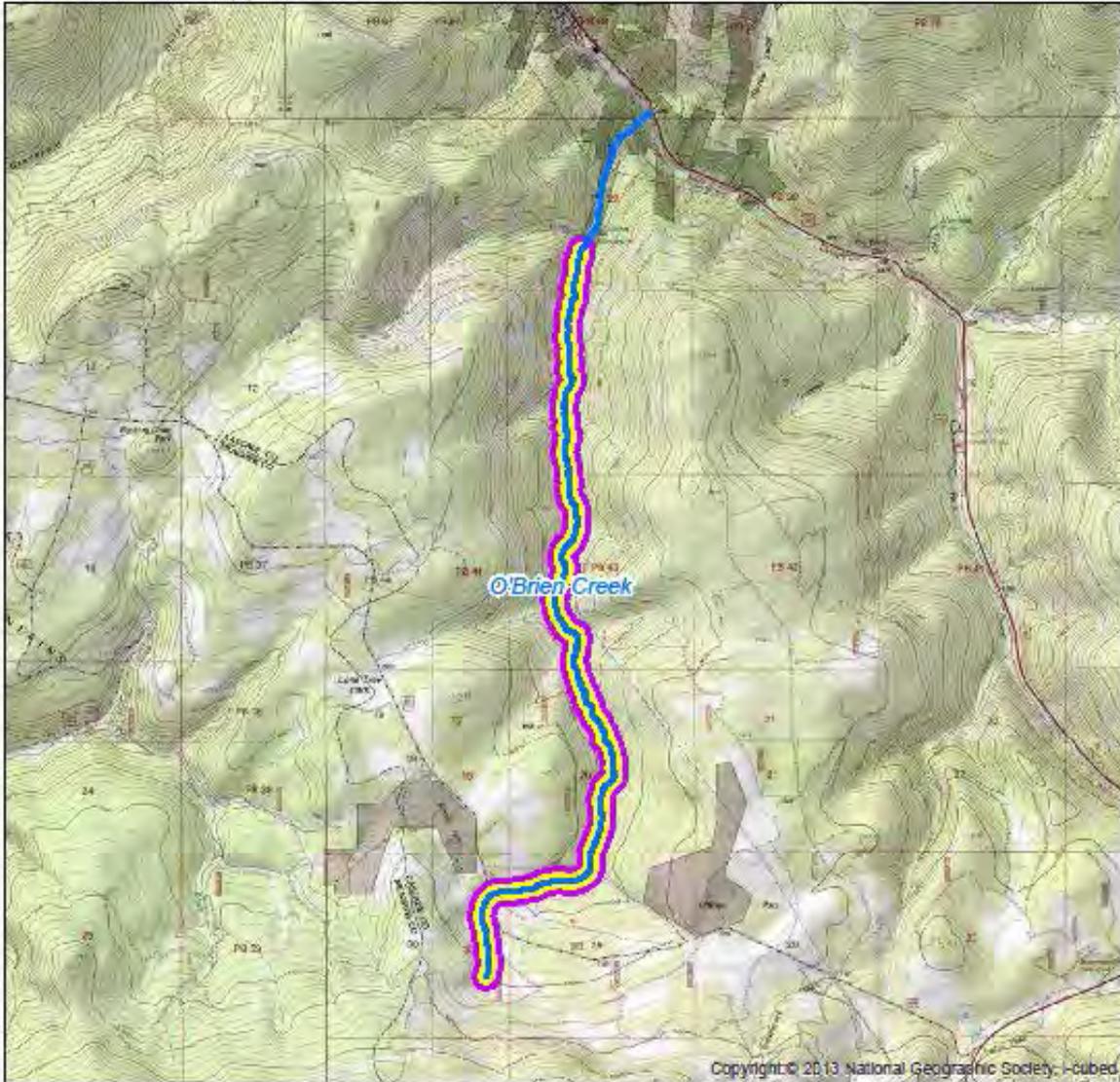


O'Brien Creek

<i>O'Brien Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Geology
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From the mining claim, just upstream of Shorty Creek, to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	4.7 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Little Belt Mountains HUC 10: Upper Belt Creek Beginning Point: T13N R8E Section 5
County(ies)	Cascade
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	Beautiful exposures of pre-Cambrian pre-belt series geology. Beartooth Mountains have a better indication of pre-belt series as far as uniqueness. However, Niehart quartzite is the only one of kind that is exposed in Montana. Very enigmatic formation with highly metamorphosed crystalized rock. It is academically unusual and easily accessed.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: O'Brien Creek
Geographic Area: Little Belts
HUC10 Name: Upper Belt Creek



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Recreational



August 05, 2015

0 1 2 Miles

CFK



DRAFT

Rocky Mountain Range Geographic Area



South Fork Birch Creek, photo by K. Rumsey

Potentially Eligible WSR Rivers

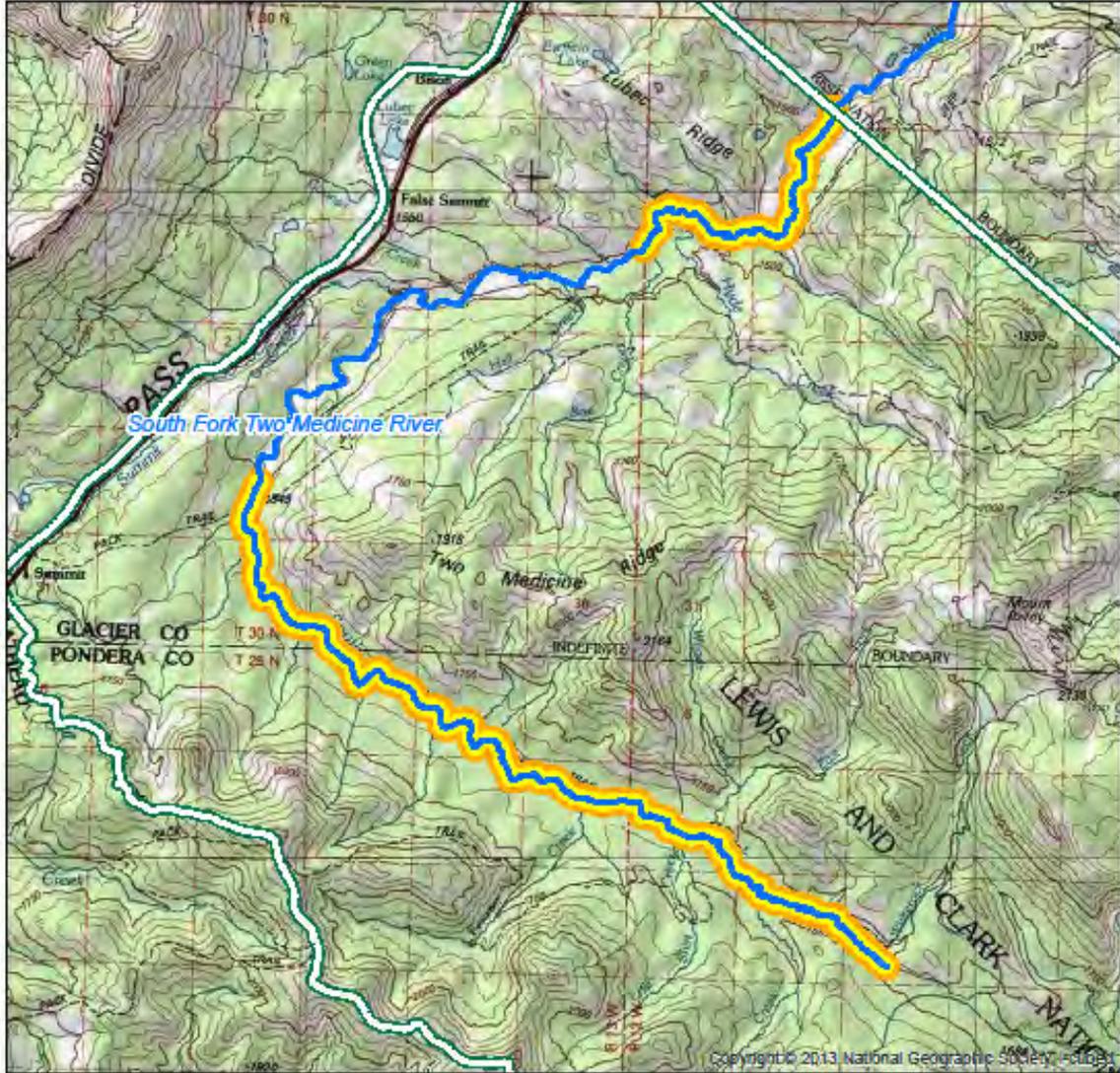
- South Fork Two Medicine River
- Badger Creek
- North Badger Creek
- South Badger Creek
- Lee Creek
- Badger Cabin Creek
- Red Poacher Creek
- North Fork Birch Creek
- Middle Fork Birch Creek
- South Fork Birch Creek
- North Fork Deep Creek
- North Fork Sun River
- South Fork Sun River
- West Fork South Fork Sun River
- Green Fork Straight Creek
- Wood Creek
- Dearborn River

South Fork Two Medicine River

<i>South Fork Two Medicine River</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery, Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Scenery – Regional Cultural - National
Eligible Segments	Segment 1 - From forest boundary to Box Creek Segment 2 – From private land boundary to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	Segment 1: 3.4 miles Segment 2: 9.5 miles
Potential Classification	Segment 1 – Wild Segment 2 - Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Upper Two Medicine River Beginning Point: T30N R12W Section 5
County(ies)	Glacier (Segment 1) /Pondera (Segment 2)
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	Incredible scenery with big canyons and big waterfalls (75 foot).
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV
Fisheries	No ORV
Wildlife	No ORV
Cultural	Located within the Badger Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District. This area holds high importance for the Blackfeet Nation for traditional cultural uses.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV
Natural Other	No ORV

