

Inventoried Roadless Areas

Analysis Area

The analysis area for this topic is the national forest system lands of the IPNF and KNF that are within inventoried roadless areas.

Conditions and Trends

The AMS and AMS Technical Report described the inventoried roadless area revision topic, the latest inventories, and the process that would be followed in addressing this topic. The following information is an update to the AMS, providing more detail and the results of the evaluation process.

The current inventory of roadless areas for the Forests was completed in 1999 on the KNF and 2003 on the IPNF. The inventory was based on the criteria found in FSH 1909.12. The Forests completed their inventories following handbook direction FSH 1909.12, chapter 7 (dated 8/3/1992). The process and the results of the inventory are described in the AMS Technical Report, page 100 – 104. Since the AMS was written, the handbook direction has since been updated with the latest version dated 3/23/2005 (this is interim direction that is due to expire 9/23/2006). The updated handbook is FSH 1909.12, 70 and replaces FSH 1909.12, 7. The criteria for inclusion of lands in the inventory have not changed from the 1992 version of the handbook. The terminology, however, has been revised. What was referred to as an “inventory of roadless areas” under the 1992 handbook is now termed an “inventory of potential wilderness areas” (at FSH 1909.12, 71.1). The term “inventoried roadless areas” or IRAs will be used in this document to refer to areas that meet the inventory criteria stated in FSH 1909.12, 71.1. Detailed maps of the IRAs can be found in Appendix K of this document.

As outlined in the AMS Technical Report and following handbook direction (FSH 1909.12 72), the IRAs were analyzed for proposed wilderness recommendation and a determination made on the mix of land uses that best meet public needs. The IRAs were evaluated for capability, availability, and need as potential wilderness as follows:

Capability – The capability of a potential wilderness area is the degree to which that area contains the basic characteristics that make it suitable for wilderness recommendation without regard to its availability or need as wilderness. This includes environmental as well as manageability considerations.

Availability – The determination of availability is conditioned by the value of and need for the wilderness resource compared to the value of and need for other resources. Other resource demands and uses were evaluated. Constraints and encumbrances were also reviewed to determine the degree of Forest Service control over the surface and subsurface area.

Need – This is an analysis of the degree to which the potential wilderness area would contribute to the overall national Wilderness Preservation System. This evaluation was conducted at the regional level.

The process used and the results of these three tests (capability, availability, and need) are documented in Appendix K.

Based on the results of the capability, availability, and need assessments, a determination of management was made for each IRA and the appropriate management area (MA) applied. Table I-1 displays the acres of each IRA by management area under the Proposed Plan for each Forest.

Table I-1 indicates most of IRAs were allocated to either management areas with wilderness characteristics (MAs 1b, 1c, 1d, or 1e) or backcountry (MAs 5, 5a, 5b, or 5c). The majority, or 69 percent, of the IRAs on the KIPZ were allocated to backcountry (73 percent on the IPNF and 64 percent on the KNF). Twenty percent of the IRAs on the KIPZ were allocated to MAs with wilderness characteristics (17 percent on the IPNF and 24 percent on the KNF). Approximately four percent of the IRAs on the KIPZ were allocated to general forest (MA6), with three percent on the IPNF and five percent on the KNF.

Appendix K of this document describes in detail the evaluation process and the results from assessing capability, availability, and need. This appendix also contains detailed maps of each IRA.

Table I-1 Acres of IRAs by Forest and Management Area for the Proposed Plans

IRA_NAME	1b	1c	1d	1e	2a	2b	3	4a	5	5a	5b	5c	6	7	Grand Total
Idaho Panhandle NFs															
Beetop #130									12,436						12,436
Big Creek #143									76,345						76,345
Blacktail Mountain #122								831	4,132						4,963
Blacktail Mountain #161									4,830						4,830
Buckhorn Ridge #661									9,558						9,558
Continental Mountain #153									7,515						7,515
East Cathedral #131						2,326			19,531				430		22,286
East Fork Elk #678													75		75
Gilt Edge-Silver Creek #792									197						197
Graham Coal #139						71			10,219						10,290
Grandmother Mountain #148		5,112				133	260		16,734				117		22,355
Grassy Top #982							86		13,529						13,614
Hammond Creek #145									17,404						17,404
Hellroaring #128													1,978		1,978
Hungry Mountain #156									8,613						8,613
Katka Peak #157									7,831				2,512		10,343
Kootenai Peak #126													4,974		4,974
Little Grass Mountain #121							34		7,933						7,966
Lost Creek #137						89			11,516						11,605

