

APPENDIX C

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION OF ROADLESS AREAS

PURPOSE

The purposes of this appendix are to 1) complement information contained on the evaluation described in Chapter Three, Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences, Roadless Areas, 2) provide a summary of the evaluation for each roadless area (RA), and 3) provide information on the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation of 1979 (RARE II)

INTRODUCTION

Chapter Three provides

- 1 a legal framework for the RA analysis and evaluation,
- 2 a description of the process,
- 3 a table of the RAs analyzed,
- 4 a table of the evaluation of each RA, and
- 5 the environmental consequences of the management area allocations by alternative, based on the Need Assessment analysis.

This appendix provides

- 1 a table of the RAs analyzed for reference,
- 2 the guidelines used by the Ranger Districts to evaluate roadless areas and determinations for recommendations for designation,
- 3 the guidelines used for the detailed analysis and narrative for each RA,
- 4 the narrative for the James Peak RA, as an example,
- 5 summary tables of the detailed narratives for each RA,
- 6 the management area allocations by alternative for all RAs, and
- 7 a summary of the RAs considered in the RARE II analysis.

The detailed narratives for the individual RAs are part of the Administrative Record.

ROADLESS AREAS ANALYZED

The Revision evaluates 330,230 acres in 38 Roadless Areas (RA), 34 percent of the non-wilderness Forest, for possible recommendations to Congress for designation, as shown below

Table C.1 Roadless Areas Evaluated in the Revision.

AREAS ADJACENT TO EXISTING WILDERNESSES	
Area Name	Total NFS Acres
Cache la Poudre Adjacent Area (1 unit)	3,195
Comanche Peak Adjacent Area (8 units)	44,727
Indian Peaks Adjacent Area (4 units)	34,703
Mount Evans Adjacent Area (4 units)	10,282
Neota Adjacent Area (1 unit)	2,169
Never Summer Adjacent Area (1 unit)	20,084
Rawah Adjacent Area (1 unit)	2,780
Vasquez Adjacent Area (1 unit)	6,133
Subtotal	124,073
AREAS INDEPENDENT OF EXISTING WILDERNESSES	
Area Name	Total NFS Acres
Bard Creek	25,382
Cherokee Park	7,788
Crosier Mountain	7,205
Gold Run	6,597
Green Ridge East	26,693
Green Ridge West	13,641
Grey Rock	12,151
Hell Canyon	5,924
James Peak	26,045
Kelly Creek	8,194
Lion Gulch	6,576
Mount Sniktau	8,317
North Lone Pine	9,469
North Saint Vrain	11,719
Square Top Mountain	6,444
Troublesome	13,834
White Pine Mountain	10,209
Subtotal	206,157
TOTAL	330,230

ROADLESS AREA EVALUATIONS

This section contains a discussion of:

- 1 capability determination, and wilderness evaluation and recommendation process
2. Need Assessment factors summary
3. the guidelines used by the Ranger Districts to evaluate roadless areas and determinations for recommendations for designation,
- 4 the complete James Peak RA detailed narrative as an example, and
5. the summary table from the detailed narrative, including the management area allocations, and a map for each roadless area evaluated

CAPABILITY DETERMINATION BY THE RANGER DISTRICTS

If the roadless areas were not dropped in the initial analysis, the Ranger Districts made a capability determination based on interdisciplinary consultation and on-the-ground knowledge of the area. Capability is defined as the degree to which an area contains the basic characteristics within its boundaries that make it suitable for wilderness designation. These criteria include.

- 1 Natural appearance and integrity,
- 2 Opportunities for primitive, unconfined recreation;
3. Special features, and
- 4 Opportunities for solitude

These criteria are discussed in FSH 1909 12, 4 19c.2 and the Wilderness Act. If an area did not meet the criteria and was not appropriate for designation, the Roadless Area became an "undeveloped area." If the area met the criteria and was found to be capable, it became an "inventoried roadless area" and additional analysis continued. The district considered manageability, availability, suitability, need, and potential future management to determine if all or a portion of each RA should be recommended for wilderness designation.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION

For IRAs, the process continued with a determination of the following.

1. Availability for Wilderness: the assessment of the value of and need for other resource uses in the area
- 2 Suitability for Wilderness, including discussions of:
 - a. Wilderness values maintained or enhanced if designated wilderness,
 - b Resource uses foregone and other considerations if designated as wilderness.
- 3 Manageability: the ability of the Forest Service to manage the area as wilderness,
- 4 Need: an assessment of how the area contributes to the local and national distribution of wilderness, representation of ecosystems, and provision of opportunities for solitude, challenge, and primitive or unconfined recreation;

- 5 Public Comments from open houses and written correspondence;
- 6 The Evaluation and Management Decision based on the factors discussed in 1-5,
- 7 The Environmental Consequences of the decision in 6

The process is illustrated in Figure C.1

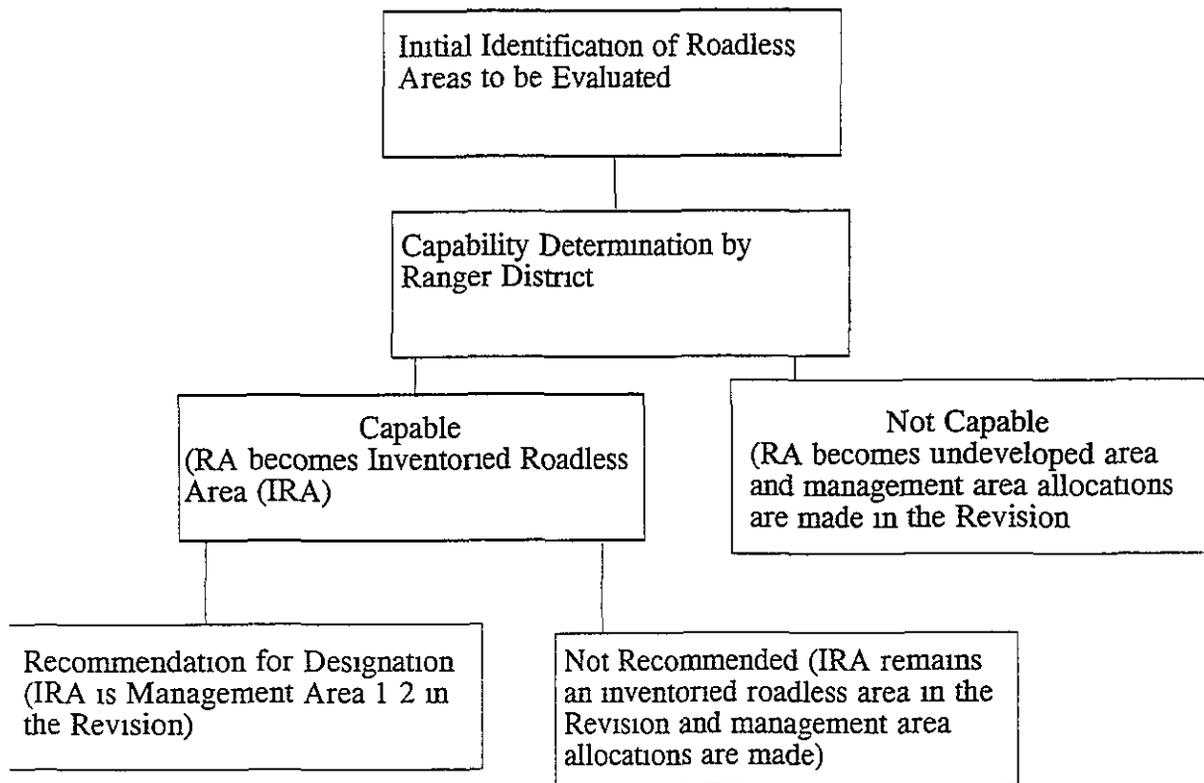


Figure C 1 Roadless Area Evaluation Process

Note that if the area is not recommended, it remains an IRA in the Revision. **Although the IRA is not recommended for wilderness, any future project proposals that may significantly affect the roadless character of the area must be analyzed in the appropriate NEPA document, including possibly an EIS, to determine the effects.**

NEED ASSESSMENT FACTORS SUMMARY

The need for an IRA's recommendation for designation is based on several factors related to the definition of and criteria for designation as defined in the Wilderness Act. The complete regional guidance for the Forest and Grassland provided a basic process and data for the Need Assessment, and is part of the administrative record and is available to interested publics. The following factors were considered:

- 1 The location, size, and type of other wildernesses in the general vicinity of the roadless areas analyzed in the Revision.
- 2 Present visitor pressure on other wildernesses, the trends of this use, changing patterns of use, population expansion, trends and changes in transportation, and nationwide travel patterns.
3. Availability of nonwilderness lands to provide opportunities for unconfined outdoor recreation experiences.
- 4 The ability of certain biotic species to compete with increasing public use and developmental projects that affect their habitat. Consider means available, other than wilderness designation, for meeting this need.
- 5 The need to provide a sanctuary for those biotic species that have demonstrated an inability to survive in less than primitive surroundings or the need for a protected area for other unique scientific values or phenomena.
- 6 An area's ability to provide for preservation of identifiable landform types and ecosystems.

The way the management allocations address these factors is addressed in the Environmental Consequences section of Chapter Three.

ROADLESS AREA EVALUATION GUIDELINES

The Ranger Districts used the following guidelines in preparing the detailed narratives for each roadless area, as described in the process explanation previously. The determinations in the narratives relate to the capability, availability, suitability, manageability of each area for wilderness designation, the result of those evaluations, and the environmental consequences of the management area allocations made by each alternative.

The criteria for capability as recommended for wilderness are stated in the Wilderness Act of 1964. Opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation activities and natural appearing settings within the RA boundaries are included as criteria. If an RA possessed these characteristics, it was determined to be capable of wilderness designation. Capable RAs were further analyzed for availability, suitability, and manageability as wilderness, and a recommendation made for or against designation. If the RA was not capable, the analysis was terminated because the area did not meet the criteria for wilderness.

DISTRICT GUIDELINES FOR ROADLESS AREA ANALYSIS NARRATIVES

AREA NAME, Acres

I. Overview

The purpose of the description is to create an overall image of the area

A. History State the area's roadless analysis history. Is the area contiguous to existing wilderness or does it stand alone?

B. Location, Vicinity, Access County, distance from towns, nearby roads and trails for accessing the area. If there is no Forest access, say so. GIS maps will be added to the documents by the IDT

C. Nonfederal Land Ownership and Land Rights: How much surface in the roadless area is not National Forest? Are there rights-of-way, privately owned mineral estates, or other encumbrances in the area?

D. Surroundings: Describe surrounding properties, roads, and pertinent information that may influence the area

E. Physical Description (Geography)

- 1 Topography Elevation, geology, main drainage feature and/or perennial streams
- 2 Soils : very brief description with respect to its vegetative and/or erosive capability.
- 3 Give a brief description of precipitation/climate.

F. Biological Description

- 1 What's the general habitat type or "life zone" Give a general description of the area, including dominant tree species, ground cover vegetation and an idea of vegetation densities where known.
- 2 National Hierarchical Classification - All of the Forest is in Section M331 I, Northern Parks and Ranges Section, Southern Rocky Mountain Steppe - Open Woodland - Coniferous Forest - Alpine Meadow Province, Temperate Steppe Regime Mountains DIVISION, Dry Domain

G. Special Features, Key Attractions Generally describe what brings people to the area These may be sensitive wildlife, scenic landmarks, or old growth, as examples.

Does the area possess unique attributes that are worth preserving? Include those of ecological, geological, scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. (Examples might include rare and endangered plant and animal species or an ecosystem that is

under-represented in the wilderness system)

H. Past, Present and Potential Resource Use: Discuss in detail pertinent quantitative and qualitative information such as past and current uses, outputs, trends, and potential future uses and/or outputs. Address the following and if they aren't pertinent, say so.

1. Timber
2. Recreation
3. Minerals
4. Wildlife
5. Range
6. Water
7. Heritage Resources
8. Land Use Authorizations
9. Fire
10. Insect and Disease

II. Wilderness Capability: The capability of a potential wilderness is the degree to which that area **currently** exhibits the basic characteristics required in the Wilderness Act. Assessing an area's wilderness capability is a qualitative process that could be considered somewhat subjective; please answer the following as objectively as you can.

A. Natural Appearance and Integrity: An area's "integrity" is the degree to which past or present human activity has affected natural ecological processes and conditions; a "natural appearance" indicates the area is relatively undisturbed, at least by human activity. Therefore, assess the degree to which the area's "natural" appearance and condition is unimpaired and/or complete. Is the area's natural appearance and integrity appropriate as wilderness?

B. Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive, Unconfined Recreation: Assess the capability of the area to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or serenity. Does the area provide for challenge, adventure, excitement, initiative or self-reliance? Does the area provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation such as hiking, camping, backpacking, riding, hunting, rafting, kayaking, canoeing, etc.

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CAPABILITY: The answer is...because. . . If the area is not determined to be capable, no further documentation is needed. If it is capable, the area becomes an "inventoried roadless area" (IRA) and the process continues. . .