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: South Fork Two Medicine River
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Upper Two Medicine River



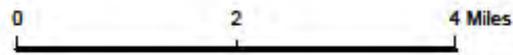
LEGEND

Preliminary Classification National Forest System Boundary

Wild



August 05, 2015

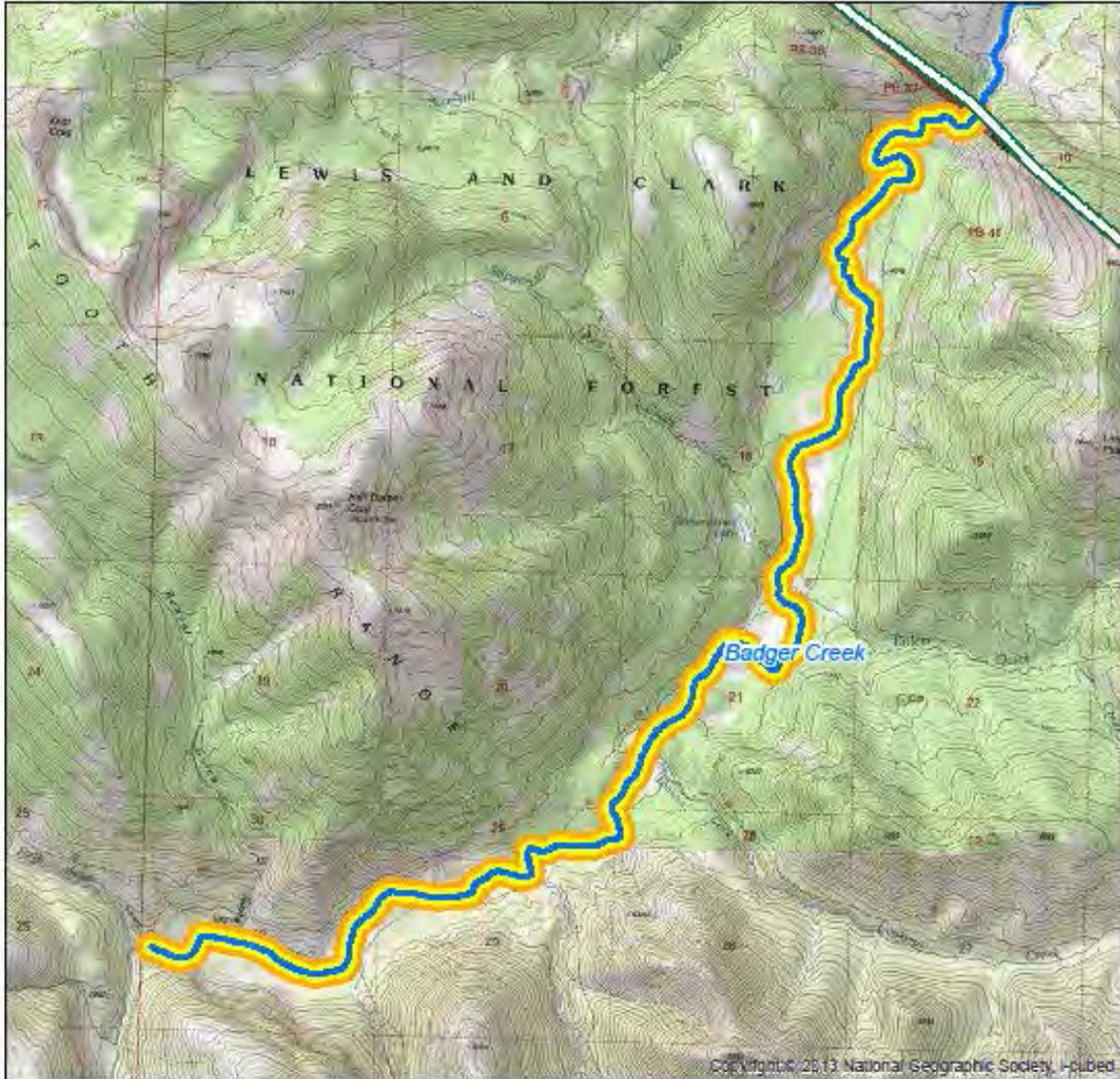


Badger Creek

<i>Badger Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From the forest boundary to confluence with North and South Badger
Miles of each segment	7.2 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Badger Creek Beginning Point: T29N R11W Section 3
County(ies)	Pondera
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV
Recreation	No ORV
Geologic	No ORV
Fisheries	No ORV
Wildlife	No ORV
Cultural	Located within the Badger Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District. This area holds high importance for the Blackfeet Nation for traditional cultural uses.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV
Natural Other	No ORV

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *Badger Creek*
Geographic Area: *Rocky Mountain Range*
HUC10 Name: *Badger Creek*



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Wild



National Forest System Boundary



0 0.75 1.5 Miles

August 05, 2015

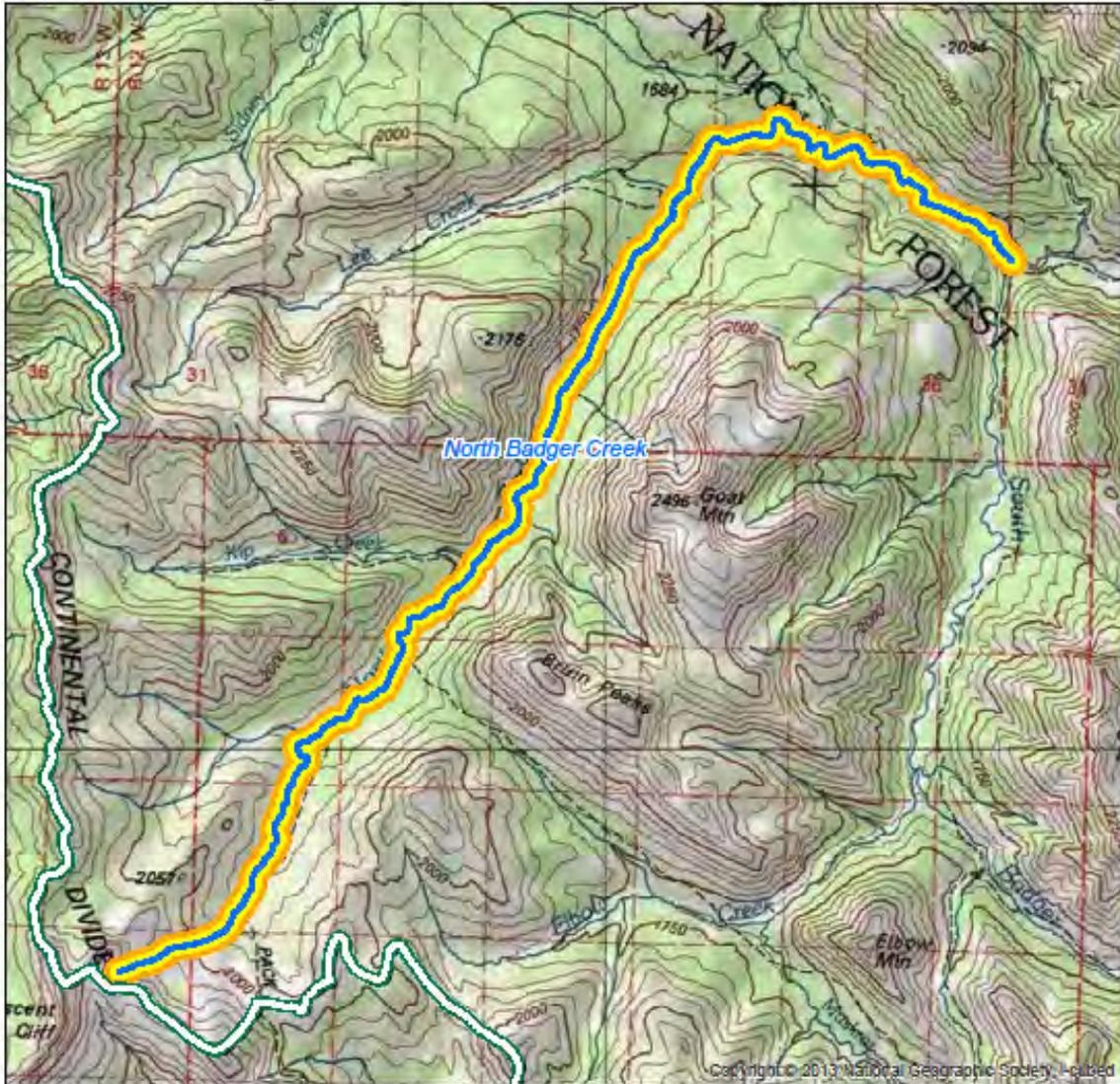


North Badger Creek

North Badger Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Fish – National Cultural - National
Eligible Segments	From the junction with main Badger and South Badger Creeks to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	10.4 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Badger Creek Beginning Point: T29N R12W Section 25
County(ies)	Pondera
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Y/N	Yes
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Part of meta- population with North Badger, Badger Cabin, Lee, and Red Poacher Rivers. All of these together form best meta population of pure westslope cutthroat trout on the Rocky Mountain Front.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	Located within the Badger Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District. This area holds high importance for the Blackfeet Nation for traditional cultural uses.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

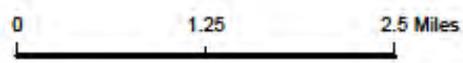
Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: North Badger Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Badger Creek



LEGEND

- Preliminary Classification
- Wild
- National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015



South Badger Creek

<i>South Badger Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From junction with main Badger and North Badger Creeks to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	10.9 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Badger Creek Beginning Point: T29N R12W Section 25
County(ies)	Pondera
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	Located within the Badger Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District. This area holds high importance for the Blackfeet Nation for traditional cultural uses.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: South Badger Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Badger Creek



