

Figure 2.57

Elk Creek Geographic Area

7,429 NFS Acres 0 Non-NFS Acres 7,429 Total Acres

Management Area Prescription Allocation
1.3 - Backcountry Recreation
5.5 - Forest Products and Dispersed Recreation

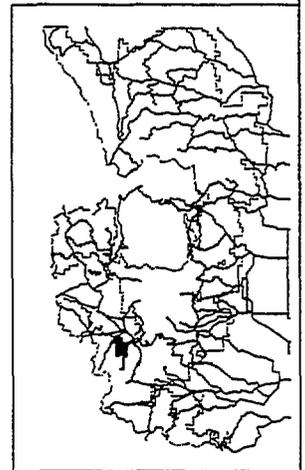
NFS Acres
758
6,671

Legend

-  Not NFS Lands
-  Roads
-  Trails
-  Utility Corridors (0.00 Mi.)
-  Electronic Sites



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



ELK CREEK GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Setting

The area is located approximately 2 miles southwest of the Town of Winter Park, and contains 7,747 acres, all National Forest System land. Elevations range from 11,200 to 8,740 feet. Logging has occurred in the area throughout the last 80 years. A major public Christmas-tree program has operated in the more recently logged areas since 1985. Most of the area is forested with lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, and aspen. The major streams are St. Louis, Elk and Vasquez Creeks. There are no lakes.

Goals and Desired Conditions

Manage for emphasis on forest products and dispersed recreation. A full range of silvicultural and harvest practices is likely to occur within the area, or some portion of it, during the planning period, although existing old-growth stands will be maintained both in quantity and quality. Harvesting is usually limited to suitable and available lands but may occur on tentatively suitable, and not available, or on unsuitable lands, to meet objectives. Design timber sales for low impact on recreation, wildlife, and the scenic resource as seen from Winter Park, Fraser, the highway corridor, and the Winter Park Ski Resort.

Expand the public Christmas-tree cutting area to the extent possible.

Winter Park and Fraser are expanding, resulting in increased recreation within the Elk Creek area. As recreational use increases, so will dispersed camping. If dispersed camping increases beyond the area's capacity, build a new developed campground or expand existing campgrounds.

Manage the area for heavy mountain biking use. Maintain partnerships with the Winter Park Ski Area and local communities in developing the Winter Park area as a nationally recognized mountain biking mecca.

Manage for heavy dispersed camping along Vasquez Creek Road. Harden sites and put in toilets where needed.

Seek opportunities to improve watershed conditions in the Upper Fraser River Composite, which was rated Class III (non-functional) in the watershed-condition assessment.

Fire management prescriptions for the geographic area are shown on the *wildland fire management strategy map* included with this document.

Travel Management Strategy, Elk Creek Geographic Area

Management Area	Mode	Existing System	Convert Ways	New Rds/Trls	Extent of Additions	Extent of Obliterations
1.3	4WD	N	N	N	N	N
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	Y	N	N	N	N
	WNM	Y	N	N	N	N
	NMT	Y	N	N	N	N
5.5	4WD	Y	N	Y	L	L
	MTR	Y	N	Y	L	N
	WMT	Y	N	Y	L	N
	WNM	Y	N	Y	L	N
	NMT	Y	N	Y	H	N