III. Wilderness Evaluation: Evaluation of a potential wilderness will consider its availability, suitability, manageability, and potential to fulfill needs for such an area in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Some of the items below were previously discussed in I and II to determine capability. The narratives below are more detailed for the wilderness.

recommendation determination.

A Wilderness Availability: Consider other designations or important uses of the IRA. The following lands may be generally considered as "unavailable" for wilderness given their assessment as incompatible with wilderness and more suitable for development and intensive management:

- Areas that are so vital for increased water production and/or storage, their requisite improvements and maintenance are inevitable.
- Areas scheduled for wildlife management measures of considerable magnitude and importance;
- Highly mineralized areas that are of strategic and/or economic importance,
- Areas containing natural phenomena so unique or outstanding that public access should be developed;
- Land needed to meet clearly documented resource demands such as for timber or for winter sports sites;
- Lands committed through contractual agreements for other use, purposes, or activities,
- Any currently designated areas in the IRA? - for example, the National Recreational Area, the Bowen Gulch Protection Area, or the Niwot Ridge Biological Reserve.

B. Wilderness Suitability:

1. Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced if Designated Wilderness. How will designation enhance or maintain the wilderness attributes of the IRA?

a Environment - Determine the degree to which the area provides visitors with the opportunity to gain benefits such as solitude, serenity, and a sense of self-reliance.

b Challenge - Determine the degree to which the area offers an opportunity for adventure and challenge.

c Outdoor Recreation Opportunities - Determine the area's capability of providing primitive and unconfined types of recreation such as camping, fishing, canoeing, hiking, and other activities

d Special Features - Describe the area's capability to provide outdoor education and scientific study, formally and informally, in a manner that is compatible with wilderness

e Ecosystem - What ecological values and unique ecosystems will be preserved? How will ecosystem management of adjacent areas benefit?

2 Resource Uses Foregone/Other Considerations if Designated Wilderness. What resource managements and/or commodities will be affected or lost if the IRA is designated wilderness?

a Timber

b Recreation

c Minerals

- d Wildlife
- e. Range
- f. Water
- g. Heritage Resources
- h. Land Use Authorizations
- i Fire
- j. Insect and Disease

C. Manageability as Wilderness: Are there existing management issues and/or concerns?

Please address the following and if they are **not** pertinent, say so.

1. Special Features - How will management of these features be affected? What opportunities for information and education will be lost or gained?
2. Fire - How will designation affect fire management in the IRA and outside in adjacent lands?
3. Insects and Disease - How will designation affect management in the IRA and outside in adjacent areas?
4. Adjacent Lands and Uses - How will designation affect adjacent land and transportation system management?
5. Manageability - Can wilderness boundaries be accurately described and recognized on the ground? Do they conform with terrain that minimizes prohibited uses (e.g., motorized use)? Do they protect the wilderness values inside the wilderness from the influences of outside nonwilderness uses? Are there uses outside the boundary that might result in demands for nonconforming uses inside the boundary?
- 6 Other considerations - ?

D. Potential to Fulfill Identified Wilderness Needs: The Forest has prepared a needs assessment for ecosystem representation in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Refer to Chapter 3 of the FEIS.

IV. Wilderness Recommendation: The answer is...because. . The final determination is will the IRA be recommended to Congress for designation as wilderness, or returned to multiple-use management? Public comment will be important in the final analysis of the potential of an IRA for wilderness recommendation

A. Public Input?

B. Recommendation and Basis What is the recommendation and how was it determined? As some recommendations will be controversial, this narrative must justify the determination so that it is understandable to interested publics. The rationale, whether it is related to ecosystem management, recreation opportunities, or other factors, must be based on the information presented in Sections I, II, and III.

If it is not recommended for designation, what is the recommended nonwilderness management? - examples might include nonmotorized backcountry, wood products, or a research natural area.

C. Adjustments to Boundaries of Areas Recommended For Wilderness: Are adjustments needed in the inventoried boundary of the IRA to increase suitability, availability, or manageability?

V. Environmental Consequences

A) In evaluating a wilderness vs nonwilderness recommendation

- 1) Assess the effects of each management area allocation on wilderness attributes, and possible mitigations
- 2) Assess the effects of the allocations on nonwilderness resources and uses
- 3) Assess the economic and social effects of the allocations

Additional information and definitions can be found in the Draft "Roadless and Undeveloped Area Inventory and Guidelines, Land and Resource Management Planning Guidelines", and FSH 1909 12, Chapters 4 and 7.

JAMES PEAK ROADLESS AREA NARRATIVE

The detailed narrative for this RA is provided as an example of the analysis for each area. Future management of the James Peak RA is controversial, and the discussions are somewhat more in depth than other narratives.

ROADLESS AREA EVALUATION

Area Number: BCS01

Area Name: James Peak

Area Acreage: 26,173

Ranger Districts: Boulder, Clear Creek, and Sulphur

I. OVERVIEW: The purpose of the description is to create an overall image of the area

A. History

James Peak was originally recognized as a roadless area during the initial Roadless Area Review and Evaluation conducted in 1972. This status was again validated during the RARE II Evaluations that were completed in 1977. The area was not recommended for wilderness in the 1977 evaluation and resultant Environmental Impact Statement or in the 1980 and 1993 Colorado Wilderness Bills.

The area assessed in 1977 included 28,005 acres on the Boulder, Clear Creek, and Sulphur Ranger Districts. The boundaries have been adjusted for this evaluation. The area north and west of the Rogers Pass on the Sulphur Ranger District has been added. Roaded areas on the Boulder and Clear Creek Districts have been removed. The areas where adjustments for existing roads occurred include Nebraska Hill, the southeast flank of James Peak between James Peak and the Kingston Peak Road, the Bill Moore and Silver Lake areas, and the Loch Lomond area. The area as now defined encompasses 26,044 acres.

James Peak is not contiguous with any existing wilderness.

B. Location, Vicinity, and Access

The borders of the James Peak Roadless Area are approximately eight miles southwest of Nederland, one mile north of Empire, and four miles southeast of the community of Winter Park.

Straddling the Continental Divide, the area is located north and east of the U.S. Highway 40 corridor, south of Rollins Pass, and west of East Portal and Mammoth Gulch. The boundary extends south and east to the Kingston Peak road (Forest Development Road 353) and borders against private lands and road corridors around Loch Lomond, Fall River Reservoir, Mill Creek, and Empire.

The area is adjacent to Berthoud Pass and the U.S. Highway 40 corridor. The Indian Peaks Wilderness is to the north across the Rollins Pass road corridor. Winter Park, Mary Jane, and

Berthoud Pass Ski Areas are highly visible just beyond the perimeter of the area. The newly designated Vasquez Wilderness and the Vasquez Roadless Area are located to the west across the U.S. Highway 40 corridor.

The boundary of the area at several points can be accessed from Denver within one and one-half hours by car. Access from the south and west is by U.S. Highway 40, the Rollins Pass Road (Grand County 80) from Winter Park, and several primitive roads north of Empire or east of U.S. Highway 40. From the east, the area can be reached via several primitive roads originating from the Fall River Road or out of Alice, the Rollins Pass Road (Gilpin and Boulder County 117) from East Portal, the Apex Road (Gilpin County 4N) from Tolland, and from the Kingston Peak Four Wheel Drive Road (FDR 353).

Access into James Peak Roadless Area is provided by a network of trails that originate primarily from the northern and eastern boundaries of the roadless area. These trails are as follows:

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) (Proposed Alternatives) - This trail was designated by Congress to be on or near the Continental Divide from New Mexico to Montana. A portion of this trail will be located through the James Peak Roadless Area (see the Final Environmental Assessment and Record of Decision for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, Copper Mountain to Rollins Pass, dated May 22, 1997).

Jim Creek (Forest Development Trail N94) - this is a secondary access trail providing access along Jim Creek from Forest Development Road 128. The trail follows the old Jim Creek road which was originally constructed to access timber sales in the Jim Creek drainage. It is still very evident that this was a constructed road.

Forest Lakes (Forest Development Trail 809) - this is a secondary access trail between the Rollins Pass Road and the South Boulder Creek Trail. The portion between the South Boulder Creek trail and lower Forest Lake is actually an old road that was built to harvest timber in the East Portal area. It is still quite evident that this section of the trail was a road in the past.

Arapaho Lakes (Forest Development Trail 818) - this is a secondary access trail between the Forest Lakes Trail and the Arapaho Lakes.

South Boulder Creek (Forest Development Trail 900) - this is a primary access trail between East Portal and Rogers Pass. The portion located between East Portal and the center of Section 9, T 2S., R 74W. is an old road that was built to harvest timber in the East Portal area. This road was constructed prior to the establishment of the National Forest in 1907. It may be an 1866 Act (Revised Statute 2477) road that the Forest Service has little or no jurisdiction over. It is still quite evident that it was originally a road.

Crater Lakes (Forest Development Trail 819) - this is a secondary access trail between the South Boulder Creek Trail and the Crater Lakes.

Ute (Forest Development Trail 803) - this is a primary access trail between the James Peak Lake Trail and the Continental Divide near James Peak.

There are also a number of primitive trails in the area. These are not managed nor maintained by the Forest Service at this time. Known routes include access to Breckenridge Peak, Mill Creek, and several routes to alpine lakes.

C. Non-Federal Land Ownership and Land Rights

There are 5 private land inholdings encompassing 593 acres located within the boundaries of the roadless area. The largest tract is located on the west flank of Mount Eva and is owned by the State of Colorado. The other four are patented mining claims and millsites.

The owner of the isolated mining claims located on the headwaters of Jim Creek (SW 1/4 Section 20, T 2S., R.74W.) has filed an application with the Sulphur Ranger District for road access to his property. The Wilderness Land Trust is negotiating with this individual to try and work out an arrangement to purchase this tract. If these negotiations are not successful, the Forest Service is legally required to provide reasonable access.

There are a number of use restrictions and encumbrances on National Forest lands in the James Peak area. These include, but are not limited to:

- An easement issued to the Moffat Tunnel Improvement District on August 22, 1925 for a railroad tunnel between East Portal and the Winter Park Ski Area.
- An easement issued to the Moffat Tunnel Improvement District on August 22, 1925 for a water tunnel between East Portal and the Winter Park Ski Area.
- An easement/reservoir right-of-way issued to the Mountain Reservoir Company on April 18, 1911 for Ice Lake and Ohman Lake.

There are also a number of restrictions and encumbrances on the recently acquired Toll property at East Portal. These include:

- A right-of-way to the Moffat Tunnel Improvement District for the Railroad and Water Diversion Tunnels.
- Mineral reservations on 5 old mining claims that encompass a total of 200 acres.
- A right-of-way grant to Public Service Company of Colorado for a powerline (this may have been the powerline to the old Aircraft Beacon site south of Rollins Pass).
- A power site withdrawal.

There is currently a communication site tower on National Forest lands on the flank of Mount Eva in Section 31 of T 2S., R.74W. This tower was constructed on the wrong location by

Telstar, Incorporated. It is scheduled to be moved to land owned by the State of Colorado in Section 36 of T 2S , R 75W. The State of Colorado land is located within the Roadless Area boundary

D. Surroundings

The area is surrounded by both National Forest and private lands. The largest contiguous block of privately owned land is adjacent to the southern boundary of the Roadless Area at Empire. The boundary also adjoins private lands in the vicinity of Mill Creek, Fall River Reservoir, Bill Moore Lake, Loch Lomond, Mammoth Gulch, and East Portal.

Private land development exists to an extent on all the above referenced parcels. The most intense level of development occurs along the U.S. Highway 40 corridor at Empire. Other adjacent parcels are less developed and typically contain a scattering of summer cabins and year-round residences. The potential for additional development on these private lands does exist. However, there are no known development plans of which the Forest Service is aware at this time.

The southern and western boundaries of the area are adjacent to the U.S. Highway 40 transportation corridor and the Mines Peak Electronics Site. U.S. Highway 40 is a major travel route through the Rocky Mountains.

The northern boundary is adjacent to the Rollins Pass corridor. The Rollins Pass Road is well travelled during the summer and fall from East Portal and Winter Park. Use of this road has declined since it was closed as a through route by the collapse of the Needles Eye tunnel on July 15, 1990. The portion of the road west of the Continental Divide receives heavy snowmobile use during the winter and spring.

The eastern boundary is adjacent to the Kingston Peak Road. This is a heavily used off-highway-vehicle challenge route that is used primarily during the summer and fall by four-wheel drives, motorcycles, and ATVs.

E. Physical Description (Geography)

Topography in the James Peak Roadless Area is characterized by alpine glacial features including serrated peaks, precipitous slopes, one remnant glacier, several permanent snowfields, and numerous small lakes. Elevations range from 9,400 feet at East Portal to 13,391 feet at Parry Peak. Soils are generally shallow and rocky. Glacial deposits are common in many of the valley bottoms and are important hydrologically because of the ground water supplies found in them.