LEGEND

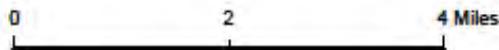
Preliminary Classification

Wild

National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

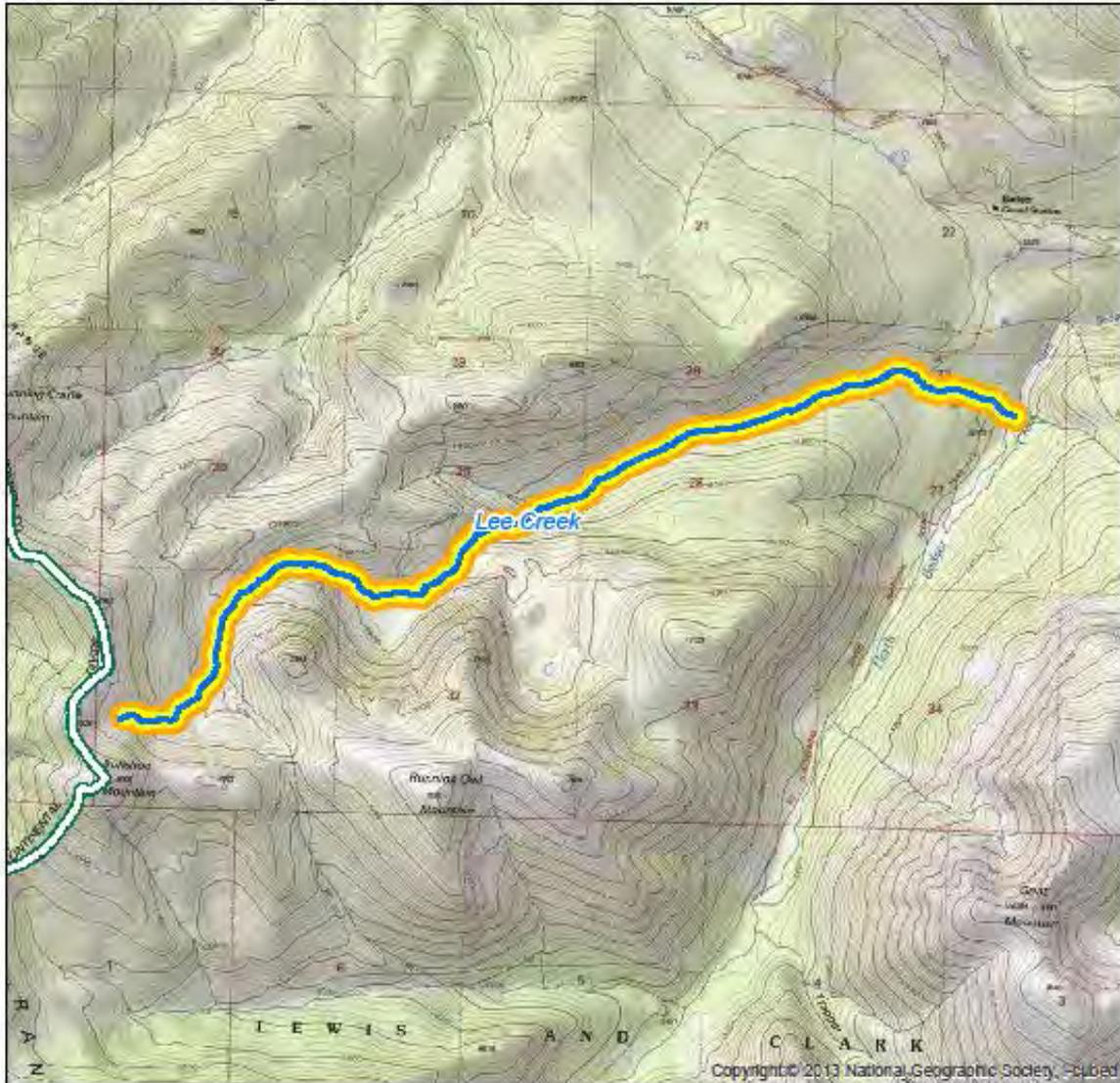


Lee Creek

Lee Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From mouth to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	4.6 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Badger Creek Beginning Point: T29N R12W Section 27
County(ies)	Pondera
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Part of a meta- population of fish with North Badger, Badger Cabin, Lee, and Red Poacher Rivers. All of these together form best meta population of pure westslope cutthroat trout on the Rocky Mountain Front.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Lee Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Badger Creek

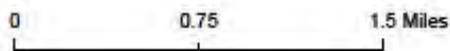


LEGEND

Preliminary Classification  National Forest System Boundary
 Wild



August 05, 2015

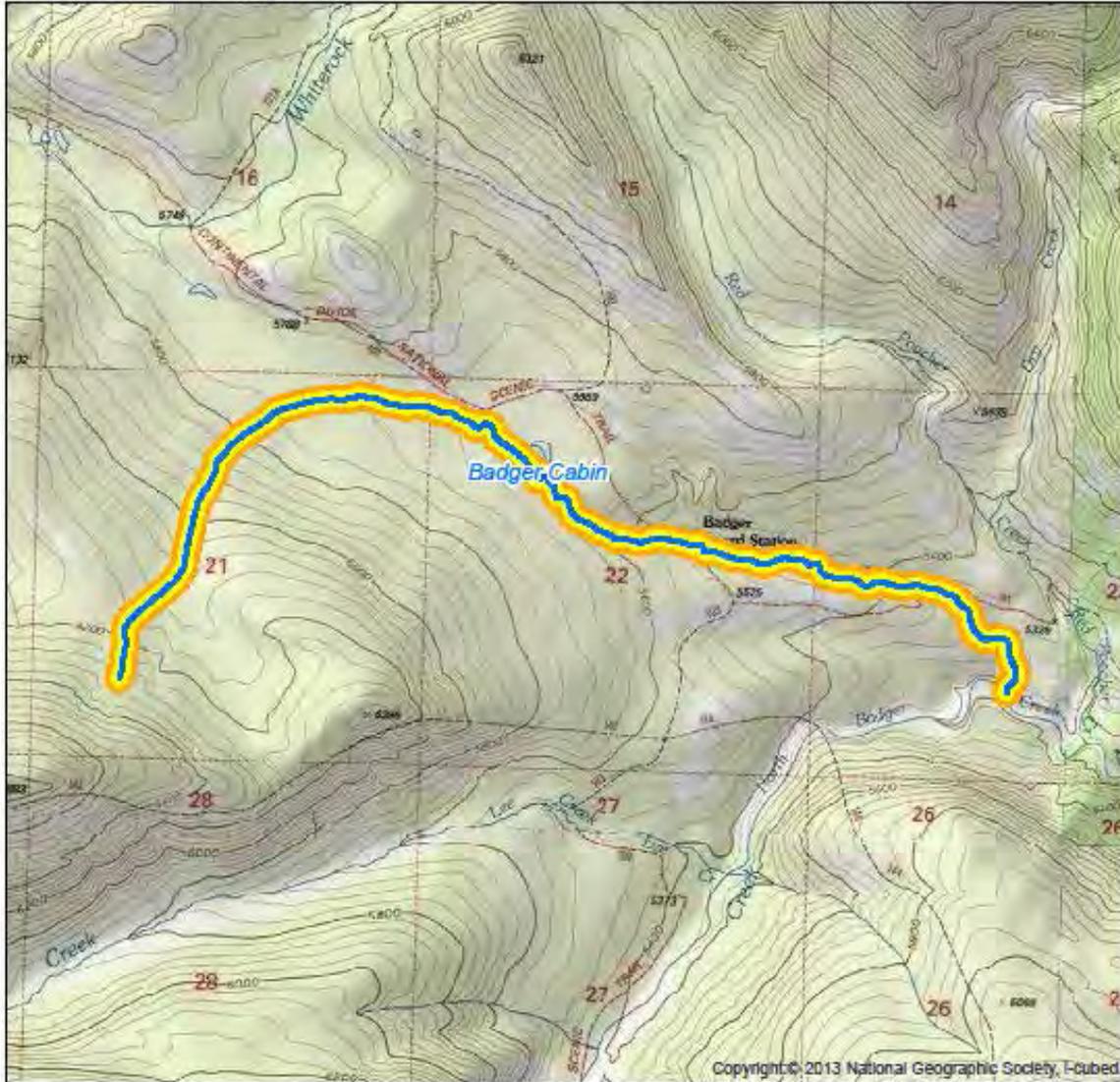


Badger Cabin Creek

<i>Badger Cabin Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From mouth to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	3.2 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Badger Creek Beginning Point: T29N R12W Section 23
County(ies)	Pondera
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Part of meta- population with North Badger, Badger Cabin, Lee, and Red Poacher Rivers. All of these together form best meta population of pure westslope cutthroat trout on the Rocky Mountain Front.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

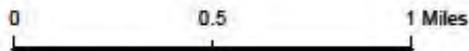
Stream Name: Badger Cabin
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Badger Creek



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Wild



August 05, 2015



Red Poacher Creek

<i>Red Poacher Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From confluence with North Badger Creek to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	3.1 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Badger Creek Beginning Point: T29N R12W Section 23
County(ies)	Pondera
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Part of meta- population with North Badger, Badger Cabin, Lee, and Red Poacher Rivers. All of these together form best meta population of pure westslope cutthroat trout on the Rocky Mountain Front.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Red Poacher Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Badger Creek



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Wild

August 05, 2015

0 0.5 1 Miles



North Fork Birch Creek

North Fork Birch Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	7.8 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Birch Creek Beginning Point: T28N R10W Section 27
County(ies)	Pondera
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	Located within the Badger Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District. This area holds high importance for the Blackfeet Nation for traditional cultural uses.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

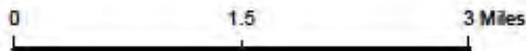
Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
 Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: North Fork Birch Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Birch Creek



