

Figure 2.26

Cedar Park Geographic Area

28,970 NFS Acres 18,575 Non-NFS Acres 47,545 Total Acres

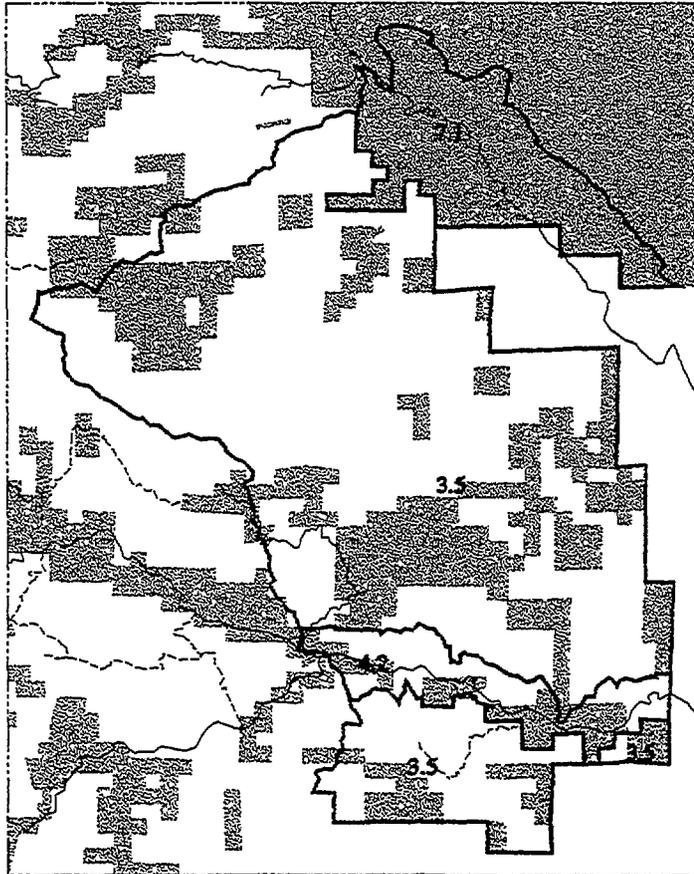
Management Area Prescription Allocation

3.5 - Forested Flora or Fauna Habitats-Limited Management
4.2 - Scenery

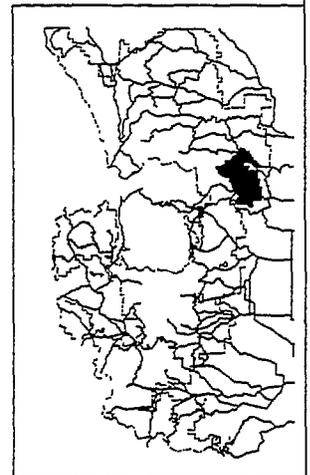
NFS Acres
27,031
1,940

Legend

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



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



CEDAR PARK GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Setting

The area is located east of the Storm Mountain ridge and north of U.S. Highway 34. The area is a mix of foothills shrub-grass communities, juniper-ponderosa pine communities on south slopes, and Douglas-fir on north slopes. Elevations vary from 5,400 to 9,918 feet. A resident bighorn sheep herd is present in the Big Thompson Canyon.

Vegetation management has occurred in the area for the past 100 years beginning with harvesting for materials for homesteads and ranches. Recent harvesting has been primarily for small sales. Spruce budworm affected much of the Douglas-fir in the 1980s. Fuel loadings are high due to the subsequent mortality. Early and late structural stages are underrepresented in all cover types. Wildland fires of small scale, nonlethal and mixed/variable severity occur frequently. Fires of stand-replacement severity are infrequent but have occurred in the recent past. There are 10 livestock grazing allotments in the area, seven of them vacant. Recreational use (both motorized and nonmotorized) is high during most of the year, except for winter, and continues to increase. The primary trails in the area are Round Mountain, Jug Gulch, and Storm Mountain. Other landownership comprises almost one-third of the lands within the geographic boundary including the Drake community and several major subdivisions. Development on private lands of both year-round and seasonal housing continues to increase.

The current transportation system's primary access routes are U.S. Highway 34, Larimer County Road 27, Cedar Park Road (Larimer County Road 43, FDR 248). Most secondary roads and user-created ways have been closed.

Goals and Desired Conditions

Manage vegetation to achieve a mix needed for wildlife habitat and to reduce fuel loading, especially near subdivisions. Timber harvest is probable in the Galuchie Meadows, Hyatt Hill and Stringtown Gulch areas to increase habitat potential and control fuel buildups. Manage lodgepole pine to reduce fuels, create openings and maintain thermal and hiding cover. Manage ponderosa pine to emulate conditions representative of a nonlethal understory fire regime and to emphasize old-growth recruitment and retention.

Maintain and improve bighorn sheep habitat in the Big Thompson Canyon because of past fire control and current vegetation mosaic.

The wildland fire management strategy is direct control except for the Big Thompson Canyon where it is perimeter control. Prescribed fire (including nonlethal understory, mixed/variable and stand-replacement fires) may be implemented in conjunction with timber harvest to maintain a natural landscape, increase habitat potential, assist in ponderosa pine old-growth recruitment and retention and control fuels accumulations.

Limit new infestations of noxious weeds.

Manage rangelands towards desired plant communities and management objectives as outlined in management plans for specific allotments.

Close the Fish Creek, Milner, Lower Sheep, Upper Sheep, Storm Mountain, Green Ridge and Lower Cedar Creek grazing allotments, now vacant, because of lack of public access.