The area serves as headwaters for the Fraser River, South Boulder Creek, and the North and West Forks of Clear Creek. The climate is typical of that encountered above timberline in the Northern Colorado Rockies. Summers are generally short, cool, and inclement, while winters are long, very cold, and windy. Average annual precipitation is 40 inches or more west of the Continental Divide and 20 to 40 inches in the eastern portion of the area. Most of this precipitation occurs between September and June primarily as snowfall.

F. Biological Description

James Peak is a high-altitude roadless area that is approximately fifty-five percent above timberline. It contains a mix of upper montane, subalpine, and alpine plant communities consisting of Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, lodgepole pine, aspen, krummholz, subalpine and alpine meadows, willow carrs, and riparian areas.

The variety of life zones provides a wide range of habitat for many wildlife and plant species. Glacial soils support a variety of specialized plant communities that are recognized by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) as globally rare or extremely rare in Colorado. There is also one species on the U.S. Forest Service's Sensitive Species List. Specially listed species are as follows:

- Globally Rare (CNHP)
 - Lycopodium annotinum var. pungens (Stiff clubmoss)
- Extremely Rare in Colorado (CNHP)
 - Dryopteris expansa (Spreading wood fern)
 - Draba porsildii (Porsild draba)
 - Aster alpinus var. vierhapperi (Alpine aster)
 - Erigeron humilis (Low fleabane)
- U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List
 - Botrychium echo (Reflected moonwort)

This area is in Section M331 I of the National Hierarchical Classification.

G. Special Features, Key Attractions

The area has a number of key attractions. Alternatives for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail are proposed to be routed through the Roadless Area. Along the Continental Divide, there are five peaks exceeding 13,000 feet in elevation. The area has a number of small lakes in glacial cirques located primarily on the eastern slope. There are also a significant number of historic and prehistoric sites that have been identified and inventoried.

H. Past, Present, and Potential Resource Uses

1. Timber

There are 12,626 forested acres within the roadless area boundary. Of these, 8,314 are tentatively suitable for harvest. Old growth occurs on 4,794 of the forested acres. Approximately sixty percent of this old growth is on lands tentatively suitable for timber harvest.

The remaining acreage supports mature stands of lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir with a potential for significant timber yields. Steep slopes and lack of developed access have historically precluded harvesting.

Significant timber harvesting has occurred in the East Portal area on both the Toll property, that was acquired in 1994, and on National Forest lands. Virtually all harvesting in the East Portal area occurred prior to World War II. Access for harvesting was on a main road constructed along South Boulder Creek prior to the establishment of the National Forest in 1907. This main road may be an 1866 Act (Revised Statute 2477) road that the Forest Service has little or no jurisdiction over. A second road from South Boulder Creek to lower Forest Lake was constructed at a later date. Both of these roads are still evident.

The harvested timber was processed at a sawmill and lumber camp located in the large meadow at the intersection of the two old roads. There were a number of buildings at this site. A portion of one of the main buildings is still present as are numerous foundations. Old U.S.G.S. quadrangle maps of the area also show a grave site at the old logging camp.

There has also been significant timber harvesting in the Jim Creek drainage. Virtually all harvesting in this area occurred prior to World War II. Access for harvesting was on the Jim Creek road. This road is still evident. It is currently used as the Jim Creek trail.

2. Recreation

Use of the area involves a combination of non-motorized and motorized recreation. Hiking occurs at moderate to high levels along sections of the Continental Divide immediately adjacent to Berthoud and Rollins passes. A moderate number of hikers also ascend the 13,000-foot peaks along the Divide. Heavy snowmobile use occurs along the Moffat Road and Rogers Pass routes on the western slope. Mountain bike use is increasing throughout the area. The Berthoud Pass area receives a heavy amount of downhill, backcountry, and cross-country skiing and snowboarding, and some snowmobiling. The East Portal area receives a heavy amount of backcountry camping, hiking, crosscountry skiing, and snowshoeing. Berthoud Pass Ski Area is located on the

southern boundary of the area. There are no inventoried winter sports sites within the Roadless Area boundary.

There are several primitive roads adjacent to the area that are open and heavily used by Four-Wheel-Drive, Motorcycle, and ATV enthusiasts. These roads include the Kingston Peak Four Wheel Drive Road, roads near Bill Moore Lake and Loch Lomond, and the Rollins Pass Road. Rollins Pass is also heavily used by passenger cars during the summer.

There are also primitive roads located within the Roadless Area boundary. These include the Bancroft Peak and Jim Creek Roads. Although these roads are officially closed, trespass by motorized vehicles still occurs on them. Both roads are also becoming increasingly popular as mountain bike routes.

Non-motorized use of the area is expected to increase, creating the need to develop plans for reconstruction of existing routes and construction of additional trails. High levels of hiking along portions of the Continental Divide are resulting in localized resource damage in the alpine environment. The final decision for the location of the CDNST has addressed these issues. Mountain bicycling will be allowed on portions of the CDNST not in wilderness where this use is not in conflict with management direction for the area. The trails in the area west of East Portal make up the majority of the current trail system in the Roadless Area. These have not been maintained for many years as there was no legal access. These trails will need to be reconstructed and, in some cases, re-routed to accommodate increased use. There are also opportunities to expand the trail system in the roadless area to include connector trails between the CDNST and major access points.

There are numerous opportunities to develop trailheads at trail access points. However, opportunities to develop picnic areas, campgrounds, or ski resorts within the boundaries of the roadless area are minimal due to rugged and steep terrain.

Views from much of the Roadless Area include highly visible human-created changes to the landscape. Winter Park Ski Area is a dominant visual feature from that portion of the Roadless Area which is above timberline along the west side of the Continental Divide between Rollins Pass and Mount Eva. The ski area is a maximum modification to the landscape. Prominent visual features from above timberline along the both sides of the Continental Divide between Mount Eva and Berthoud Pass are the Mines Peak Electronics Site, Telstar Incorporated's Telecommunications Tower, and US Highway 40. These features are also maximum modifications to the landscape.

The east side of the Continental Divide above timberline between James Peak and Mount Eva has prominent views of Reynolds Lake, Lake Caroline, Fall River, Chunn's, and Sherwin Reservoirs, and Loch Lomond, which are or can be drawn down during the

summer and fall. The dams and drawn-down raw shorelines appear as maximum modifications to the landscape. The Kingston Peak Four-Wheel-Drive Road is visible from the southeast flank of James Peak. The town of Empire is visible from a few locations of the Roadless Area which are above timberline on the east side of the Continental Divide between Mount Flora and Berthoud Pass.

3. Minerals

The James Peak Roadless Area is located on the edge of the Colorado Mineral Belt. Numerous patented and unpatented mining claims exist within and adjacent to the area. Prospect pits from past mining operations are very evident, particularly in the southeast portion of the roadless area between Empire and James Peak.

The majority of the roadless area is rated as having low mineral potential. The southeast portion of the area from James Peak to Berthoud Pass along the east side of the Continental Divide is rated as having medium mineral potential.

4. Wildlife

A wide variety of wildlife species inhabit this area on a seasonal or full-time basis. The list includes elk, deer, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, black bear, ptarmigan, and numerous species of small birds and animals. Elk and bighorn ram concentration areas occur on summer range in the Clear Creek portion of the roadless area. There also are large blocks of contiguous interior forest that are potential habitat for lynx and wolverine (both on the State Endangered Species List) as well as the Northern Goshawk and Pine Marten (both on the U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List). The Boreal Toad is also on the U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List and may be present in the area.

5. Range

The area contains portions of the Mammoth, Tunnel, Lomond, Flora, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek, and St. Louis Allotments. The Mammoth Allotment is active, and grazing occurs on an annual basis. This allotment is currently stocked with 60 cows and calves, as authorized by the existing Grazing Permit.

The Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek, and St. Louis Allotments are currently inactive and considered unsuitable for future livestock grazing.

6. Water

There are a number of water developments within or adjacent to the James Peak Roadless Area. Reynolds Lake and Lake Caroline are located within the boundaries of the area just

southeast of James Peak. Both are part of the water diversion system associated with Loch Lomond. Loch Lomond and Fall River, Chinns, and Sherwin Reservoirs are adjacent to the boundary in the vicinity of Alice. All of these lakes and reservoirs are or can be drawn down during the summer and fall and refilled during the winter and spring

A major water diversion system runs through the Moffat Tunnel beneath the area from Winter Park Ski Area to East Portal. This diversion system moves water from the west slope to the Denver/Metropolitan area. The Jim Creek diversion is adjacent to the western boundary of the area.

There is an old ditch that crosses the Continental Divide at Rogers Pass. The ditch is approximately five feet wide and two feet deep and appears to have been an early transmountain diversion to move water to the east side of the Continental Divide

There are limited additional water development sites in the roadless area due to the steep and rugged terrain, although there is a power site withdrawal on the recently acquired Toll property

7. Heritage Resources

Prehistoric

The area contains a significant number of prehistoric sites. These are located primarily along the Continental Divide and consist of an extensive network of game drive walls and blinds. A portion of these sites have been inventoried and are included in the records maintained by the State Historic Preservation Office. It is anticipated that there are numerous camp and game processing sites in the area that have yet to be identified.

Historic

The area is rich in history and contains a number of potential historic sites. These include the remains of turn-of-the-century cabins in the Mill Creek and Bill Moore Lake areas, numerous historic mining/prospecting operations located primarily in the southeastern portion of the area that are very evident, the old ditch on Rogers Pass, discussed above, and the logging camp and old grave site located above East Portal. The Rollins Pass road is located just north of the Roadless area boundary, and there are a number of National Register sites along this route. It is possible that some of these sites extend into the Roadless Area.

8. Land Use Authorizations

As part of the acquisition of the East Portal property from the Toll family, the Denver Water Board was granted a permanent surface easement associated with the Moffat

Tunnel This easement authorizes the Railroad and Water tunnels, seven buildings, a water storage tank and system, the Moffat Tunnel Station Grounds and Railroad Approach, and a Public Service Company Powerline (see the section on Non-Federal Land Ownership and Land Rights for more information)

The owner of the isolated mining claims located on the headwaters of Jim Creek (SW 1/4 Section 20, T 2S , R 74W) has filed an application with the Sulphur Ranger District for road access to his property Section 5 (a) of the Wilderness Act assures adequate access to State-owned or privately owned lands completely surrounded by National Forest lands designated as wilderness. The Alaska National Interests Lands Conservation Act reaffirms this right of access to all private inholdings

There are two Priority Outfitter/Guide Permits issued to permittees operating in the Roadless Area to provide the following Outfitting and Guiding Services:

- 1 Snowmobile guide services between Rollins and Rogers passes west of the Continental Divide.
2. Horseback rides and guided hunting trips in the portion of the Roadless Area on the Clear Creek Ranger District.

There are no other permitted nor proposed permanent land uses in the area There is a communication tower on NFS lands on the flank of Mount Eva in Section 31 of T 2S , R 74W This tower was constructed on the wrong location by Telstar, Incorporated It is scheduled to be moved to land owned by the State of Colorado in Section 36 of T 2S , R 75W. The State land is located within the Roadless Area boundary

9. Fire

The current strategy for fire suppression on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests is control. There have been a limited number of fires in the James Peak area within the past 15 years. Most of these fires were man caused.

The relative lack of fires and human intervention on those that have occurred have resulted in abnormal fuel accumulations Fire plays a natural role in the design and functioning of upper montane and subalpine ecosystems Fire frequency, intensity, size, pattern, and seasonality are determined by biomass accumulation, climatic condition, and ignition sources The re-introduction of fire as a management tool for use in the area is being considered

10. Insects and Disease

Insect populations and disease occurrences are currently at endemic levels in the area There are no current management concerns.

II. WILDERNESS CAPABILITY: The capability of a potential wilderness is the degree to which that area currently exhibits the basic characteristics required in the Wilderness Act

A. Natural Appearance and Integrity

There are numerous human impacts that are substantially noticeable throughout the James Peak Roadless Area. These are summarized below:

Jim Creek Road - This road is one mile long. It is located in the Jim Creek drainage and originally served as access for timber sales in the area. There is an application on file for access to the private mining claims located in the headwaters of the drainage. The existing road may be used as part of the route to provide access to these claims. The road would be extended 2.5 miles to reach this private land. The road is currently closed to motorized use. Trespass by motor vehicles does occur.

Aircraft Beacon Site - This is located on the Continental Divide 3 miles south of Rollins Pass. The beacon itself has been removed. The concrete pad the beacon was placed on, concrete guy wire anchors, and numerous lengths of guy wire cable are still present. Access to the beacon site was on a primitive road just south of Rollins Pass. This road is still quite visible in many areas. It is currently being used as non-motorized access to the Continental Divide.

South Boulder Creek Road/Trail - This road was constructed prior to the establishment of the National Forest in 1907 to provide access to a logging camp located at the junction of the South Boulder Creek Road and the Forest Lakes Road. The road was extended west up South Boulder Creek onto what are now National Forest Lands. This road may be an 1866 Act (Revised Statute 2477) road over which the Forest Service has little or no jurisdiction.