LEGEND

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|  Preliminary Classification |  National Forest System Boundary |
|  Wild | |



August 05, 2015

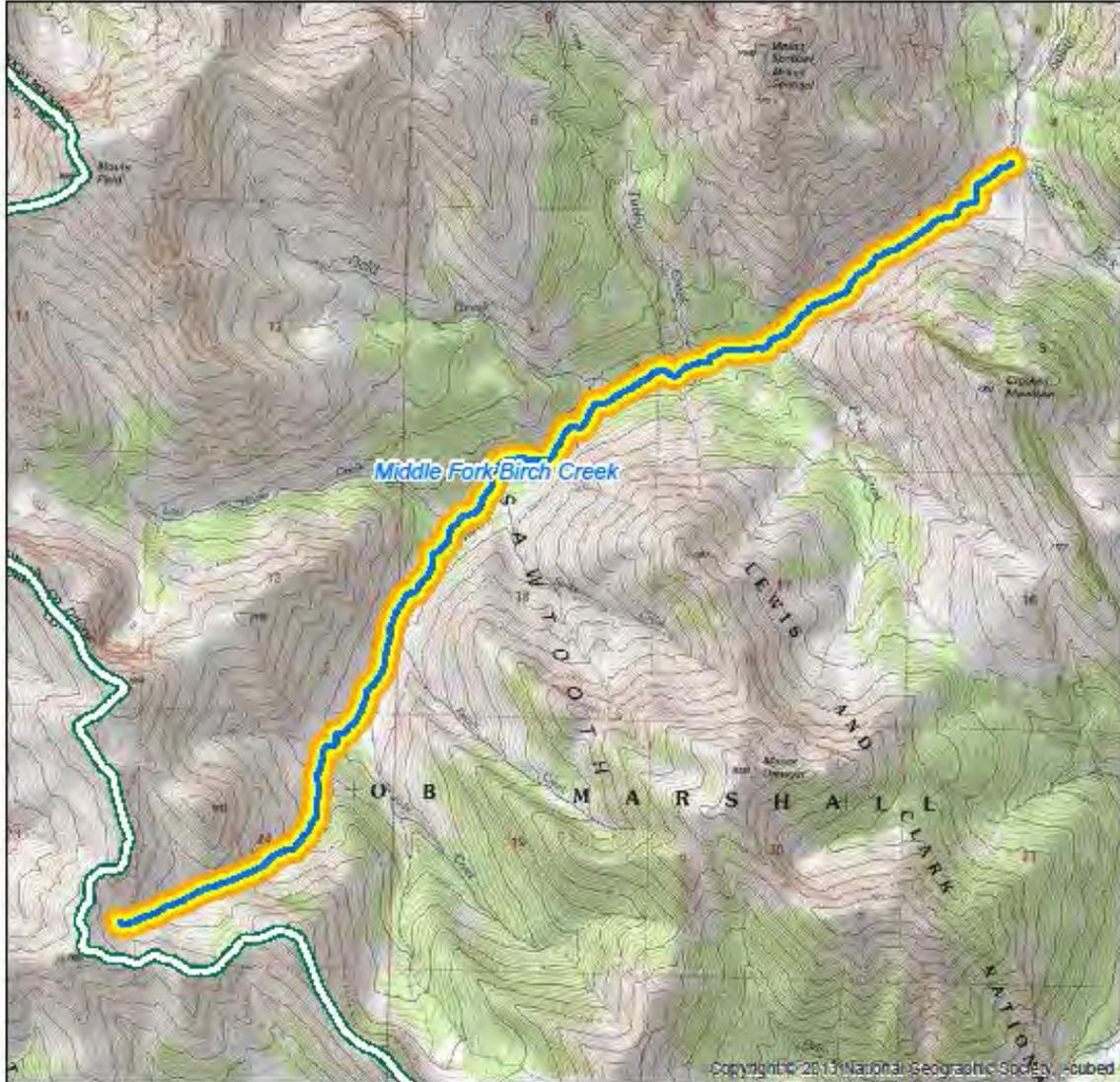


Middle Fork Birch Creek

Middle Fork Birch Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery, Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Scenery- Regional Cultural - National
Eligible Segments	From confluence to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	5.2 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Birch Creek Beginning Point: T27N R10W Section 4
County(ies)	Teton
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	Beautiful waterfalls.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV
Cultural	Located within the Badger Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District. This area holds high importance for the Blackfeet Nation for traditional cultural uses.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV
Natural Other	No ORV

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Middle Fork Birch Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Birch Creek



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification  National Forest System Boundary
 Wild



August 05, 2015



South Fork Birch Creek

South Fork Birch Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery, Recreation, Fish, Wildlife, Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Scenery- Regional Recreation – Regional Fish- National Wildlife – Regional Cultural - National
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwaters
Miles of each segment	9.8 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Birch Creek Beginning Point: T28N R10W Section 33
County(ies)	Teton
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	Compressed canyon with falls, pools, waterfalls, caves, and cliffs.
Recreation	One of the primary routes to the Chinese Wall within the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Receives a considerable amount of international interest and use.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	Populations of pure westslope cutthroat trout which is protected by waterfalls. One of the most secure populations east of the continental divide. Potential long-term source population.
Wildlife	Harlequin duck breeding, most important duck habitat in region, one of five key breeding streams on the Forest
Cultural	Located within the Badger Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District. This area holds high importance for the Blackfeet Nation for traditional cultural uses.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
 Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: South Fork Birch Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Birch Creek



LEGEND

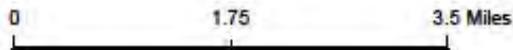
Preliminary Classification

 Wild

 National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

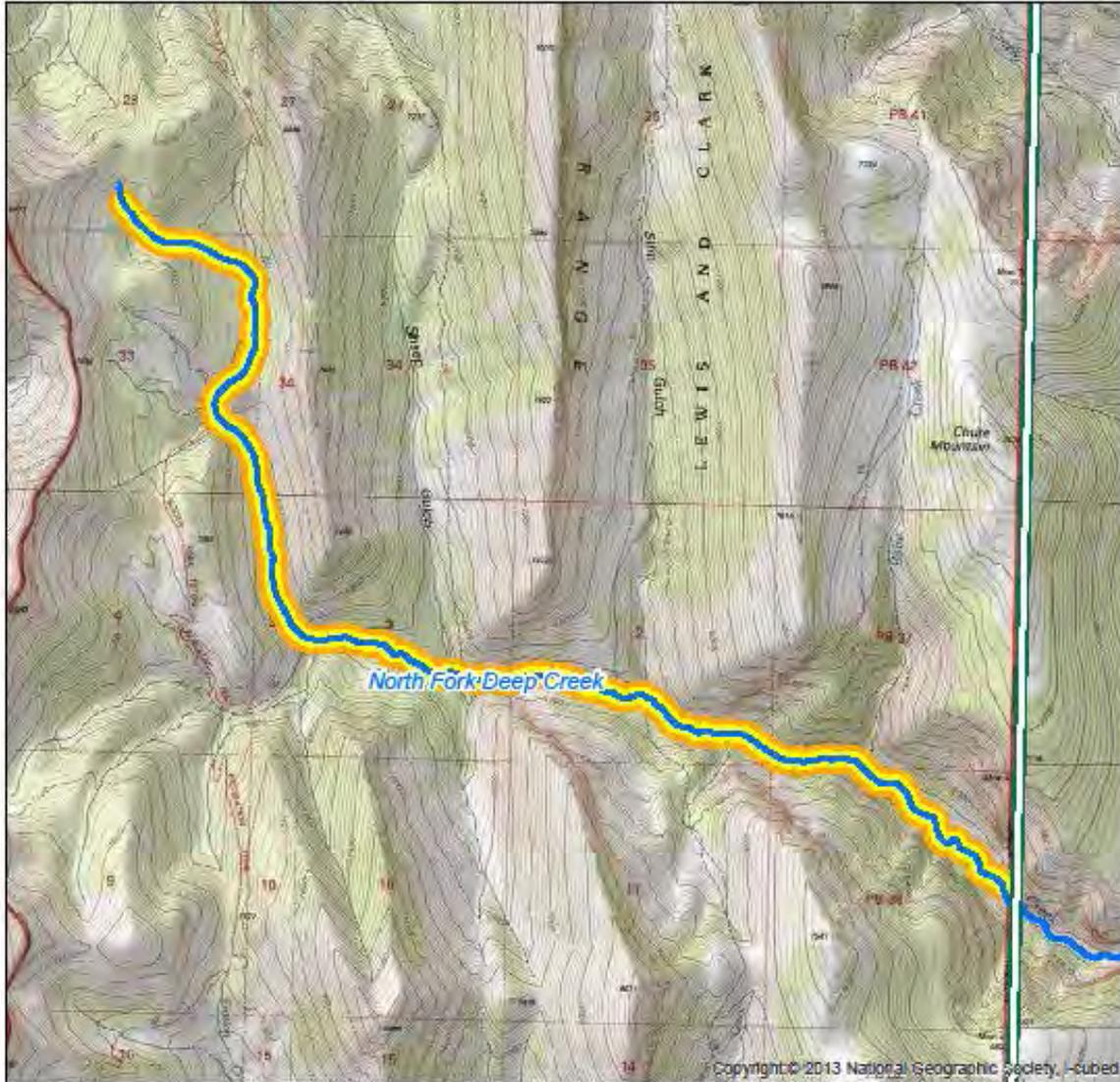


North Fork Deep Creek

<i>North Fork Deep Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwater.
Miles of each segment	5.3 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Deep Creek Beginning Point: T23N R9W Section 12
County(ies)	Teton
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	Scenery is dominated by a limestone canyon with steep sides that drop down to the river bottom.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: North Fork Deep Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Deep Creek



