

Assessment of Existing Conditions: Sources of Information as of February 19, 2016

GIS: Geographic Information System

USFS: Forest Service

R1: Forest Service Region 1

MT: Montana SD: South Dakota

CGNF: Custer Gallatin NF

All Topics
– Federal statutes, laws, and regulations, Forest Service manuals and handbooks, existing USFS Plans
Terrestrial ecosystems, aquatic ecosystems, and watersheds
Threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species; potential species of conservation concern
Terrestrial Vegetation
– VMap (existing vegetation mapping product)
– FIA (Forest Inventory and Analysis)
– Jeff Jones Potential Vegetation Types (PVT) Layer
– R1 Vegetation Summary Data Base
– Forest Service GIS data
– Riparian & Hardwood Draws –CGNF Riparian database, PFC data, Prairie Unit’s Woody Draw data, plus GIS, FIA and VMAP
– Ground Cover - VMAP, FIA
Invasive Plants
– CGNF Invasives, Fire History, Roads/Trails GIS databases
– Greater Yellowstone database
– R1 GIS database
– Eastside Susceptibility Model
At Risk Plant Species and Plant Species of Conservation Concern
– USFS R1 Sensitive Plant List
– MT Natural Heritage Program Database
– SD Natural Heritage Program Database
– Recent floristic surveys on the Forest
– Consultation with Forest Service Regional Botanist
Plant Species of Public Interest
– Local USFS data
– Tribal consultation
At Risk Wildlife and Wildlife Species of Conservation Concern
– USFWS published Rules for status reviews, listing, proposals to list, delisting, etc.
– NatureServe & Natural Heritage Program databases for species status, ranking, occurrence/ distribution
– GYA Grizzly Bear Conservation Strategy
– Canada Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy
– Canada Lynx Science Report (Ecology and Conservation of Canada Lynx in the US)
– Northern Rockies Lynx Management Direction
– USFWS Bald Eagle Management Plan
– State Wildlife Management Agency data on wildlife distribution and population trends
– Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team research and publications on grizzly bear biology, ecology and population trends
– Vegetation: R1 Summary database and VMAP
– GYA Grizzly Bear Access Model
– R1 Eastside Forest Habitat modeling efforts: Canada lynx, northern goshawk
– Custer Gallatin Forest monitoring data – gathered internally and through cooperators
– Northern Region Landbird survey data
– General Technical Reports – Rocky Mountain Research Station
– Published scientific literature
– Personal communications with experts in the field
– Gallatin and Custer National Forest Travel Management Plans

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Terrestrial ecosystems, aquatic ecosystems, and watersheds**Threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species; potential species of conservation concern****Wildlife: Big Game**

- USFS website for bighorn sheep habitat
- Eastside Assessment Tools for elk cover and road density
- VMAP for habitat queries for other big game species (e.g. moose, mule deer)
- MT Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (MT FWP) survey data and harvest data
- SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks survey data and harvest data
- MT DFWP Elk Plan
- MT FWP range maps
- South Dakota plans
- Collaborative Recommendations 2013
- Montana State university Post Doc reports on elk summer selection and fall hunting season selection
- Published Literature

Wild Horses

- USFS, BLM local data

Aquatic Species and Habitats

- MT Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
- SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks
- MT Natural Heritage Program Database
- SD Natural Heritage Program
- MT Department of Environmental Quality
- SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Montana State University
- South Dakota State University
- The Nature Conservancy
- Turner Enterprises
- USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station
- PACFISH/INFISH Biological Opinion Monitoring Program
- Forest Service data
- Published Literature

Aquatic Invasive Species

- USGS NAS - Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database
- EDDmaps; Early Detection and Mapping System
- MT Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Air, soil, and water resources**Air Quality**

- EPA; e.g. National Emissions Inventory database
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MTDEQ)
- South Dakota Department of Environment & Natural Resources
- Montana/Idaho Airshed Group Smoke Management Program
- Forest Service and Interagency Air Quality Monitoring Programs:
 - Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE)
 - National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)
 - Monitoring programs for high alpine lakes, snow sampling (USGS), lichens
- Published Literature