Forest Lakes Road/Trail - This road was constructed totally on private lands that are now part of the National Forest. The road was used primarily for logging.

South Boulder Creek Lumber Camp - This is located at the junction of the South Boulder Creek and Forest Lakes Roads/Trails. It was built to facilitate logging in the East Portal area between 1900 and World War II. There is still part of one of the buildings standing and there are numerous building sites and foundations.

Old Grave Site - Old USGS quadrangle maps show a grave site at the location of the old South Boulder Creek Lumber Camp.

Aircraft Beacon Powerline - This provided power to the beacon discussed above. The

most noticeable portions of this powerline are between South Boulder Creek below the Crater Lakes and the beacon site. All of the old power poles have been cut down but many are still scattered along the route with assorted remnants of insulators and a considerable amount of cable that was strung between the poles

Moffat Tunnel Right-of-Way - This is a permanent easement to the Moffat Tunnel Improvement District. It authorizes the Railroad Tunnel and many associated improvements. It also authorizes the above ground survey lines that were cleared when the tunnel was constructed.

Lake Caroline - This is a human-enhanced lake located one mile southeast of James Peak. This lake can be drawn down in the summer and fall and refilled in the winter and spring. Water from the lake can be moved to Loch Lomond for diversion.

Reynolds Lake - This is a human-enhanced lake located one mile southeast of James Peak. This lake is drawn down in the summer and fall and refilled in the winter and spring. Water from the lake is moved to Loch Lomond for diversion.

Mount Eva Telstar Communication Site Tower - This communication site tower was constructed by mistake on National Forest lands on Mount Eva. It is scheduled to be moved about 1/4 mile to the west onto State Lands that are located within the roadless area boundary.

There is at least one turn-of-the-century cabin located in the Roadless area near Bill Moore lake. It is possible there may be others in this area as well as in the Mill Creek drainage. The existing cabin may be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

There are several historic mining/prospecting operations located primarily in the southeastern portion of the area. These consist of rock waste piles, prospect pits, small adits and small shafts.

B. Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive, Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation are affected by the imprint of man's work from both within and adjacent to the area as well as the sounds of civilization that originate from areas/activities that are in close proximity to the boundaries of the James Peak Roadless Area. These effects tend to increase with proximity to the source and elevation and are most pronounced in those portions of the area above timberline (approximately fifty-five percent of the roadless area is above timberline).

The imprints of man's work within or adjacent to the roadless area that affect opportunities for solitude include

- Winter Park Ski Area
- Berthoud Pass Ski Area
- Mines Peak Electronic Site
- US Highway 40
- Reynolds Lake, Lake Caroline, Loch Lomond and Fall River, Chinns, and Sherwin Reservoirs
- Telstar Incorporated's telecommunications tower on the flank of Mount Eva
- Kingston Peak Four-Wheel-Drive Road (between Kingston Peak and the town of Alice)
- Rollins Pass road between the Rogers Pass road and Forest Lakes trailhead (note this road is closed from the west side of Jenny Lake to Rollins Pass)
- Boulder Wagon Road between Rollins Pass and the Devils Slide Trestles parking lot

The sounds of civilization that originate from areas/activities that are in close proximity to the boundaries of the James Peak Roadless Area that affect opportunities for solitude include

- Traffic/Construction Noise from US Highway 40
- Train noise from the West Portal of the Moffat Tunnel
- Train and exhaust fan noise from the East Portal of the Moffat Tunnel

C. Recommendation for Capability

The Wilderness Act of 1964 (PL 88-577) defines many conditions that would be found in an area considered for wilderness designation. These definitions clearly state that the imprint of man's work is substantially unnoticeable and that outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation exist.

There are numerous imprints of man's work throughout the area and opportunities for solitude are affected by these, as well as sights and sounds from adjacent areas and activities. While these greatly affect the quality of the experience available, they are not significant enough to state that James Peak is not capable of wilderness designation when looking at the area as a whole. The area is therefore marginally capable of meeting the criteria for wilderness designation

III. WILDERNESS EVALUATION: Evaluation of a potential wilderness will consider its availability, suitability, manageability, and potential to fulfill needs for such an area in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Some of the items below were previously discussed in I and II to determine capability

A. Wilderness Availability:

James Peak is available as it does not fall within any of the categories that would make it incompatible with wilderness designation. Designation would require the adjudication of the

use restrictions and encumbrances identified in this evaluation (see page 4)

B. Wilderness Suitability

1. Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced if Designated Wilderness

a. Environment

James Peak offers opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self reliance in portions of the area. These tend to be located below timberline in forested environments.

b. Challenge

James Peak offers good opportunities for adventure and challenge in the core of the area due to the ruggedness of the terrain along the Continental Divide and the lack of access to portions of the area.

c. Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

Opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation that currently exist would be protected. Dispersed camping, hiking, downhill skiing, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, picnicking, fishing, and hunting would continue. Scenic values within the area would also be protected.

d. Special Features

Key attractions would be protected and continue to be available for use, evaluation, and/or interpretation. These include the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, a number of small lakes in glacial cirques located primarily on the eastern slope, and numerous historic and prehistoric sites that have been identified and inventoried.

e. Ecosystem

Natural processes would continue with minimum intervention of humans. Populations of species rated by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program as Globally Rare or Rare in Colorado may benefit by being protected in wilderness. These include *Lycopodium annotinum* var. *pungens* (stiff clubmoss), *Dryopteris expansa* (spreading wood fern), *Draba porsildii* (Porsild draba), *Aster alpinus* var. *vierhapperi* (Alpine aster), and *Erigeron humilis* (Low fleabane). Populations of *Botrychium echo* (reflected moonwort) that is on the U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List, may also benefit from wilderness designation.

2. Resource Uses Foregone/Other Considerations if Designated Wilderness

a. Timber

Opportunities to manage timber are limited due to the steepness of the terrain and general inaccessibility of the area. Designation would have little effect.

b. Recreation

There is the potential that designation could result in an increase in recreation use that could need to be limited at some point in the future with a permit system for overnight visits similar to the current system in use for the Indian Peaks Wilderness.

Designation could also affect snowmobile use that currently occurs near Rollins Pass, depending on boundary location. Mountain bicycling opportunities would be eliminated.

c. Minerals

The potential for mineral development is low in most of the roadless area. The southeast portion would have a mineral potential of medium, based on the patented and unpatented mining claims that currently exist and the history of mineral development that has occurred in the past. Development would be precluded through withdrawal of the area to mineral entry and leasing.

d. Wildlife

Options to manage summer wildlife habitats for bighorn sheep and other wildlife species would be restricted primarily to prescribed or natural fires.

e. Range

Livestock grazing is limited and occurs only on the western portion of the Mammoth allotment. The portion of the allotment in the roadless area is between James Peak and Nebraska Hill. Grazing is allowed in wilderness areas. Designation would have no effect on active allotments.

f. Water

A portion of the use restrictions and encumbrances in the area relate to reservoir development and power production. Designation may eliminate the potential for any developments of this nature, depending on the status of these prior rights.

g. Heritage Resources

Designation would not affect Heritage Resource identification. Any sites identified in the future could not be interpreted on-site.

h. Land Use Authorizations

Existing authorized outfitter/guide operations could be affected in the future if the need to restrict use levels occurs. Access to private lands within the roadless area could not be denied even if the area is designated as wilderness.

i. Fire

Suppression efforts would be more difficult due to restrictions on fire-fighting equipment and techniques. Fuel build-ups will continue to occur, increasing the probability of large fires.

j. Insects and Disease

Wilderness designation limits the Forest Service's ability to be responsive to future insect and disease outbreaks by restricting the types of treatments that can occur. The major risk is the development of outbreaks in the core of the area that then spread to private and National Forest lands outside the roadless area boundary.

C. Manageability as Wilderness:

1. Special Features

James Peak contains important habitat for many wildlife species. Wilderness designation would limit our habitat manipulation options to prescribed or natural fire which may not be fully adequate to maintain the habitat in a condition equal to or better than the condition it is presently in. Wilderness designation would also limit our ability to manage or control the spread of noxious weeds.

2. Fire

Wilderness designation would limit fire fighting strategies to non-mechanized means using minimum impact "no trace" fire suppression techniques.

3. Insects and Disease

Control of insect and disease outbreaks would be restricted if the area is designated wilderness. Any insect or disease outbreaks that originate in the core of the area could spread to private and National Forest lands that surround the roadless area.

4. Adjacent Lands and Uses

There are no known adjacent land uses that would be affected by wilderness designation.

5. Manageability

Recreation use may increase with designation, and carrying capacity is low. This could lead to the need for implementation of a permit system for overnight use similar to that used in the Indian Peaks Wilderness.

Increased use could also have significant impacts on the following plant species that are on the U S Forest Service Sensitive Species List or recognized by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program as Globally Rare or Extremely Rare in Colorado

- *Lycopodium annotinum* var. *pungens* (Stiff clubmoss)
- *Dryopteris expansa* (Spreading wood fern)
- *Draba Porsildii* (Porsild draba)
- *Aster alpinum* var. *vierhapperi* (Alpine aster)
- *Erigeron humilis* (Low fleabane)
- *Botrychium echo* (Reflected moonwort)

Portions of the boundary of the area are along the Rollins Pass and Kingston Peak roads. Designation might lead to motorized trespass into the area off of these routes, which could require increased law enforcement.

There is potential that encroachments in the form of motorized trespass, roads, or other improvements could develop from private lands adjacent the area. This could require increased monitoring to assure this does not occur.

6. Other Considerations

Grazing is an activity allowed by the Wilderness Act. This is in conflict with the wilderness values held by many citizens, particularly in the Denver/Boulder area. This will result in future conflicts related to the Mammoth Allotment.

Federal air quality standards for wilderness areas would be difficult to meet in the portion of the James Peak area located east of the Continental Divide.

D. Potential to Fulfill Identified Wilderness Needs:

See the Need Assessment Summary in Chapter 3 of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Forest Plan.

IV. WILDERNESS RECOMMENDATION

A. Public Input and Interest

The public has provided us with far more input on the James Peak Roadless Area than any other Roadless Area being analyzed through the Forest Plan Revision. We have received resolutions passed by the Town of Nederland, City of Boulder, and Boulder and Jefferson Counties encouraging us to recommend the area for wilderness designation. Comments were also received from the Town of Georgetown and Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties supporting management of the area as nonwilderness. In addition, we have received over 500 letters from individuals and organizations. About half of these letters encourage us to recommend the area for wilderness designation, the other half recommend against designation. A few

representative samples of the kind of comments we received for recommendation or non-recommendation included:

- The need for core reserves and corridors for ecosystem management.
- Ecosystems can be maintained with other management area prescriptions
- Too much of the Forest is already designated wilderness, which results in the loss of commodity production and motorized recreation opportunities.

B. Recommendation and Basis

The outstanding qualities and unique characteristics can be effectively protected without designating the area as wilderness. The area is recommended primarily for management as a Special Interest Area (MA 3.1). The Special Interest Area Management Prescription requires completion of a site specific management plan for the area within two years following approval of the Forest Plan Revision. Key objectives we propose to emphasize in the Special Interest Area are preservation and/or restoration of natural ecological processes, protection and interpretation of prehistoric and historic sites and features, and providing high quality, four season backcountry nonmotorized recreation opportunities.