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Wild

 National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

0 0.75 1.5 Miles



North Fork Sun River

North Fork Sun River	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery, Recreation
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Scenery – Regional Recreation – Regional
Eligible Segments	From wilderness boundary to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	26.2 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: N Fork Sun River Beginning Point: T22N R10W Section 26
County(ies)	Teton
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
Resource Description	
Scenery	Large, broad valley, ringed by peaks and panoramic views.
Recreation	The North Fork of the Sun River is one of the core drainages of Bob Marshall wilderness. Hunting is the primary recreation activity; however, the area is very popular for wildlife viewing, wilderness camping and fishing as well.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: North Fork Sun River
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: North Fork Sun River

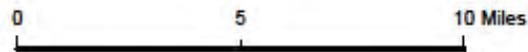


LEGEND

Preliminary Classification ——— National Forest System Boundary
Wild



August 05, 2015



South Fork Sun River

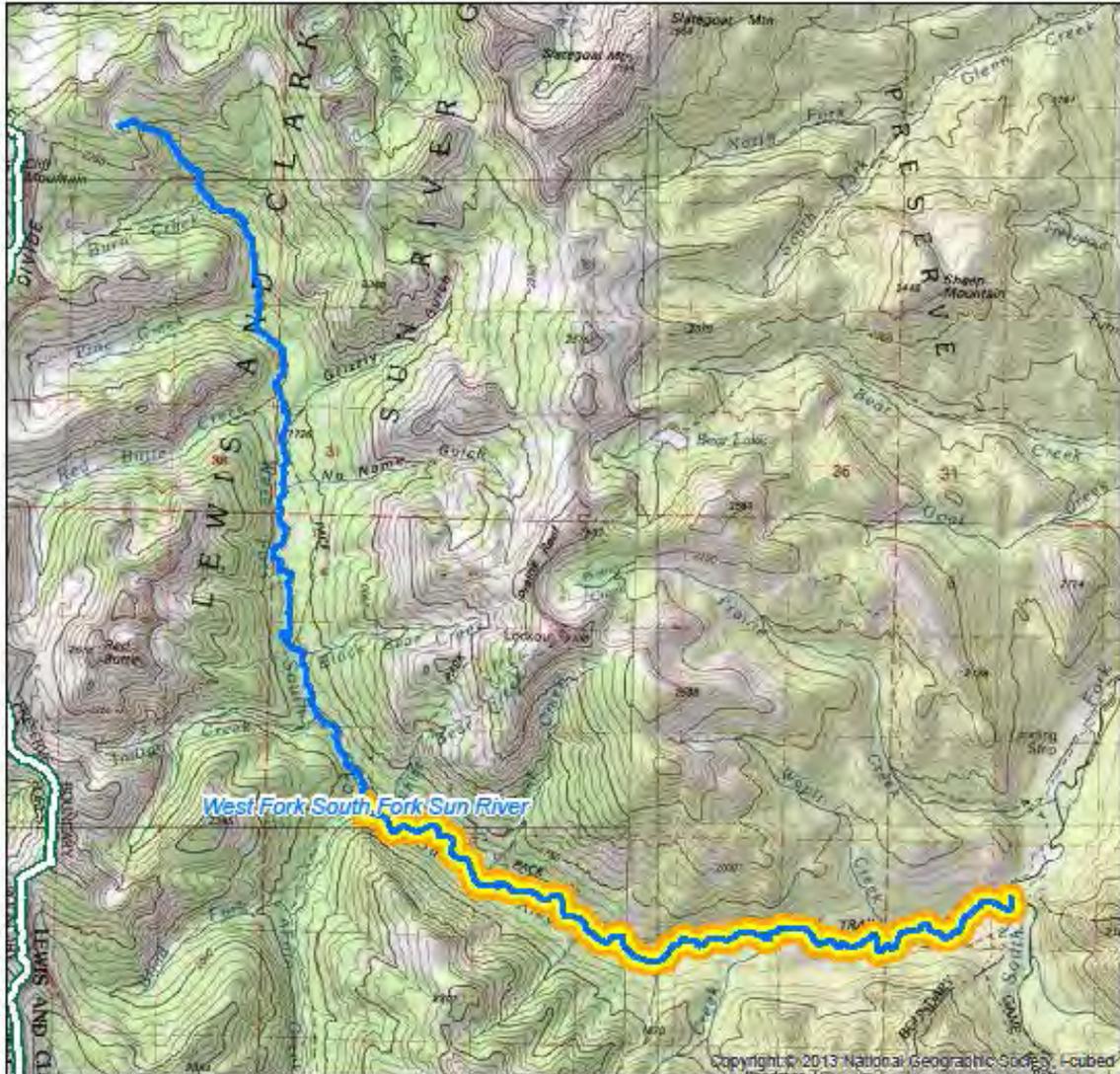
<i>South Fork Sun River</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Recreation, Wildlife
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Recreation- Regional Wildlife- National
Eligible Segments	From wilderness boundary to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	25.4 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mtn Range HUC 10: S Fork Sun River Beginning Point: T22N R10W Section 26
County(ies)	Teton
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	This area is extremely popular for recreational fishing. The area is also used extensively for hiking, horseback riding, camping, and for the overall wilderness experience.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	Outstanding Harlequin duck habitat. Un-impacted by development, pristine high functioning.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

West Fork South Fork Sun River

West Fork South Fork Sun River	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Recreation, Wildlife
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Recreation – Regional Wildlife - Regional
Eligible Segments	From mouth to junction with Ahorn Creek.
Miles of each segment	8.5 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: South Fork Sun River Beginning Point: T21N R10W Section 20
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	Trails along this river provide one of the primary access routes to the Chinese Wall in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Recreational fishing along this route is also very popular.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	Key harlequin breeding area.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: West Fork South Fork Sun River
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: South Fork Sun River



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

Wild



National Forest System Boundary



0 2 4 Miles

August 05, 2015



Green Fork Straight Creek

Green Fork Straight Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery, Geology
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Scenery- Regional Geology- National
Eligible Segments	From mouth to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	5.9 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: S Fork Sun Beginning Point: T19N R10W Section 25
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
Resource Description	
Scenery	Spectacular scenery. River located along a cliff face. In spring runoff, waterfalls shoot out of openings in the cliff face.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	There are a number of caves in the cliffs along this area resulting from the Geology. Geology is the Madison group which is a combination of over thrust structures within the Sawtooth range on the Rocky Mountain front.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *Green Fork Straight Creek*
Geographic Area: *Rocky Mountain Range*
HUC10 Name: *South Fork Sun River*



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Wild

 National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

0 1 2 Miles

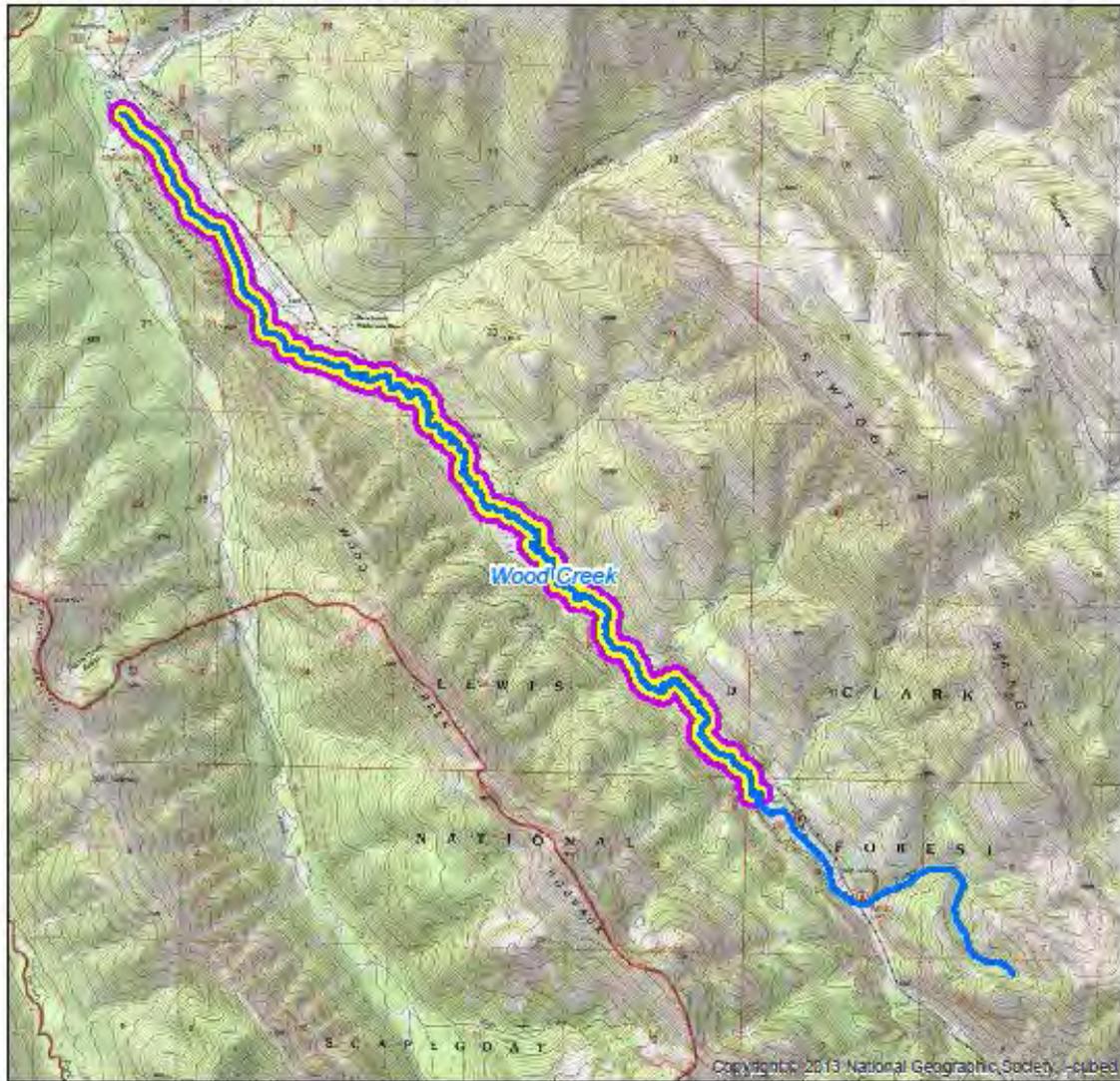


Wood Creek

Wood Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Wildlife
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regionally
Eligible Segments	From below the dam on Wood Lake to the confluence with Straight Creek.
Miles of each segment	7.1 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10:South Fork Sun River Beginning Point: T20N R10W Section 16
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	Unique for the productive diverse habitat. Overall best habitat diversity east of continental divide. Northern bog lemming habitat with only known habitat east of divide. Breeding habitat for western toads and trumpeter swans. Beaver activity has turned it into a complex habitat. Collectively elevates to an ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