The majority of motorized uses will be accommodated on the existing transportation system. Short road segments or reroutes will be added to connect existing travelways.

Evaluate road and trail impacts to riparian areas and watershed conditions. Manage and restore road networks to reduce erosion and prevent deterioration of watershed conditions. Implement seasonal road closures to provide for wildlife habitat and resource protection during critical periods of the year. Consider closure of roads and trails that cause resource damage, or are in excess of National Forest System roads.

Use some temporary access roads, as needed, to achieve fuels reduction and improve wildlife habitat; close roads once the activity is completed.

Manage recreation, including camping and rock climbing, and grazing uses to reduce erosion or deterioration of riparian areas, watershed conditions and aesthetic resources.

Acquire private lands from willing sellers in the Big Thompson River corridor to protect and enhance recreational opportunities and visual aesthetics.

Travel Management Strategy, Cedar Park Geographic Area

Management Area	Mode	Existing System	Convert Ways	New Rds/Trls	Extent of Additions	Extent of Obliterations
3.5	4WD	Y	N	N	N	H
	MTR	N	N	Y	L	N
	WMT	Y	N	N	N	N
	WNM	Y	N	N	N	N
	NMT	Y	N	N	N	L
4.2	4WD	Y	N	N	N	L
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	Y	N	N	N	N
	WNM	N	N	N	N	N
	NMT	N	N	N	N	N

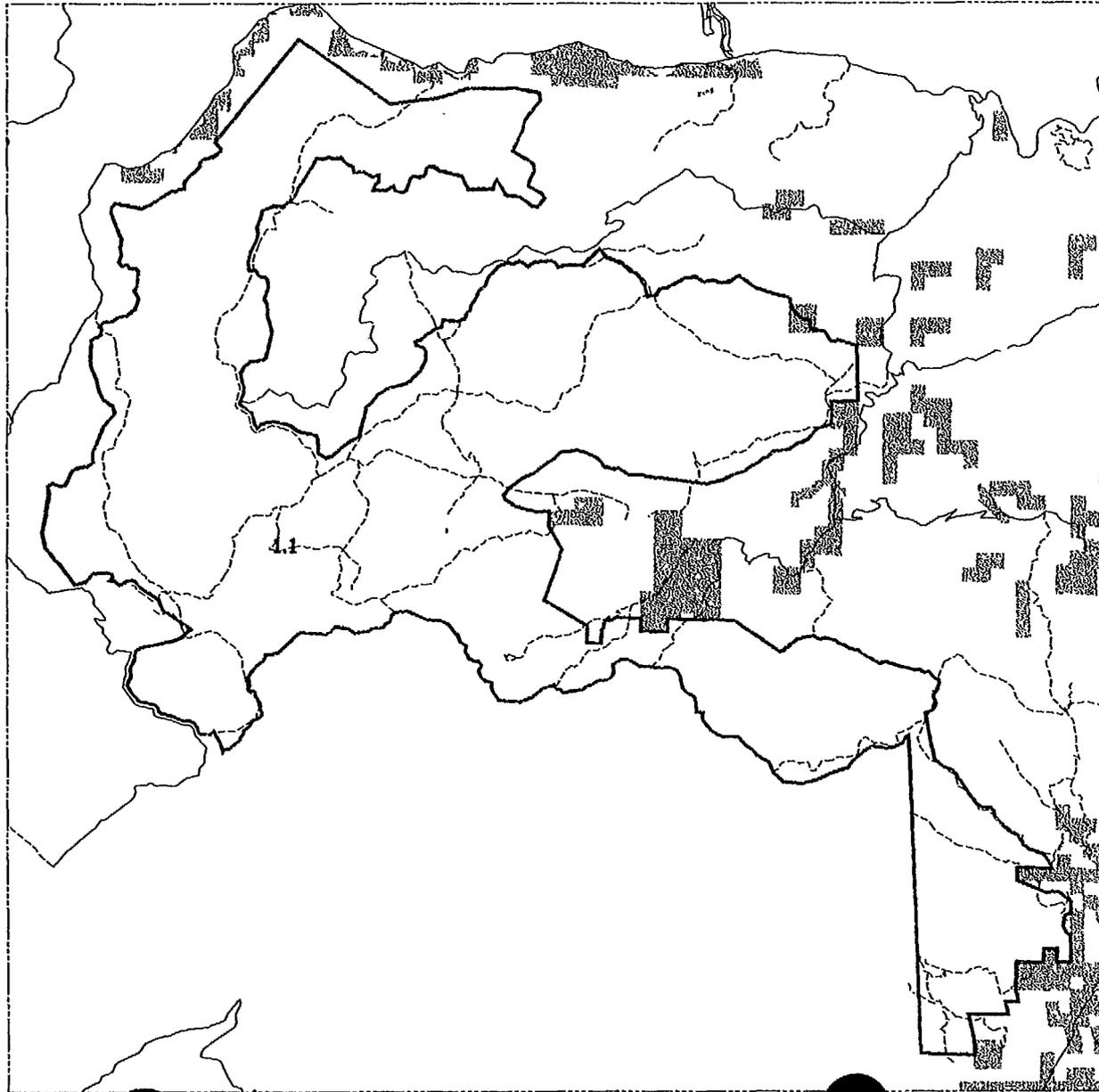
Figure 2.27

Comanche Peak Wilderness Geographic Area

67,803 NFS Acres 83 Non-NFS Acres 67,887 Total Acres

Management Area Prescription Allocation
1.1 - Wilderness

NFS Acres
67,803



Legend

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

Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Locator Map