The remainder of the area is recommended for management using a combination of Management Area Prescriptions which include 3.3 Backcountry Motorized Recreation (245 acres), 3.5 Forested Flora and Fauna Habitats (1,521 acres), 4.2 Scenery (637 acres), 4.3 Dispersed Recreation (2,890 acres), and 8.22 Ski Based Resorts (449 acres)

Rationale for this recommendation include:

- Opportunities to disperse wilderness independent use from the Indian Peaks and Vasquez wildernesses into adjacent non-wilderness areas would be maintained.
- The imprints of man's work in the area are in conflict with the definitions contained in the Wilderness Act.
- Managing James Peak primarily as a Special Interest Area provides opportunities to meet some dispersed recreation needs while emphasizing most of the natural processes that occur there currently.
- Backcountry areas that provide for all types of recreational uses near Colorado's Urban Interface are in short supply
- The limited mountain biking opportunities that currently exist would be eliminated

FSH 1909 12, Chapter 7, Section 7.21(5)(d) states "Boundaries, to the extent practicable, act as a shield to protect the wilderness environment inside the boundary from the sights and sounds of civilization outside the wilderness." Where to locate boundaries to address this direction is highly subjective and would best be addressed through a public process that was part of a Congressional study of the area for wilderness designation. Sights and sounds that may need to be addressed include

- Winter Park Ski Area - This is a dominant visual feature as seen from the west side of the

Continental Divide between Rollins Pass and Mount Eva

- Berthoud Pass Ski Area - This is a dominant visual feature as seen from the west side of the Continental Divide from Mount Eva to the southern boundary of the Roadless Area
- Mines Peak Electronics Site - This is one of the dominant visual features as seen from both sides of the Continental Divide between Mount Eva and Berthoud Pass
- US Highway 40 - This highway, and its associated twenty-four hour per day traffic, is a dominant visual feature as seen from both sides of the Continental Divide between Mount Eva and Berthoud Pass
- Reynolds Lake, Lake Caroline, Loch Lomond and Fall River, Chinns, and Sherwin Reservoirs - These lakes and reservoirs are dominant visual features, particularly when they are drawn down in the late summer and fall. They are seen from the east side of the Continental Divide between James Peak and Mount Eva.
- Telstar Incorporated's telecommunications tower on the flank of Mount Eva is a dominant visual feature as seen from both sides of the Continental Divide
- Kingston Peak Four-Wheel-Drive Road (between Kingston Peak and the town of Alice) - This road, and associated traffic, is a dominant visual feature seen from the east side of the Continental Divide between James Peak and Mount Bancroft.
- Rollins Pass and Boulder Wagon Roads (between the Rogers Pass road and Forest Lakes Trailhead) - These roads, and associated traffic, are dominant visual features seen from both sides of the Continental Divide between Rogers Pass and the northern boundary of the Roadless Area
- US Highway 40 - Sounds of traffic on US Highway 40 are highly evident in portions of the roadless area. This includes sounds from traffic twenty-four hours a day, blasting during construction projects and for avalanche control, and heavy equipment noise from continuing road construction projects.
- West Portal of the Moffat Tunnel - this is the eastern entrance to the railroad tunnel that is located under the roadless area. Noise generated from this facility includes the sound of trains as they approach or leave the tunnel. Railroad noise is common in the northern portion of the roadless area from the ridge north of Jim Creek to Rollins Pass on the west side of the Continental Divide
- East Portal of the Moffat Tunnel - this is the eastern entrance to the railroad tunnel that is located under the roadless area. Noise generated from this facility includes the sound of trains as they approach the tunnel entrance and sounds from the exhaust fans on the tunnel that are powered by two large turbine engines. Railroad and exhaust fan noise is common throughout most of the South Boulder Creek drainage.

Legislative protection of the James Peak area as wilderness, a special protection area, or some other form of protected area can still be pursued by interested publics even though the area is not recommended for wilderness designation in the Forest Plan. Congress has created many Wilderness Areas which are affected by the imprint of man's work and outside sights and sounds. Congress has also created Special Protection Areas and other Special Interest Areas that are legislatively protected.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

(1) Designation: Wilderness

Prescription: MA 1 2, Recommended for Wilderness Designation
Alternatives: H - 23,197 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 The attributes will be maintained or enhanced. Opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive and semiprimitive recreation such as hiking, backpacking, and horse use will be provided. Incompatible uses and facilities will be phased out and unacceptable areas rehabilitated. Management will protect the unique features of the area and administrative actions will aggressively convert unacceptable areas to wilderness condition.
- 2 Timber harvesting is prohibited. Vegetation and habitat diversity and ecosystems will change in response to natural successional processes. Natural succession of vegetation will occur, increasing old growth and wildlife dependent on old growth until a major event such as fire, insects, or disease interrupts the succession. This designation contributes to the maintenance of undisturbed core areas and corridors. Fuel loadings will increase, providing the potential for a catastrophic fire. Use of heavy equipment for fire suppression is prohibited.
- 3 Impacts on bighorn sheep and other wildlife species in the area are reduced through the prohibition of motorized and mechanized use.
- 4 Populations of the plant species that are on the U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List or recognized by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program as Globally Rare or Extremely Rare in Colorado may benefit from designation (see pages 6 and 7).
- 5 All or portions of the Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St. Louis Allotments are vacant and will not be restocked.
- 6 Recreation use will increase as Colorado's population increases. This has the potential of requiring implementation of regulations to restrict use which may include implementation of a permit system similar to that used in the Indian Peaks Wilderness. Additional enforcement may be required.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 7 Timber harvesting cannot be used to improve wildlife habitat. The area does contain important summer habitats for Bighorn Sheep and other wildlife species. Designation would limit our abilities to manage habitat for these and other wildlife species to the use of prescribed fire only which could have negative impacts over time.
- 8 Snowmobiles, bicycles, and other types of motorized recreation will be eliminated.
- 9 Special uses not compatible with wilderness will be phased out and similar uses prohibited.
- 10 Designation will result in withdrawal of the area from mineral entry and leasing.
- 11 Designation would eliminate the potential for water diversion, reservoir construction, and hydroelectric power projects.
- 12 Existing grazing use on the Mammoth Allotment would continue.

Economic and Social Effects

- 13 Suitable timber in the area (less than 8,314 acres) cannot be harvested and this will have a negative effect on the timber industry.
- 14 Withdrawal from mineral entry will eliminate future mineral development except where outstanding rights that were established before designation of the area exist
15. Grazing requirements may create additional costs.

(2) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription: MA 1.3, Backcountry Recreation
Alternatives A - 21,810 Acres
C - 5,903 Acres
E - 15,404 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Some attributes will be maintained or enhanced. Opportunities for a variety of unconfined primitive and semiprimitive nonmotorized recreation activities such as hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, and horse use will be provided. Opportunities for solitude may occur. A variety of plant communities, structural stages, and associated wildlife will occur in patterns maintained primarily by ecological processes. Vegetation management may occur that is very limited in scale for activities such as wildlife habitat improvement. Management activities are not visually evident. This designation may contribute to maintenance of undisturbed core areas and corridors. Facilities are limited to those necessary to protect resources, provide for safety, or to enhance recreation experiences.
- 2 The management area is closed to motorized vehicles during the summer and fall. Snowmobiles are prohibited throughout the entire area in Alternative A and in the East Portal portion of the roadless area in Alternative C. They are permitted in all but the East Portal portion of the area in Alternative C and throughout the entire area in Alternative E.
- 3 Impacts on bighorn sheep and other wildlife species in the area are reduced through the year round prohibition of wheel-to-ground motorized vehicles.
- 4 Populations of the plant species that are on the U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List or recognized by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program as Globally Rare or Extremely Rare in Colorado may benefit through this allocation (see pages 6 and 7).
- 5 The naturalness of the area and opportunities for solitude are maintained.
- 6 Recreation use will increase as Colorado's population increases. This may require implementation of regulations to restrict use which could include implementation of camping in designated sites only and a prohibition on open fires. Additional enforcement may be required.
- 7 All or portions of the Flora, Tunner, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St. Louis allotments are vacant and will not be restocked.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 8 Vegetation management may occur. Limited timber harvest is acceptable but no timber harvest is scheduled. Prescribed fire may be used.
- 9 Generally, motorized recreation opportunities will not be provided. There are exceptions regarding snowmobiles (see the previous page)
- 10 Special uses that jeopardize the integrity of the area will not be allowed
- 11 Mineral entry is authorized. The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area. It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary. No known mineral development is planned
- 12 Existing grazing use on the Mammoth Allotment would continue

Economic and Social Effects

- 13 Suitable timber in the area (less than 8,314 acres) is not scheduled for harvest and this will have a negative effect on the timber industry.
- 14 Grazing and mineral development requirements may create additional costs

(3) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription: MA 3 1, Special Interest Areas

Alternatives: B - 20,302 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Some attributes will be maintained or enhanced. SIAs are managed to maintain their special interest values. Vegetation, terrestrial and aquatic habitat, soil productivity, and water quality usually appear to be natural. These natural conditions are generally maintained or restored and sensitive species habitat and the special values of the SIA protected. Specific management direction for the SIA will be developed. Recreational uses that do not threaten the special values are allowed. Opportunities for solitude may occur. This designation may contribute to maintenance of undisturbed core areas and corridors
- 2 Timber harvest is prohibited. Limited vegetation management and prescribed fire may occur to enhance wildlife habitat and help restore natural processes. Vegetation and habitat diversity and ecosystems will change primarily in response to natural successional processes. Natural succession of vegetation will occur, increasing old growth and wildlife dependent on old growth until a major event such as fire, insects, or disease interrupts the successional process. This designation may contribute to increased fuel loadings, providing the potential for a catastrophic fire
- 3 Impacts on bighorn sheep and other wildlife species in the area are reduced through the prohibition of all motorized vehicles on 23,154 acres
- 4 Populations of the plant species that are on the U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List or recognized by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program as Globally Rare or Extremely Rare in Colorado may benefit from designation (see pages 6 and 7)

- 5 All or portions of the Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St Louis Allotments are vacant and will not be restocked
- 6 Recreation use will increase as Colorado's population increases. This may require implementation of regulations to restrict use which could include implementation of camping in designated sites only and a prohibition on open fires. Additional enforcement may be required.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 7 Limited vegetation management may occur to enhance wildlife habitat and help restore natural processes. The primary means of accomplishing this will be through the use of prescribed fire.
- 8 Generally, motorized recreation opportunities will not be provided. There are exceptions regarding snowmobiles (see the previous page).
9. Special uses not compatible with the purposes of the Special Interest Area will be phased out and similar uses prohibited.
10. The area may be withdrawn from mineral entry and leasing if a withdrawal is necessary to protect the values for which the Special Interest Area was designated.
- 11 Existing grazing use on the Mammoth Allotment would continue.

Economic and Social Effects

- 12 Suitable timber in the area (less than 8,314 acres) cannot be harvested and this will have a negative effect on the timber industry.
- 13 Withdrawing the area from mineral entry would eliminate future mineral development.
- 14 Grazing requirements may create additional costs.

(4) Designation: Nonwilderness

- Prescription: MA 3 3, Backcountry Motorized Recreation
- Alternatives
- A - 997 Acres
 - B - 245 Acres
 - C - 7,235 Acres
 - E - 2,063 Acres
 - H - 1,919 Acres
 - I - 12,912 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Few attributes may be maintained as management will provide a variety of motorized recreation opportunities in the backcountry. Predominately natural ecological processes will provide a variety of biologic communities and successional stages but limited vegetation management may occur that can be noticed. Vegetation management will primarily be used to improve recreation opportunities. Opportunities for solitude may occur.

- 2 The majority of the management area is closed to all motorized vehicles in Alternatives A, B, E and H. In these alternatives, snowmobiles are permitted in B, C and E. Wheel to ground motorized vehicles are permitted in parts of the area in Alternatives C and E and throughout the area in Alternative I.
- 3 Impacts on bighorn sheep and other wildlife species in the area are reduced in Alternatives A, B, C, E and H through limitations on the use of motorized vehicles.
- 4 The naturalness of the area and opportunities for solitude are maintained.
- 5 Recreation use will increase as Colorado's population increases. This may require development of dispersed campsites with fire rings in portions of the area. Other facilities (primarily trailheads) may be expanded to accommodate increased use.
- 6 All or portions of the Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St Louis Allotments are vacant and will not be restocked.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 7 Limited vegetation management and prescribed fire may be used to improve wildlife habitat or enhance recreation opportunities.
- 8 Nonmotorized and motorized recreation opportunities will be provided and new travelways may be constructed to enhance opportunities, provide access, or prevent resource damage.
- 9 Compatible special uses are allowed.
- 10 Mineral entry is authorized. The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area. It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary. No known mineral development is planned.
- 11 Existing grazing use on the Mammoth Allotment would continue.

Economic and Social Effects

- 12 Suitable timber in the area (less than 5,500 acres) is not scheduled for harvest and this will have a negative effect on the timber industry.

(5) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription MA 3 5, Forested Flora and Fauna Habitats
Alternatives A - 474 Acres
B - 1,521 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Few attributes may be maintained as management will provide a variety of plant communities and successional stages through a combination of human manipulation and natural ecological processes. Prescribed and natural fires will be used to improve habitat for wildlife. These management activities may be fairly evident. Dispersed nonmotorized recreation opportunities will be provided outside critical periods. Opportunities for solitude may occur.
2. The area is closed to motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles, on a year round basis.

- 3 Impacts on bighorn sheep and other wildlife species in the management area are reduced through the prohibition of all motorized vehicles
- 4 Populations of the plant species that are on the U S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List or recognized by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program and Globally Rare or Extremely Rare in Colorado may benefit from designation (see pages 6 and 7).
5. Recreation use will increase as Colorado's population increases. This may require implementation of regulations to restrict use which could include implementation of camping in designated sites only and a prohibition on open fires. Additional enforcement may be necessary
- 6 All or portions of the Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St Louis Allotments are vacant and will not be restocked.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 7 Prescribed and natural fire will be used to improve habitat for flora and fauna
- 8 Nonmotorized recreation opportunities will be provided. New trails will not be constructed unless they contribute to improving habitat or access.
9. Compatible special uses are allowed
- 10 Mineral entry is authorized The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary. No known mineral development is planned

Economic and Social Effects

- 11 There is little suitable timber in the area (less than 1,521 acres) so the effect on the timber industry is minimal

(6) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription: MA 3.55, Corridors Connecting Core Areas
Alternative. H - 433 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Some attributes will be maintained or enhanced Natural ecological processes will be the principal dynamic forces to maintain and restore ecosystem characteristics which reflect little modification by humans Management manipulation of vegetation will be limited to maintaining and restoring native flora and fauna habitat quality and quantity or to reduce high fuel loads Prescribed fire may be used where appropriate. Human use will not disrupt ecosystem processes. Unconfined nonmotorized and mechanized recreation activities such as hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, and horse travel are allowed Closures and seasonal restrictions on travel may be used. This designation will contribute to maintenance of undisturbed corridors Opportunities for solitude may occur but are limited in areas near major highways
- 2 Impacts on bighorn sheep and other wildlife species in the management area are reduced

through the implementation of seasonal closures during critical time periods.