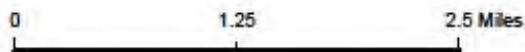
Stream Name: Wood Creek
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: South Fork Sun River



LEGEND
Preliminary Classification
 Recreational



August 05, 2015

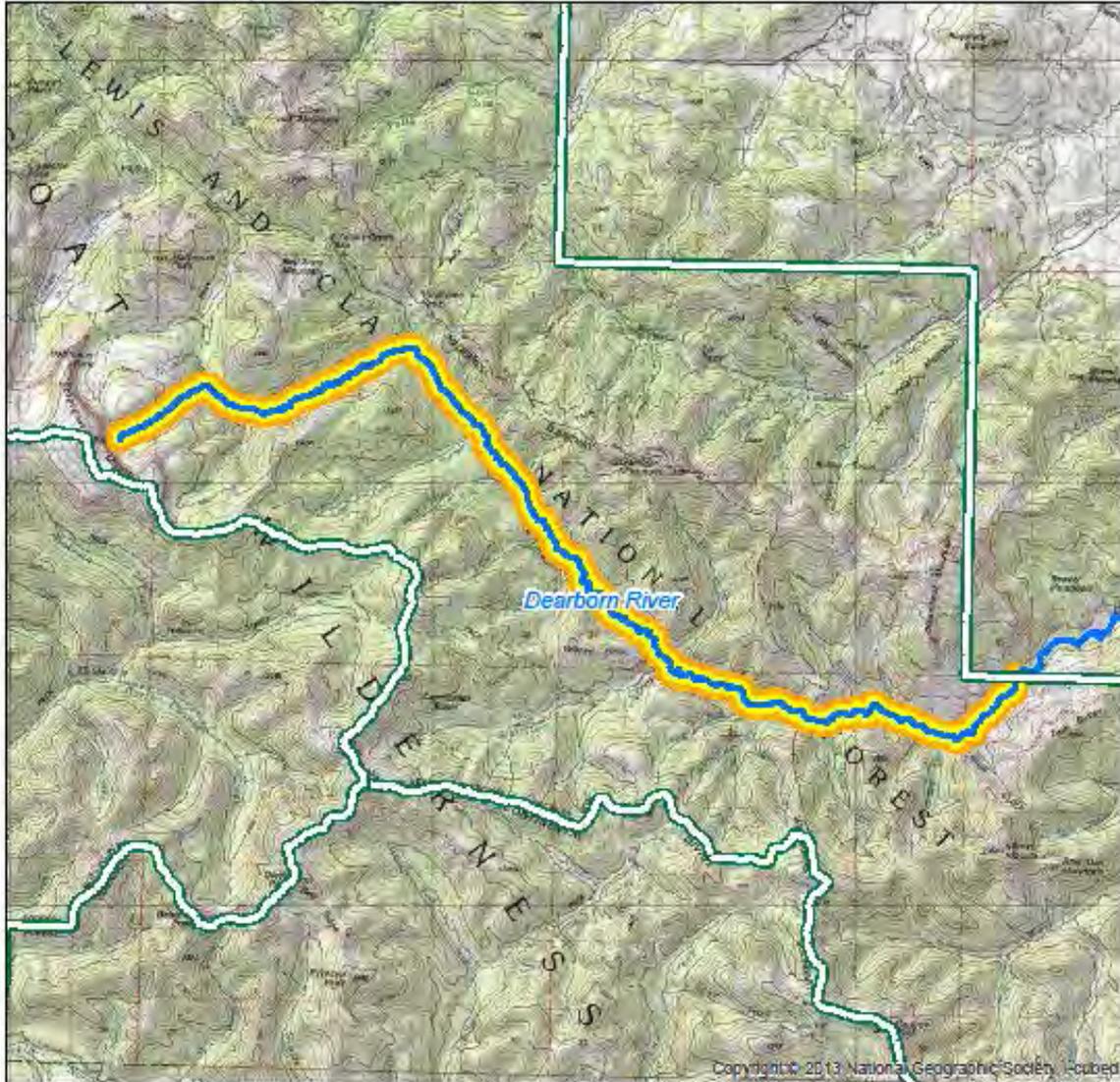


Dearborn River

<i>Dearborn River</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to the headwaters.
Miles of each segment	19.0 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Rocky Mountain Range HUC 10: Upper Dearborn River Beginning Point: T17N R7W Section 6
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	There is spectacular scenery in Devils Glen area, which is located within the in the lower section of the river, just inside the forest boundary.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Dearborn River
Geographic Area: Rocky Mountain Range
HUC10 Name: Upper Dearborn River



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification



Wild



National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015



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Snowies Geographic Area



Geologic features of Swimming Woman Creek, photo by Google Earth

Potentially Eligible WSR Rivers

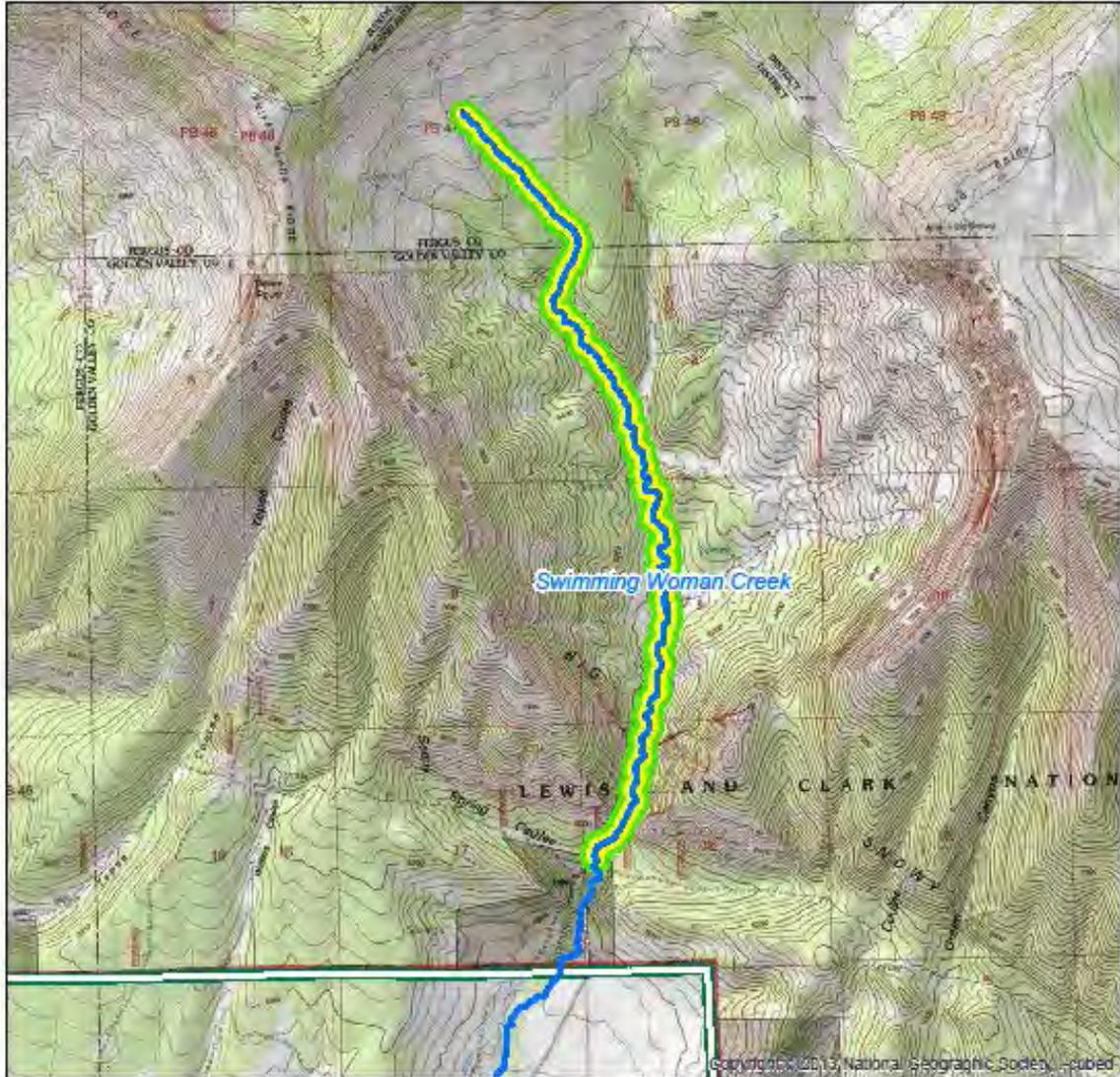
- Swimming Woman Creek

Swimming Woman Creek

Swimming Woman Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Scenery, Geology
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Scenery- National Geology-National
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwaters
Miles of each segment	3.9 miles
Potential Classification	Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Snowies HUC 10: Careless Creek Beginning Point: T11N R19E Section 16
County(ies)	Golden Valley/Fergus
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	The scenic quality of this area is tied directly to the geologic features located here, which are spectacular and national in significance.
Recreation	No ORV
Geologic	A textbook example of an erosional feature resembling a glacial cirque that is national in significance. No other examples of this kind of erosional feature exist in North America.
Fisheries	No ORV
Wildlife	No ORV
Cultural	No ORV
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV
Natural Other	No ORV