IRA_NAME	1b	1c	1d	1e	2a	2b	3	4a	5	5a	5b	5c	6	7	Grand Total
Magee #132									34,207				604		34,811
Mallard-Larkins #300	49,478				7,213	3,890	22,107	324	46,237				76		129,325
Maple Peak #141									8,669						8,669
Meadow Cr-Upper N. Fork #302					1,510				4,498						6,009
Midget Peak #151					764				6,475						7,239
Mosquito-Fly #150					1,507				17,901						19,408
North Fork #147					847				30,510						31,357
Northwest Peaks #663							4,584		739				155		5,477
Packsaddle #155									19,289						19,289
Pinchot Butte #149									8,505						8,505
Roland Point #146									6,519						6,519
Saddle Mountain #154									7,765						7,765
Salmo-Priest #981	18,322					675		845	21				158		20,020
Schafer Peak #160									5,490				404		5,893
Scotchman Peaks #662	23,250							1,312	6,779				728		32,070
Selkirk #125	35,623			11,048		180		1,243	41,190				8,673		97,957
Sheep Mountain-State Line #799					788				26,924						27,712
Skitwish Ridge #135									4,745						4,745
South Fork Mountain #124									5,291						5,291
Spion Kop #136						2,475		269	19,646						22,390
Stevens Peak #142									4,727						4,727
Storm Creek #144									8,227						8,227
Tepee Creek #133									5,187						5,187

Chapter 2 – Inventoried Roadless Areas

IRA_NAME	1b	1c	1d	1e	2a	2b	3	4a	5	5a	5b	5c	6	7	Grand Total
Trestle Peak #129									7,274						7,274
Trouble Creek #138						995			4,989						5,983
Trout Creek #664							110		8,397						8,507
Upper Priest #123						318	4,647	1,291	6,120				207	82	12,665
West Fork Elk #692									34						34
White Mountain #127									7,543				89		7,631
Willard-Lake Estelle #173								1,426	33,577						35,003
Wonderful Peak #152									4,937						4,937
IPNF Total	126,673	5,112		11,048	12,629	11,151	31,827	7,542	620,731				21,179	82	847,974
Kootenai NF															
Alexander #696						143				6,571					6,714
Allen Peak #185						329					29,273				29,602
Barren Cr #183											14,525				14,525
Berray Mtn #672						373				8,731					9,105
Big Creek #701						2,559						4,966			7,525
Buckhorn Ridge #661										15,308		13,480			28,787
Cabinet Face East #671			17,629			547		1,227		842	29,808		139		50,192
Cabinet Face West #670			1,262			178		504		11,580			160		13,683
Cataract Creek #665						1,205		1,483		11,503	5,779		5,471		25,440
Chippewa #682			361			63				672			165		1,261
Cube Iron #784										623					623
Devils Gap #698							831				4,518				5,350
East Cathedral #131										55					55

IRA_NAME	1b	1c	1d	1e	2a	2b	3	4a	5	5a	5b	5c	6	7	Grand Total
East Fork Elk #678										710			6,056		6,766
Flagstaff #690						1,434	77	303		3,848		5,432			11,093
Galena #677							170				19,123				19,293
Gold Hill #668													6,452		6,452
Gold Hill West #176							1,267						13,803		15,069
Government Mtn #673						330				7,012			2,742		10,084
Grizzly Peak #667										7,436					7,436
Huckleberry Mtn #699											3,783		5,176		8,959
LeBeau #507								411			847				1,258
Lone Cliff Smeads #674											5,114				5,114
Lone Cliff West #674a											5,311				5,311
Maple Peak #141											3,588				3,588
Marston Face #172			7,887									22	1,183		9,092
McKay Creek #676			8,753							4,836	1,691				15,280
McNeeley #675											6,653				6,653
Mt Henry #666						40	76			13,480					13,596
Northwest Peaks #663							11,239			3,901		32	153		15,324
Roberts #691										10,814					10,814
Robinson Mtn #164										7,030					7,030
Rock Cr #693			582				25				47		153		806
Roderick #684			22,719			176	165			6,059	124		416		29,657
Saddle Mtn #168						153				11,638		2,842	33		14,666
Scotchman Peaks #662			33,335			648	108	1,874		15,495		2,187	793		54,439

IRA_NAME	1b	1c	1d	1e	2a	2b	3	4a	5	5a	5b	5c	6	7	Grand Total
Ten Lakes #683		33,777				138	11,568						3,027		48,509
Thompson Seton #483			28,158				215				93		911		29,376
Trout Creek #664										25,342	5,525				30,866
Tuchuck #482							2,236								2,236
West Fork Elk #692										5,117					5,117
West Fork Yaak #694						1,326	37	54		6,815					8,233
Willard Estelle #173							205			15,377		17,464			33,046
Zulu #166							308					9,697			10,005
KNF Total		33,777	120,685			9,640	28,524	5,857		200,792	135,822	69,902	33,029		638,026
KIPZ Total	126,673	38,888	120,685	11,048	12,629	20,790	60,351	13,398	620,731	200,792	135,822	69,902	54,207	82	1,486,000