

METADATA
Montana Wilderness Study Areas – Bitterroot National Forest
(MT_WSA)

Summary (Purpose): This dataset contains the established Wilderness Study Areas, or parts thereof, that have been designated within the Bitterroot National Forest.

Description (Abstract): Wilderness study areas (WSAs) have many of the same characteristics of a designated Wilderness area but have not yet been granted the same determination. Still protected from development, WSAs share the inherent beauty that comes from untouched landscapes, natural timber growth and native wildlife with their larger counterparts.

Montana has 39 WSAs, the majority, 32, are managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) while the United States Forest Service (USFS) manages the rest.

The Automated Land Program (ALP) of the USDA Forest Service provides to the agency spatial data for officially designated lands. The Regional Land Status personnel are responsible for their local data stewardship and maintenance.

Attributes:

AREATYPE: “Wilderness Study Area”.

AREANAME: Short name of the Wilderness Study Area.

FULLNAME: Full name of the Wilderness Study Area.

BOUNDARYST: Boundary Status for the WSA, which can be “Final” or “Provisional, Subject to Change”.

GIS_Acres: Size of the WSA, in acres (calculated by ArcMap).

Coordinate System:

Type: Projected

Geographic Coordinate Reference: GCS North American 1983

Datum: D_North_America_1983

Projection: NAD_1983_UTM_Zone_11N

Unit: Meters

Use Limitation: The Forest Service uses the most current and complete data available. GIS data and product accuracy may vary. They may be developed from sources of differing accuracy; accurate only at certain scales; based on modeling or interpretation; incomplete while being created or revised; etc. Using GIS products for purposes other than those for which they were created, may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The Forest Service reserves the right to correct, update, modify or replace GIS products without notification.