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Air, soil, and water resources
Soils
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Soil Survey of the Gallatin National Forest, Montana – Carbon County Soil Survey (Soil Conservation Service) – Powder River County Soil Survey (Soil Conservation Service) – Carter County Soil Survey (Soil Conservation Service) – Harding County Soil Survey (Soil Conservation Service)
Water
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – USFS Watershed Condition Framework – CGNF Watershed Vulnerability Assessment – US Geologic Survey (USGS) – MT Bureau of Mines and Geology – MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
System drivers, including dominant ecological processes, disturbance regimes, and stressors
Wildland Fire
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – National Fire History Database fire occurrence records – Local fire occurrence GIS data – Fire Regime and vegetation condition classification research (various sources) – Land Fire – Large-fire simulator (FSIM) – USFS Missoula Fire Sciences Laboratory researchers – Collaborative research and modeling with neighboring National Forests
Climate Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Forest Service Northern Rockies Adaptation Partnership <i>in press</i> – CGNF Watershed Vulnerability Assessment – Public Literature
Invasive Plant Species
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CGNF Invasives, Fire History, Roads/Trails GIS databases; – Greater Yellowstone database – R1 GIS database, – Eastside Susceptibility Model
Invasive Aquatic Species
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – USGS NAS - Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database – EDDmaps; Early Detection and Mapping System – MT Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Baseline assessment of carbon stocks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – National Forest Carbon Assessments prepared by Forest Service
Social, cultural, and economic conditions
Social and Cultural Conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – US Census, American Community Survey, 2010-2014 – County Health Rankings, University of Wisconsin, Population Health Institute – (http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/) – FS Enterprise databases (NVUM, NICE, SUDS, INFRA) – U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau. 2013. National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.

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Social, cultural, and economic conditions
Economic Conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – U.S. Department of Commerce. Census Bureau: American Community Survey, County Business Patterns, Census of Governments – U.S. Department of Commerce. Economics and Statistics Administration – U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics – U.S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of Economic Analysis, REA/REIS – U.S. Department of Agriculture, Census of Agriculture – U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service – U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Services – U.S. Department of Interior, Payment in Lieu of Taxes – Forest Service, Secure Rural Schools – Forest Service, Cut and Sold Reports – Forest Service, Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) – Forest Service National Visitor Use Monitoring Data (NVUM) – Impact Analysis for Planning (IMPLAN) data – State of Montana, Department of Labor, Research and Analysis – University of Montana, Bureau of Business and Economic Research – National Center for Education Statistics – National Center for Health Statistics – U.S. Social Security Administration, Research, Statistics, Policy Analysis – U.S. Internal Revenue Services, Statistics of Income – U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration – U.S. Geological Survey, Gap Analysis Survey – Published Literature
Multiple uses and their contributions to local, regional, and national economies
Timber
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – USFS Records including: – Timber Sale Accountability database – FACTS database (Forest Service Activity Tracking System) – TIMS database (Timber Information Manager) – Forest Plan identified suitable lands for forest products
Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – USFS Records including: – GIS spatial data, – Primary rangeland capability model using GIS spatial data – INFRA Range Module (Permit, Allotment and infrastructure information)
Recreation settings, opportunities and access, and scenic character
Recreation settings, opportunities and access
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Forest Service GIS – Forest Service National Visitor Use Monitoring Data (NVUM) – Forest Service Infrastructure database: INFRA – Forest Service Special Uses Database: SUDS – Gallatin and Custer National Forest Travel Management Plans – Gallatin and Custer National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Maps – County Atlases – Recreation in the Greater Yellowstone Area

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Scenery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – National Forest Visual Management System – Forest Service Scenery Management System
Renewable and nonrenewable energy and mineral resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – State of Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) data – Forest project and permit files – Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology publications and data – Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (MTDNRC) – State of South Dakota Department of Environmental and Natural Resources data – South Dakota Geological Survey – Bureau of Land Management (BLM) minerals forecasts – U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) published documents and maps – U.S. Bureau of Mines published documents – Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website and published documents – US Energy Information Administration – US Department of Energy (Oak Ridge National Laboratory) data – Academic and professional peer-reviewed literature – 2008 UDDI, BLM Proposed Butte Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement September 2008
Infrastructure, such as recreational facilities and transportation and utility corridors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Forest Service Infrastructure database: INFRA – Forest Service GIS – Forest Service Special Uses Database: SUDS – Energy and utility companies – Forest Service Recreation Facilities Analysis
Areas of tribal importance
Cultural and historical resources and uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Indian Tribal Governments – Tribal Historic Preservation Officers – Forest Service Records (some are not available to the public) – Heritage Files, INFRA/GIS database – Published Literature
Land status and ownership, use, and access patterns
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Forest Service Lands Status Record System (LSRS) for Land Ownership, Rights-of Way, Easements – Forest Service Automated Lands Program (ALP) acreage data – Forest Service Special Uses Database: SUDS – Tribal Plans – Montana County Growth Policies – Harding County South Dakota planning documents – Montana and South Dakota State Agency Plans – Adjacent Federal Land Managers plans; BLM, National Park Service, Forest Service
Existing designated areas located in the plan area including wilderness and wild and scenic rivers and potential need and opportunity for additional designated areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – USFS GIS spatial data for designated areas – RNA Specific Establishment Records – Individual existing designated wilderness legislation
Benefits people obtain from the NFS planning area (ecosystem services) merged with other topics

Custer Gallatin NF Forest Plan Revision

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