- 3 Populations of the plant species that are on the U S Forest Service Sensitive Species List or recognized by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program as Globally Rare or Extremely Rare in Colorado may benefit from this designation (see pages 6 and 7).
- 4 Recreation use will increase as Colorado's population increases This may require implementation of regulations to restrict use which could include implementation of camping in designated sites only and a prohibition on open fires Additional enforcement may be necessary.
- 5 All or portions of the Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St Louis Allotments are vacant and will not be restocked

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 6 Vegetation management cannot be extensively used for purposes such as improving wildlife habitat
- 7 Motorized recreation opportunities will not be provided and roads will be closed and reclaimed.
- 8 Special uses that do not jeopardize the integrity of the area are allowed
- 9 The management area is withdrawn from mineral entry.

Economic and Social Effects

- 10 There is very limited suitable timber in the area (less than 433 acres) so the effect on the timber industry is minimal
- 11 Withdrawing the area from mineral entry would eliminate future mineral development.

(7) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription: MA 4.2, Scenic Areas
Alternatives B - 637 Acres
E - 475 Acres
I - 394 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Few attributes will be maintained as management will protect or preserve scenic values and recreation uses along heavily used scenic travel corridors Motorized, nonmotorized, developed and dispersed recreation opportunities will be provided A variety of successional stages, plant communities, and associated wildlife will be maintained through a combination of human manipulation and natural processes. Modifications may be noticed, but do not attract attention New human caused changes will resemble natural patterns Evidence of human activity may be present now and in the future Opportunities for solitude will be low on heavily used travelways and higher on more primitive routes.
- 2 Recreation use will increase as Colorado's population increases This may require

development of dispersed campsites with fire rings in portions of the management area. Other facilities (campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads) may be expanded to accommodate increased use

- 3 All or portions of the Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St. Louis Allotments are vacant and will not be restocked.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 4 Limited vegetation management can be used to enhance the recreation setting
- 5 Nonmotorized and motorized recreation opportunities will be provided and new travelways may be constructed to enhance opportunities, provide access, or prevent resource damage
- 6 Compatible special uses are allowed.
7. Mineral entry is authorized The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary No known mineral development is planned

Economic and Social Effects

- 8 There is very little suitable timber in the area (less than 637 acres) so the effect on the timber industry is minimal
- 9 Grazing and mineral development requirements within this recreation setting may increase mineral production and grazing costs

(8) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription: MA 4 3, Dispersed Recreation

Alternatives A - 1,632 Acres
B - 2,890 Acres
C - 8,880 Acres
E - 7,176 Acres
H - 457 Acres
I - 8,172 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Few attributes will be maintained as management will provide a variety of motorized and nonmotorized recreation opportunities in a relatively natural forest environment Biological communities will be maintained or improved to complement the recreation values and provide varied plant and wildlife communities Vegetation management will be accomplished through a combination of human manipulation and natural processes but will be conducted to have minimal impacts on the recreation activities. These vegetation management activities may be evident Opportunities for solitude may be limited.
- 2 Impacts on bighorn sheep and other wildlife species will be minimized by closing portions of the area to motorized vehicles during critical time periods

- 3 Recreation use will increase as Colorado's population increases. This may require development of dispersed campsites with fire rings in portions of the area. Areas where sites are concentrated may include toilets. Other facilities (campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads) may be expanded to accommodate increased use.
- 4 All or portions of the Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St Louis Allotments are vacant and will not be restocked

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 5 Vegetation management can be used for commercial timber production or to improve wildlife habitat
- 6 Nonmotorized and motorized recreation opportunities will be provided and new travelways may be constructed to enhance opportunities, provide access, or prevent resource damage
7. Compatible special uses are allowed.
8. Mineral entry is authorized. The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area. It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary. No known mineral development is planned.
9. Existing grazing use on the Mammoth Allotment would continue.

Economic and Social Effects

10. Suitable timber in the area (less than 5,500 acres) is not scheduled for harvest and this may have a negative effect on the timber industry
11. Requirements for mineral development and grazing within this recreation setting may increase mineral production and grazing costs

(9) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription MA 5.11, Forest and Intermingled Rangelands

Alternative A - 64 Acres

C - 852 Acres

I - 852 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Few attributes will be maintained as management will emphasize production of range forage and wildlife habitat while providing for recreation opportunities, visual quality, and other goods and services. Disturbed areas will be evident across the landscape. The resulting roads may provide commercial access and motorized recreation opportunities or be closed for nonmotorized activities. Opportunities for solitude may be limited.
- 2 Increases in recreation use will be addressed by developing designated dispersed campsites with fire rings. Areas where sites are concentrated may include toilets. Other facilities (primarily trailheads) may be expanded to accommodate increased use.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 3 Vegetation management may be used to produce timber, improve wildlife habitat, or enhance vegetative diversity
- 4 Nonmotorized and motorized recreation opportunities will be provided and new travelways may be constructed to enhance opportunities, provide access, or prevent resource damage
- 5 Compatible special uses are allowed.
- 6 Mineral entry is authorized. The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area. It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary. No known mineral development is planned.
- 7 Livestock grazing will be allowed. Mammoth is the only allotment that is currently open to grazing.

Economic and Social Effects

- 8 There is very little suitable timber in the area (less than 852 acres) so the effect on the timber industry is minimal

(10) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription: MA 5.13, Forest Products

Alternatives A - 311 Acres

I - 2,789 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Few attributes will be maintained as management will emphasize production of wood products while providing for forage production, recreation opportunities, wildlife habitats, and other goods and services. Disturbed areas will be evident across the landscape. The resulting roads may provide commercial access and motorized recreation opportunities or be closed for nonmotorized activities. Opportunities for solitude may be limited.
- 2 Increases in recreation use will be addressed by developing designated dispersed campsites with fire rings. Areas where sites are concentrated may include toilets. Other facilities (campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads) may be expanded to accommodate increased use.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 3 Vegetation management may be used to produce timber, improve wildlife habitat, or enhance vegetative diversity
- 4 Nonmotorized and motorized recreation opportunities will be provided
- 5 Compatible special uses are allowed
- 6 Mineral entry is authorized. The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area. It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary. No known mineral development is planned.
- 7 Livestock grazing will be allowed. Mammoth is the only allotment currently open to grazing

Economic and Social Effects

- 8 Suitable timber in the area (approximately 2,789 acres) may be harvested and this will have a positive effect on the timber industry

(11) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription MA 5.5, Dispersed Recreation - Forest Products
Alternatives C - 1,773 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

- 1 Few attributes will be maintained as management will emphasize motorized and nonmotorized dispersed recreation opportunities while providing for wood products, forage production, wildlife habitats, and other goods and services. Only limited disturbed areas will be evident across the landscape. The resulting roads may provide commercial access and motorized recreation opportunities, or be closed for nonmotorized activities. Opportunities for solitude may be limited. Facilities will be developed to meet dispersed recreation needs.
- 2 Increases in recreation use will be addressed by developing designated dispersed campsites with fire rings. Areas where sites are concentrated may include toilets. Other facilities (campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads) may be expanded to accommodate increased use.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 3 Vegetation management may be used to enhance the recreation opportunity, produce timber, and provide wildlife habitat and other uses.
- 4 Nonmotorized and motorized recreation opportunities will be provided.
- 5 Compatible special uses are allowed.
- 6 Mineral entry is authorized. The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area. It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary. No known mineral development is planned.
- 7 Livestock grazing will be allowed. Mammoth is the only allotment that is currently open to grazing.

Economic and Social Effects

- 8 There is little suitable timber in the area that may be harvested (less than 1,773 acres) so the effect on the timber industry is minimal.

(12) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription MA 7.1, Residential-Forest Intermix
Alternatives H - 38 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

1. Few attributes will be maintained as the vegetation will be managed to minimize the risks of catastrophic fires and epidemic levels of insects and diseases. Openings and other treatment methods resemble natural patterns. The resulting roads may provide commercial access and motorized recreation opportunities or be closed for nonmotorized activities. Encounters with others are often very frequent and sounds from people or motorized recreation activities are common. Opportunities for solitude are very limited.
2. Increases in recreation use will be addressed by developing designated dispersed campsites with fire rings. Areas where sites are concentrated may include toilets. Other facilities (primarily trailheads) may be expanded to accommodate increased use.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

3. Vegetation management will be used to reduce fire risk, enhance recreation opportunities, or provide for wildlife habitat or other uses.
4. Nonmotorized and motorized recreation opportunities will be provided.
5. Compatible special uses are allowed.
6. Mineral entry is authorized. The potential for mineral development is low in most of the area. It is rated as medium along the southeastern boundary. No known mineral development is planned.
7. All or portions of the Flora, Tunnel, Lomond, Corona, Elk, Walden, Meadow Creek and St. Louis Allotments are vacant and will not be restocked.

Economic and Social Effects

8. There is no suitable timber in the area so there is no effect on the timber industry.

(13) Designation: Nonwilderness

Prescription: MA 8 22, Ski-based Resorts (Existing and Potential)

Alternatives A - 757 Acres

B - 449 Acres

C - 926 Acres

E - 926 Acres

I - 926 Acres

Effects on Wilderness Attributes

1. Few attributes will be maintained as the vegetation will be managed to resemble natural patterns and will complement recreational skiing values. Recreation opportunities are primarily at the developed level with the base area often in an urban setting. Encounters with others are frequent and sounds from people or motorized recreation activities are common. Opportunities for solitude are virtually nonexistent.

Effects on Nonwilderness Resources and Uses

- 2 Vegetation management will be used to clear ski runs and areas to be developed
- 3 Nonmotorized and motorized recreation opportunities will be provided
- 4 Special uses compatible with the ski area's operation will be allowed
- 5 Livestock grazing will be prohibited.
- 6 The area will be withdrawn from mineral entry and leasing

Economic and Social Effects

- 7 There is very little suitable timber in the area (less than 926 acres) so the effect on the timber industry is minimal.
- 8 The economic effects of the ski area can be beneficial to communities, counties, the State, and the Forest Service.
- 9 Withdrawal from mineral entry will eliminate future mineral development.
- 10 Other resource uses are limited.

SUMMARY TABLES OF THE DETERMINATIONS FOR EACH ROADLESS AREA

The narratives entailed over 400 pages of Information for each roadless area, and are part of the Administrative Record. The tables at the end of this section distill that information into summaries of the determinations made, and are used to minimize the costs of printing and shipping such a large volume. Individual or all detailed narratives are available on request.

The tables are organized by an alphabetical listing of the RAs. The management area allocations provide a summary of the proposed management for each area.

SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR ALL ROADLESS AREAS

The following table provides the total roadless area acres allocated to a specific management area in each alternative. The emphasis of each alternative, multiple-use management for A, C, and I, recreation in E, biodiversity and ecosystem management in H, and a balance of biodiversity and multiple-use managements in B, are illustrated. Refer to the detailed Management Area Direction in Chapter Two of the Forest Plan for additional information.

Table C.2, Management Area Allocations for All Roadless Areas by Alternative

Management Area Allocations	Alternatives					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1.2 Wilderness Recom.	0	8,551	0	0	226,154	0
1.3 Backcountry Rec	101,817	100,968	52,072	94,742*	6,445	0
1.41 Core Habitats	0	2,461	0	0	50,051	0
1.42 Core Restore	0	0	0	0	7,265	0
1.5 Wild Rivers	76	76	76	6,446	76	76
2.2 Research Nat Area	154	9,230	154	154	0	0
3.1 Special Interest Area	21,536	44,291	21,536	21,536	0	2,794
3.21 Limited Use	0	0	0	0	7,615	0
3.3 Backcountry Motor	6,955	18,723	16,664	96,345	3,912	83,393
3.5 Flora and Fauna	88,079	83,804	62,587	19,737	500	55,918
3.55 Corridors	0	0	0	0	9,886	0
4.2 Scenery	0	8,354	8,115	8,115	0	8,102
4.3 Disp Recreation	25,098	19,869	17,982	63,609	5,386	17,890
4.4 Recreation Rivers	10,468	10,468	10,468	10,468	10,468	10,468
5.11 Forest, Int. Range	7,580	8,504	47,489	0	374	86,433
5.13 Forest Products	61,451	266	68,822	0	0	52,774
5.5 Disp Rec-Forest Prod	0	9,128	17,852	2,580	0	1,230
7.1 Intermix	0	14	14	14	859	0
8.21 Dev Rec Complex	426	1,141	1,563	1,648	1,208	5,991
8.22 Ski-based resorts	6,624	4,414	4,867	4,867	62	5,193
TOTAL†	330,264	330,262	330,261	330,261	330,261	330,262

*Alternative H recommended an additional 33,209 acres for designation that were not located in the analyzed RAs. The total acreage recommended is 259,363.

