

Figure 2.25

# Cache la Poudre Wilderness Geographic Area

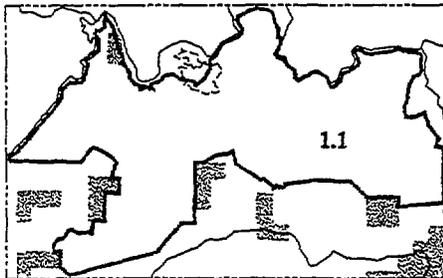
9,436 NFS Acres    56 Non-NFS Acres    9,493 Total Acres

Management Area Prescription Allocation  
1.1 - Wilderness

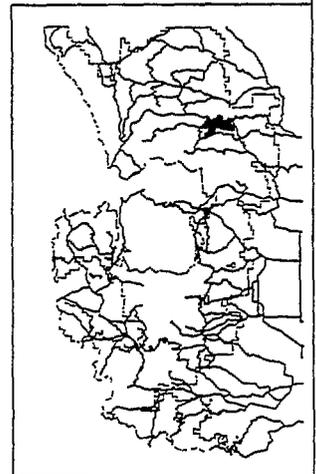
NFS Acres  
9,436

### Legend

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



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000  
0 1  
Miles



## CACHE LA POUFRE WILDERNESS GEOGRAPHIC AREA

### Setting

The area is congressionally designated wilderness south of Cache la Poudre Canyon and north of the Flowers Road. Seven miles of Cache la Poudre Wild and Scenic River flow in this area. The area is a mix of foothills shrub-grass communities, juniper-ponderosa pine communities on south slopes, and Douglas-fir on north slopes. There are stands of lodgepole pine at higher elevations. Elevations vary from 6,200 to 8,300 feet. Greenback cutthroat trout may be present in some streams.

The area is administratively withdrawn from timber harvest. The area experiences frequent nonlethal understory and mixed/variable wildland fires. Fire exclusion and insect-caused mortality in the Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine have resulted in areas of very high fuel loading. The Cache la Poudre Wilderness is a Class II area with respect to air quality. Livestock grazing occurs in the area on four active grazing allotments.

The primary transportation access route is U.S. Highway 14. The Mount McConnell Trail is the primary trail within the area.

### Goals and Desired Conditions

Emphasize protection of wilderness processes and attributes while providing for reasonable public visitation to a pristine wilderness setting.

Timber harvest is not allowed. Accept insect and disease losses. Natural processes will be the primary actions that affect vegetation mix and structure.

Cooperate with the Division of Wildlife (DOW) to maintain self-sustaining wild trout populations by recommending Wild Trout Water Designation and appropriate DOW regulations.

Cooperate with other agencies to determine presence, status, and genetic purity of greenback cutthroat trout in area streams.

Reintroduce fire into the ecosystem by preparing a fire management plan identifying conditions in which wildland fires may be managed by prescription control and to design specific prescribed fires. Prescribed fire (including nonlethal understory, mixed/variable and stand-replacement fires) may be implemented to maintain a natural landscape and conditions that naturally occurred before human intervention. Use prescribed fire to manage lodgepole pine to prevent catastrophic fire, create openings and maintain a natural landscape; and to manage ponderosa pine to emulate conditions representative of a nonlethal understory fire regime and to emphasize old growth and conditions that occur without human intervention.

Manage rangelands toward desired plant communities and management objectives as outlined in management plans for specific allotments and in wilderness management plans. Manage grazing administration actions to meet wilderness guidelines.

Manage recreational use to protect the wilderness ecosystem. Construct no new trails. Protect soil and water resources by rehabilitating any human-caused disturbances. Prohibit camping and other uses where such uses unduly impact soil, water and wilderness resources.

Maintain the primitive character of the Wild River. Do not construct trails along the river. Stabilize areas that may be impacted by high use at the more accessible points along the river.

Manage search-and-rescue efforts in accordance with Forest, national and regional policy.

**Travel Management Strategy, Cache la Poudre Wilderness Geographic Area**

Management Area	Mode	Existing System	Convert Ways	New Rds/Trls	Extent of Additions	Extent of Obliterations
1.1	4WD	N	N	N	N	L
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	N	N	N	N	N
	WNM	N	N	N	N	N
	NMT	Y	N	N	N	L