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: *Swimming Woman Creek*
Geographic Area: *Snowies*
HUC10 Name: *Careless Creek*



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification



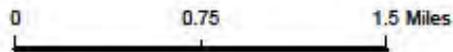
Scenic



National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015



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Upper Blackfoot Geographic Area



Landers Fork

Potentially Eligible WSR Rivers

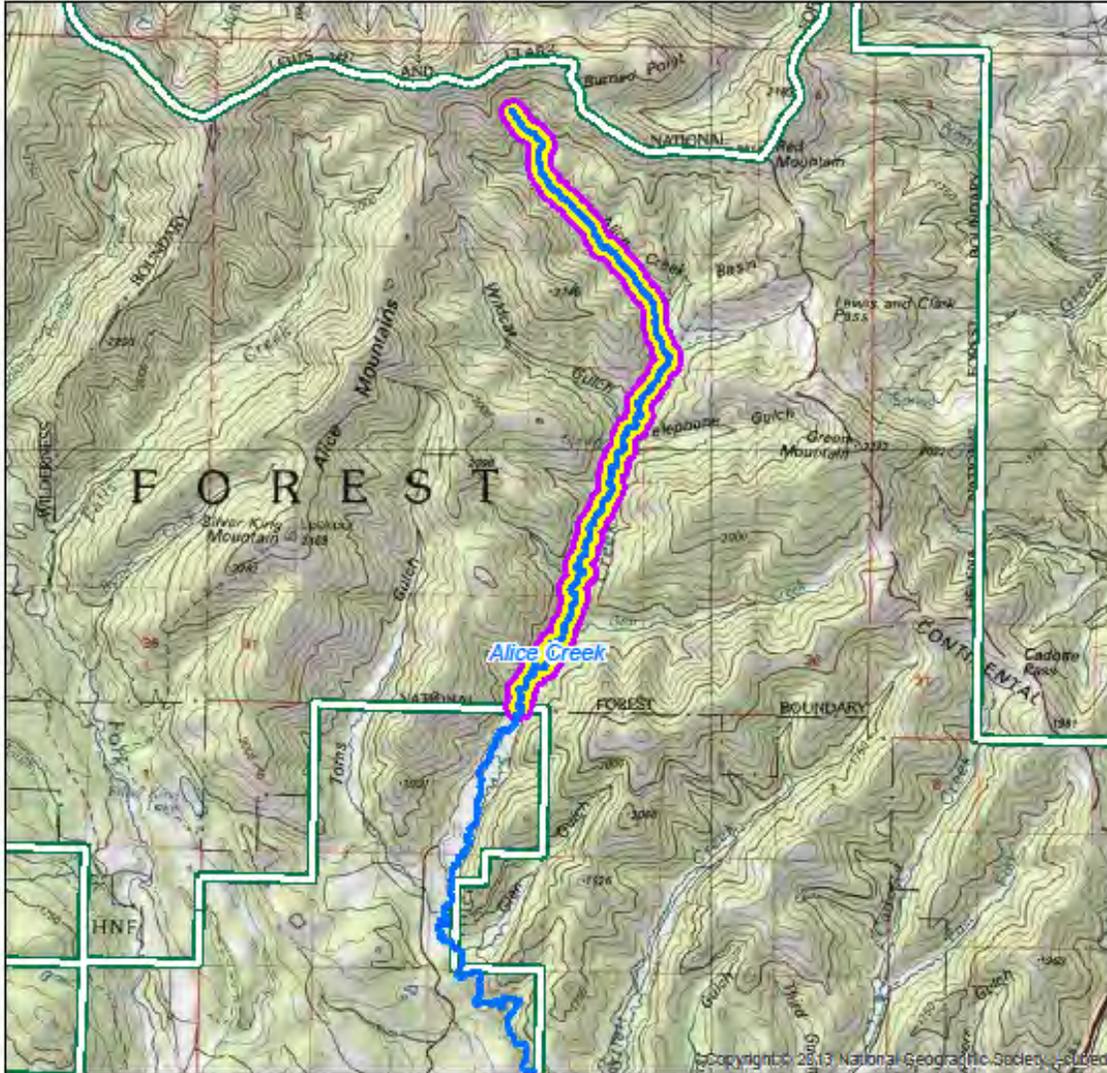
- Alice Creek
- Copper Creek
- Landers Fork
- Snowbank Creek

Alice Creek

Alice Creek	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Cultural
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	7.0 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Upper Blackfoot HUC 10: Blackfoot River Headwaters Beginning Point: T16N R7W Section 33
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	No ORV.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Cultural	This stream is included in the Alice Creek Historic District which is registered on the National Register of Historic Places. The area includes high cultural site concentrations and was used repeatedly as a travel corridor for crossing the divide to hunting grounds east of the mountains. The travel corridor was also used by Captain Lewis on his return journey and the trail is a part of the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Alice Creek
Geographic Area: Upper Blackfoot
HUC10 Name: Blackfoot River Headwaters



LEGEND

- Preliminary Classification
- Recreational
- National Forest System Boundary

August 05, 2015

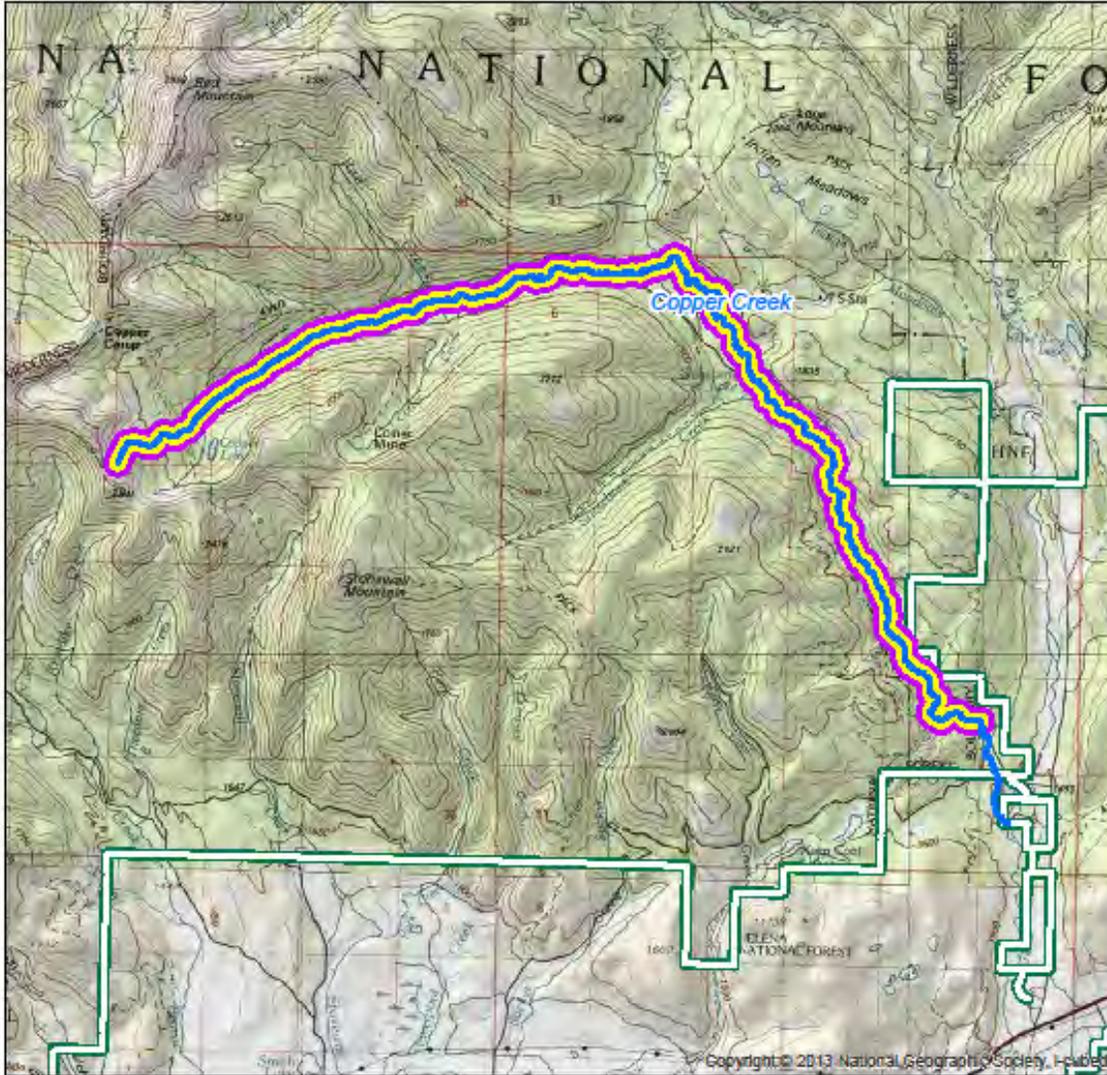


Copper Creek

<i>Copper Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	14.0 miles
Potential Classification	Recreational
Location	Geographic area: Upper Blackfoot HUC 10: Landers Fork Beginning Point: T15N R8W Section 26
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	Yes
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	This stream and the tributary of Snowbank Creek are major sources of bull trout spawning and rearing habitat for the entire Blackfoot River drainage.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Historic/ Pre-historic	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