†Acres vary due to rounding.

RARE II AREA SUMMARY

As was stated previously, the RARE II analysis on the Forests and Grassland provided the initial areas for evaluation. The present status of the RARE II areas is shown in the following table. Some have become Wilderness, some are analyzed in this evaluation, and some acres have been dropped from the evaluation because of different interpretations of criteria for designation, or management activities have detrimentally affected the area's wilderness attributes.

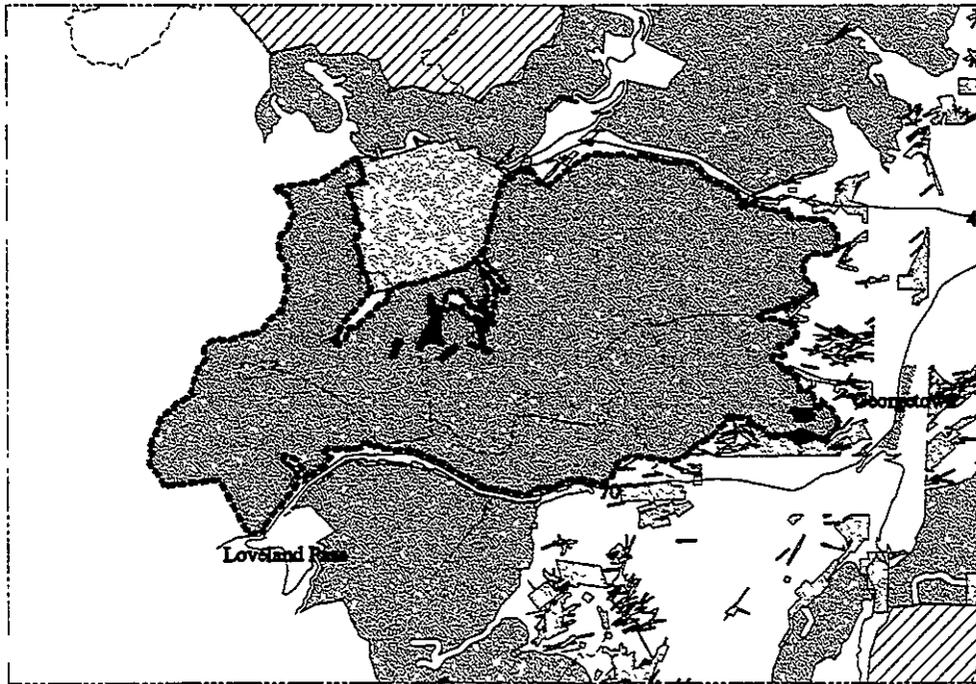
Table C.3, RARE II Acreage Summary.

RARE II Areas	RARE II Acreage	RARE II Acres in Wilderness	RARE II Acres in RA	Comment	RARE II Acres not in RA or Wilderness
Arapaho Creek	14,824	0	12,864	Troublesome RA	1,960
Cache la Poudre	9,230	8,940	182		108
Comanche-Big South	94,979	61,495	28,844	Comanche Peak RAs	4,639
Cook Creek	2,093	0	0	Excluded	2,093
Crosier	6,244	0	6,164		80
East Rawah	43,110	38,056	965	Rawah RA	4,089
East Rawah A	4,023	3,792	4		227
Green Ridge	45,533	0	34,400		11,133
Grevrock	9,947	0	7,441		2,506
Hall Creek	11,002	0	6,357	Gold Run RA	4,644
Hell Canyon	9,611	0	8,781		830
Indian Peaks	62,103	60,876	816		411
Indian Peaks A	3,387	199	2,530		658
Indian Peaks B	3,873	806	3,067		1
Indian Peaks C	3,944	51	2,377		1,516
Indian Peaks D	2,061	1,186	231		643
Indian Peaks E	1,283	263	753		267
Indian Peaks G	875	873	1		2
Indian Peaks H	11,317	3,430	5,513		2,374
James Peak B	28,005	0	23,536		4,469
Kelly Creek	8,788	0	7,633		1,155
Montgomery Pass	3,524	2,954	538	Rawah WA	32
Mt Evans	48,740	38,508	8,411		1,821
Mt Sniktau	6,878	0	6,767		111
Neota Flattops	9,743	8,991	403		348
Never Summer	36,315	13,709	18,572		4,034
North St. Vrain	18,590	0	11,230		7,360
Rawah South	290	0	282		9
Square Top Mountain	6,090	0	5,837		253
St. Louis Peak	9,074	8,002	932	Vasquez WA	141
Strawberry Creek	16,510	589	11,404	IPW-B RA	4,517
Vasquez Peak	10,798	4,284	3,382		3,132
Williams Fork	22,259	0	20,941	Bard Creek RA	1,318
TOTAL NFS ACRES	565,043	257,004	241,158		66,881

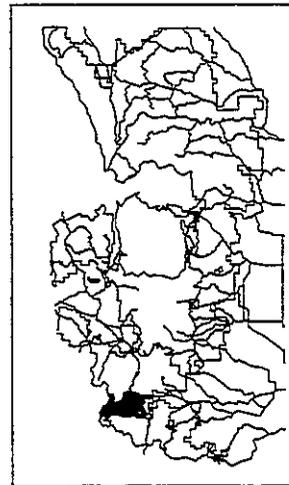
The majority of the RARE II acreages that are not included in the Revision analysis is due to different interpretations of data. RARE II included roads and evident timber harvests in roadless areas, and the Revision did not. Other decreases are due to the enlargement of Rocky Mountain National Park that absorbed some areas on the north and south boundaries of the Park, expansion of the Winter Park and Loveland ski areas, vegetation management, additional roads, and other factors.

Bard Creek

25,382 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

25,382 ACRES
Clear Creek County

BARD CREEK

NOT RECOMMENDED
Clear Creek Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Elevation ranges from 8,800-13,640 ft. Alpine peaks, glacial cirques, and alpine lakes highlight the area. A majority of the RA is alpine tundra (690 acres old growth spruce-fir occur). Also present are lodgepole, ponderosa, aspen, and Douglas-fir. The I-70 corridor is southeast of the RA, US40 and Henderson mine is on the north. Loveland Ski Area is to the Southwest.	Patented mining claims totaling 57 acres are in the middle of the area.	Expansive alpine and subalpine settings, including 13,000 feet peaks, alpine lakes, and the Continental Divide.	Timber harvest has been and is limited by inaccessibility (6,271 suitable acres). Non-motorized recreation activities such as hiking on an 18-mile trail network occurs, but use is not high. More opportunities for cross-country skiing and hiking could be developed. Bighorn sheep and elk use the area.	Approximately 23,000 acres are intact and appear natural.	Approximately 17,000 acres provide opportunities for solitude and are capable. One-half mile wide corridors on I-70 and US40 are impacted by traffic and development in the corridor.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The 17,000-acre area is available. Wilderness boundaries for the 17,000-acre area would be more difficult to locate. Due to the RA's limited access, enforcement and interpretation would be easier.	Solitude and serenity are available and would be enhanced by designation. Primitive opportunities would be available for hiking, mountaineering, backpacking, and exploring. Old growth would be protected.	Mountain biking, snowmobiling, and mineral development opportunities would be prohibited. The suitable timber is not easily accessible, therefore the impact would be minor. Wildlife habitat improvement requiring vegetation management would be lost.

RECOMMENDATION

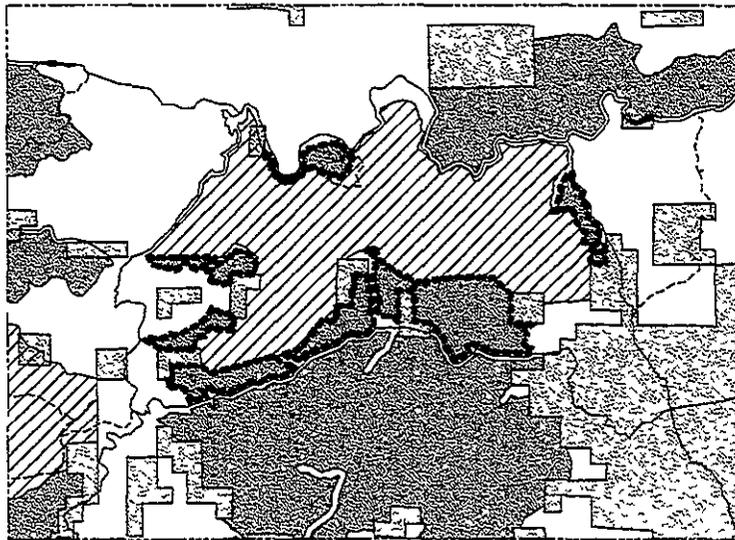
The area is not recommended because: 1. Wildlife habitat can be improved with timber removal and prescribed burning. 2. The core area can be effectively managed as non-motorized backcountry. 3. Prescribed burning and timber removal are needed to restore natural ecological processes. The area is managed primarily for backcountry recreation.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR BARD CREEK

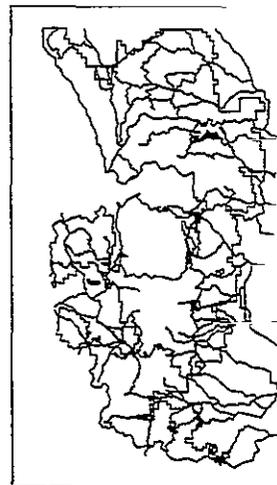
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	20,624	0
1 3	18,102	15,058	19,088	18,896	0	0
3 2	0	0	0	0	1,298	0
3 3	751	202	56	766	763	16,969
3 5	0	4,402	0	0	0	0
3 6	0	0	0	0	1,504	0
4 2	0	2,659	2,659	2,659	0	2,659
4 3	4,392	652	0	652	329	496
5 1	0	0	0	0	0	893
5 1	0	0	0	0	0	1,956
5 5	0	0	1,170	0	0	0
7 1	0	0	0	0	807	0
8 2	2,137	2,410	2,410	2,410	58	2,410
Total	25,382	25,383	25,383	25,383	25,383	25,383

Cache La Poudre Adjacent Area

3,195 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

3,195 ACRES
Laime County

CACHE LA POUFRE ADJACENT AREA

NOT RECOMMENDED
Estes-Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Seven small parcels, 103 to 455 acres in size make up this RA. They are located on all sides of the wilderness and are easily accessible. Steep slopes and rocky outcrops characterize this area. Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir dominate with some lodgepole at higher elevations. Some open parks are also present in drainage bottoms. Elevation ranges from 6,200-8,300 ft.	None	No particular attraction occurs other than being adjacent to the wilderness and access to the Cache La Poudre River (a designated Wild & Scenic River) in the southwest parcel.	Suitable timber is present (1,234 acres), but harvest activity has been limited. Dispersed recreation, such as hiking and hunting occur primarily along access roads. No trails occur except the popular Mt. McConnell (a National Recreation Trail) that originates at the Mountain Park campground.	The natural appearance and integrity is generally intact. Much evidence of historic use has revegetated.	Opportunities for solitude are present due to the adjacent wilderness.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available, but the parcel around Mt. McConnell is part of the recreation river corridor.	All values would be maintained. Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir ecosystems would be added to the wilderness system.	Heavy fuel loading reduction by prescribed fire would be limited. Wildlife habitat improvement with fire and vegetation management would be limited or prohibited. Mountain biking would be prohibited.

