

METADATA
THIRD ORDER DRAINAGE
(3rdOrderDrainage_FP87)

Summary (Purpose): This dataset contains the third order drainage polygons, as defined in the 1987 Bitterroot National Forest Plan. A third order drainage is formed by the confluence of two second order drainages which are formed by the confluence of two first order drainages, an unbranched stream. The BNF Forest Plan (1987) uses third order drainages to compartmentalize the Forest and therefore assure spatial distribution of old growth and some wildlife habitat attributes (e.g., Elk Habitat Effectiveness).

Description (Abstract): There are BNF Forest Plan (1987) standard requirements for old growth habitat by third order drainage and for elk habitat effectiveness. If we had a general requirement for 10 percent of the Forest to be old growth, it could all occur at one end of the Forest. By making the requirement by third order drainage, we assure that each third order drainage will have at least a minimum of old growth.

This version of the Third Order Drainage GIS layer has been aligned with the ALP BNF Forest Boundary and Ownership layers and the National Hydrologic Streams layer. Private and Non-FS held properties within the BNF Forest boundary are also identified as such so that they can be eliminated from spatial analysis that is conducted for project purposes.

Attributes:

NAME: Identifier for a Third Order Drainage. This is not a unique identifier - for unique identification, the NAME and ROAD_UNROA attributes must be used. NAME is the same as OWNERCLASS for non-USDA FOREST SERVICE owned land.

ROAD_UNROA: Classification of the third order drainage:

Value = "Unroaded": The Third Order Drainage meets the Forest Standard if its road density is ≤ 1 miles/sq. mi in drainage.

Value = "Roaded": The Third Order Drainage meets the Forest Standard if its road density is ≤ 2 miles/sq. mi in drainage.

OWNERCLASS: Ownership of the land defined by the Third Order Drainage.

Value = USDA Forest Service

Value = PRIVATE

Value = STATE: The area is owned by the state of Montana

Value = UNKNOWN: Ownership of the land parcel is unknown.

Value = NONFS: Same as "UNKNOWN"

ACRES: Size of the third order drainage, 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 Limitations: 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.