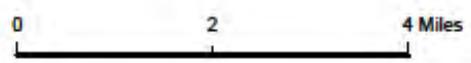
Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Copper Creek
Geographic Area: Upper Blackfoot
HUC10 Name: Landers Fork



LEGEND

- Preliminary Classification
- Recreational
- National Forest System Boundary



August 05, 2015

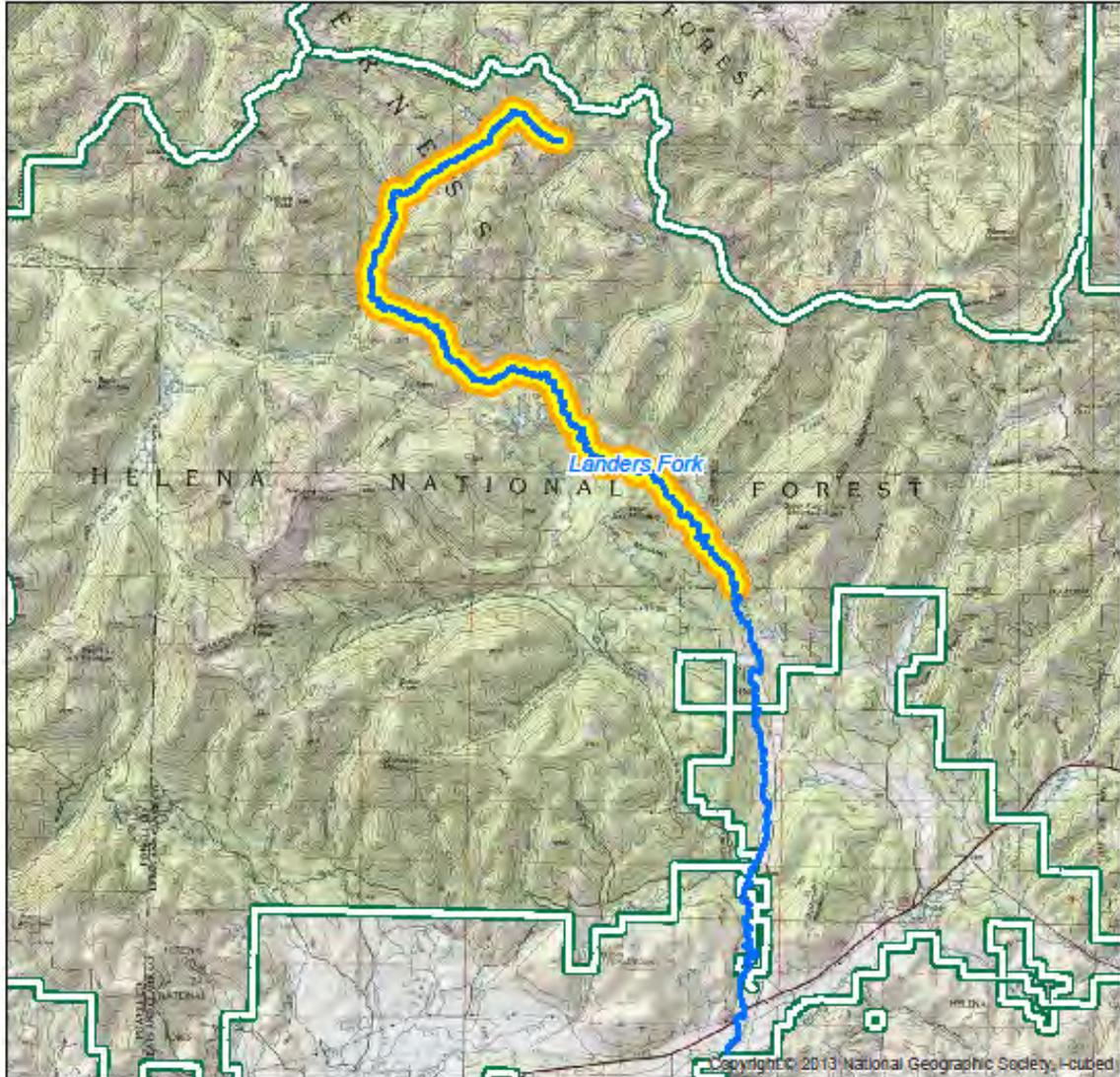


Landers Fork

Landers Fork	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	Regional
Eligible Segments	From forest boundary to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	18.8 miles
Potential Classification	Wild
Location	Geographic area: Upper Blackfoot HUC 10: Landers Fork Beginning Point: T16N R8W Section 36
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
Resource Description	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	This stream is one of the top sources of bull trout spawning and rearing habitat for the entire Blackfoot River drainage.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Historic/ Pre-historic	No ORV on Forest Service.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Landers Fork
Geographic Area: Upper Blackfoot
HUC10 Name: Landers Fork



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification ——— National Forest System Boundary
Wild



August 05, 2015

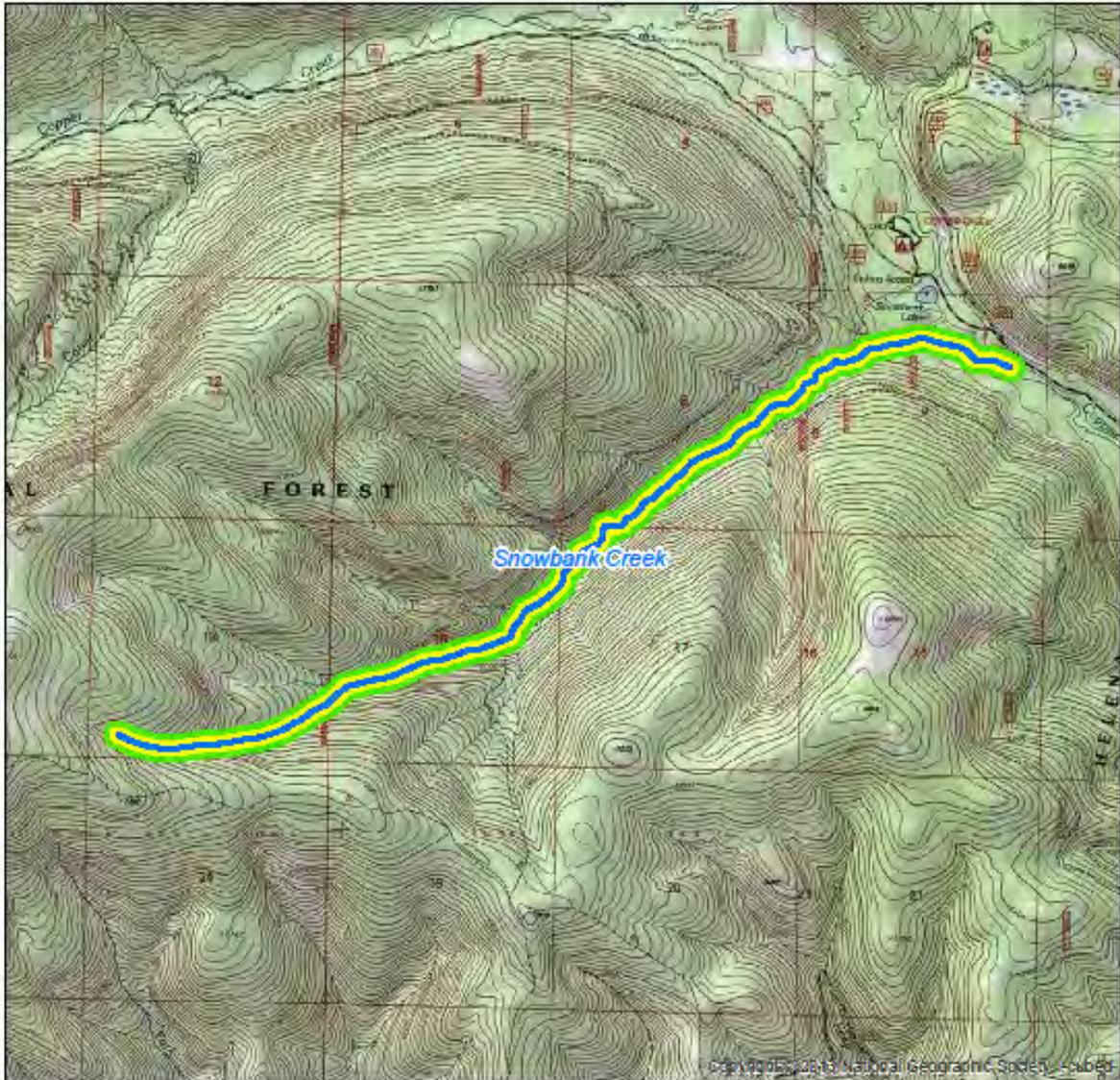


Snowbank Creek

<i>Snowbank Creek</i>	
Is the River free flowing? Yes or No	Yes
Potential Outstanding Remarkable Value(s)	Fish
Area of Comparison	State of Montana
Regional or National Significance	National
Eligible Segments	From confluence with Copper Creek to headwaters.
Miles of each segment	4.4 miles
Potential Classification	Scenic
Location	Geographic area: Upper Blackfoot HUC 10: Blackfoot River- Keep it Cool Creek Beginning Point: T15N R8W Section 9
County(ies)	Lewis and Clark
Identified in Previous Eligibility Studies. Yes/No	No
<i>Resource Description</i>	
Scenery	No ORV.
Recreation	No ORV.
Geologic	No ORV.
Fisheries	This stream contains the highest density of bull trout spawning in the entire Blackfoot River basin.
Wildlife	No ORV.
Historic/ Pre-historic	No ORV.
Botanical/ Natural	No ORV.
Natural Other	No ORV.

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study
Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests

Stream Name: Snowbank Creek
Geographic Area: Upper Blackfoot
HUC10 Name: Landers Fork



LEGEND

Preliminary Classification

 Scenic



August 05, 2015

0 0.75 1.5 Miles



DRAFT