RECOMMENDATION

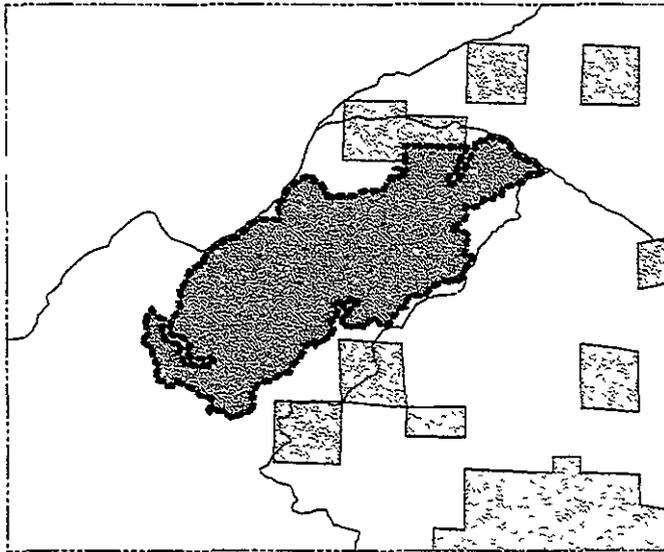
The area is not recommended to maintain opportunities for nonmotorized, mechanized recreation, wildlife habitat improvement, and fire fuels reduction.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR CACHE LA POUVRE

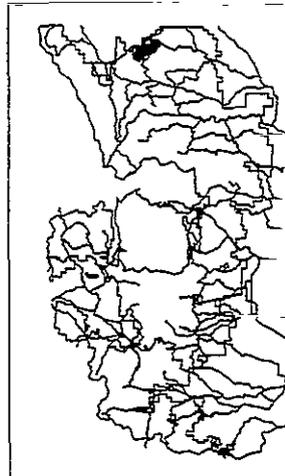
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 41	0	0	0	0	2,755	0
1 5	76	76	76	76	76	76
3 5	2,463	2,635	2,247	2,635	0	2,636
3 55	0	0	0	0	118	0
4 3	428	256	256	256	19	256
4 4	227	227	227	227	227	227
5 11	0	0	389	0	0	0
Total	3,194	3,194	3,195	3,194	3,195	3,195

Cherokee Park

7,788 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

7,788 ACRES
Larimer County

CHEROKEE PARK

NOT RECOMMENDED
Redfeather Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is adjacent to undeveloped private lands. Rolling hills have dense lodgepole pine stands with spruce-fir at higher elevations. 600 acres of old growth is present. Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir are present in the northwest portion. Elevation ranges from 8,350-9350 ft.	Union Pacific Railroad has reserved mineral rights on approximately 4,405 acres of the RA, the State of Colorado has reserved rights on approximately 640 acres, and there is a medium potential for the occurrence of locatable minerals. Part of Eaton Reservoir is in the area.	Big game hunting and motorized use occurs on roads.	5,215 acres are suitable for timber harvest. Post and poles have been harvested sporadically. Summer and transition range occurs for elk and deer. Elk calving grounds are present. There are three active range allotments in good condition. The area has medium potential for diamonds. Hunting is the primary recreation use. No maintained trails exist. Additional opportunities are minimized by a lack of access.	Topography and access has limited public use. The area is very natural appearing with natural ecological processes dominating.	The area offers good opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Lack of trails offer a high challenge factor.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

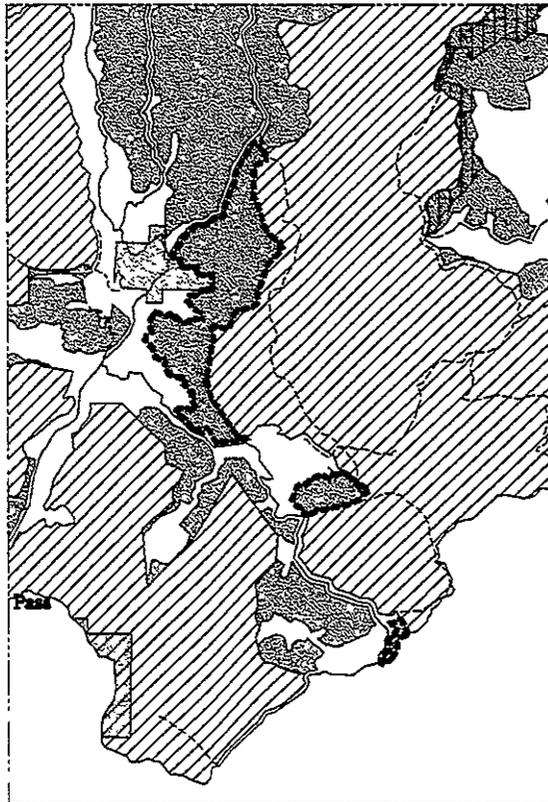
Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. Monitoring and law enforcement would be required to prevent motorized trespass on the way roads.	Solitude, challenge, and primitive recreation would be maintained. Natural processes would continue. Development of the private mineral rights would impact the wilderness attributes. Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir ecosystem would be added to the wilderness system.	The area would no longer be available for timber harvest (5,215 acres would be removed from the suitable lands base). Designation would restrict options for preventing and controlling wildfires. Options for motorized recreation would be eliminated. Development of the private mineral rights cannot be prohibited.

RECOMMENDATION

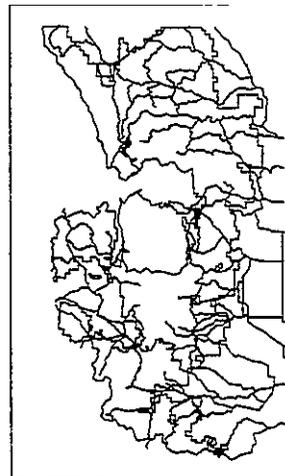
The area is not recommended for designation to maintain further opportunities for extractive activities and wildlife habitat improvement.

Comanche Pk Adjacent Area Unit A

2,909 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

2,909 ACRES
 Larimer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA A

NOT RECOMMENDED
 Redfeather Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
This area is adjacent to the wilderness, Rocky Mountain National Park, and several reservoirs (Barnes Meadow, Peterson), and Long Draw and Peterson roads. Three parcels varying in size from 64 to 2,492 acres exist. Steep walled cirques drain into the Cache La Poudre River. A mixed conifer forest with lodgepole, spruce-fir exist.	None	Panoramic views and scenery are present. A section of the Cache La Poudre Wild River is in the northern parcel.	Deer and elk use the area as summer and transitional range. Moose and black bear also inhabit the area. Boreal toads may be present. Hunting, fishing, camping, and snowmobiling occur. Additional bike trails are possible. 2,673 acres of suitable lands exist in the southern parcel, but access is limited. There is one inactive grazing allotment in the area.	Though a significant portion of the area is within sight and sound of a road, a significant portion remains largely unaffected by human activity. Natural processes dominate.	Road noise limits opportunities for solitude in some areas. Adjacent roads make motorized trespass likely and would be difficult to control.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. Long Draw and other parcels border the roads that would create opportunities for motorized trespass.	Because of the adjacent wilderness area, it offers opportunities for challenge. It will continue to offer opportunities for hiking, backpacking, hunting, and horseback riding.	2,673 acres would be removed from the category of lands suitable for harvest. No new mountain bike trails would be built. Efforts of water interests to obtain land around reservoirs could be affected. Controls of insect and disease and fuel reduction would be limited.

RECOMMENDATION

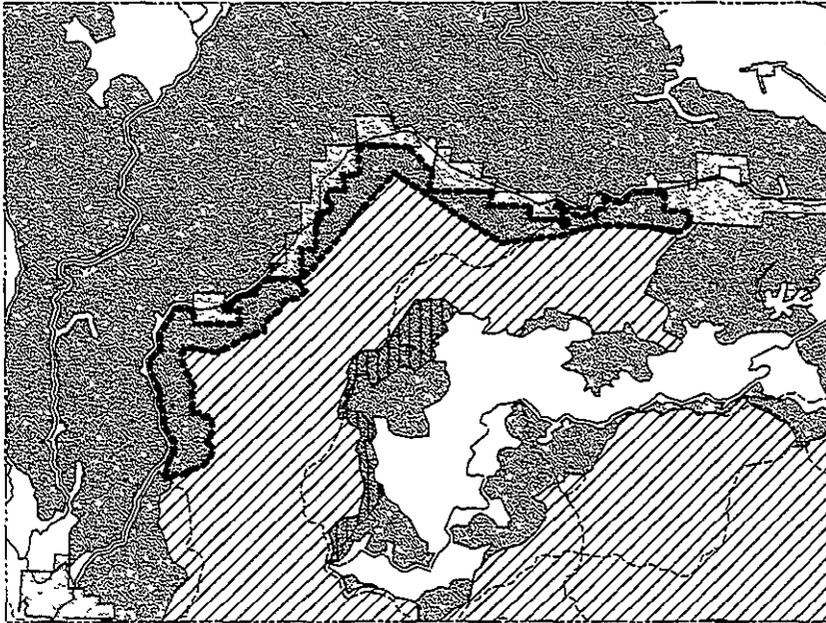
No areas are recommended for designation as backcountry non motorized opportunities can still be provided. Solitude is diminished by the nearby roads. Timber harvest opportunities still exist.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA A

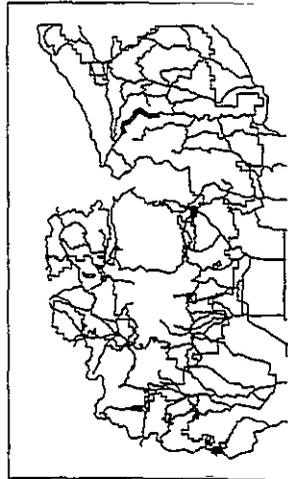
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	2,761	0
1 3	1,933	1,414	0	0	0	0
3 3	0	0	0	2,274	0	0
3 55	0	0	0	0	6	0
4 3	925	449	0	585	92	117
4 4	51	51	51	51	51	51
5 11	0	0	1,194	0	0	2,742
5 5	0	996	1,665	0	0	0
Total	2,909	2,910	2,910	2,910	2,910	2,910

Comanche Pk Adjacent Area Unit B

3,524 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



- Legend**
-  Roadless Area
 -  Designated Wilderness
 -  Recommended for Wilderness
 -  Not National Forest System Lands
 -  This Roadless Area
 -  Roads
 -  Trails

3,524 ACRES
Laumer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA B

NOT CAPABLE
Estes-Poudre Range District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

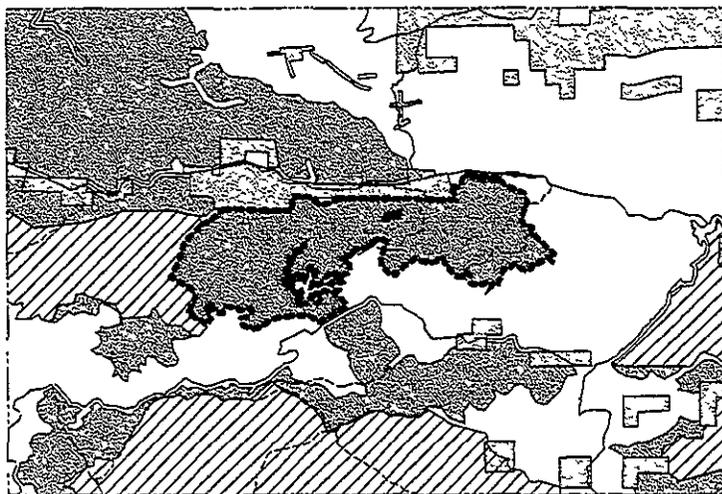
Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
<p>The northern boundary is adjacent to private property. The southern boundary is adjacent to the Comanche Peak Wilderness. The area has steep canyons and rock outcroppings. Elevation ranges from 7,481-9,282 ft. Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine are the principal vegetation types.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>The area is part of the Cache La Poudre Wild and Scenic River Corridor.</p>	<p>Some dispersed hunting occurs, but the area is so steep it limits recreational activities in general. No designated trails occur in the area. 55 acres of suitable timber exists.</p>	<p>The natural appearance is generally intact and consistent with the requirements for wilderness designation.</p>	<p>Opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are diminished due to the close proximity to Colorado Hwy 14 and development. This linear area parallels the Cache La Poudre Recreation River and the highway.</p>

RECOMMENDATION

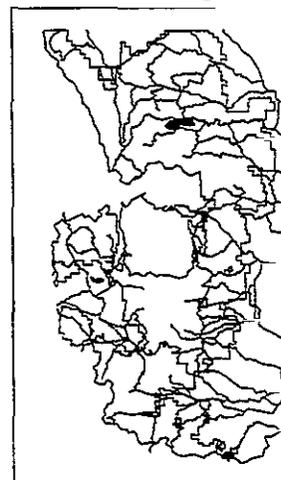
The area is not capable because it is currently part of the Recreation portion of the Wild and Scenic River, and has decreased opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation.

Comanche Pk Adjacent Area Unit C

5,272 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

5,273 ACRES
Larimer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA C

NOT RECOMMENDED
Estes Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Part of the northern boundary borders the town of Rustic, Colorado. The southern boundary is wilderness. The area has canyon walls that overlook the Cache la Poudre Wild and Scenic River corridor. A portion of this unit is in the Wild and Scenic Recreation corridor. Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, and lodgepole dominate. Elevation ranges from 7,005-9,135 ft.	The area adjoins private subdivisions on the northern border.	The area overlooks Hwy 14 and provides a backdrop for the Cache la Poudre.	Deer and elk use this area for winter range. Hiking, and hunting are popular activities. OHV users lobbied to have Dadd Gulch trail open to motorized use. 3,417 acres are suitable for timber harvest, but access is difficult. There is one range allotment in this RA.	Though a significant portion of the area is within sight and sound of a road and adjacent to some harvested areas, it is generally intact and natural processes dominate.	Road noise limits opportunities for solitude. Deep canyons and vegetation create a feeling of solitude in some places.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
A portion of this unit is in the Wild and Scenic Recreation corridor, and wilderness designation would conflict with Wild and Scenic River corridor management direction. Other portions of this area are available.	Because of the adjacent wilderness area, it offers opportunities for challenge. It would continue to offer opportunities for hiking and hunting. Lower elevation ecosystems would be added to the wilderness system.	Timber harvesting would be prohibited. Designation would preclude wildlife habitat improvement through prescribed fire. Controls for insect and disease would be limited.

RECOMMENDATION

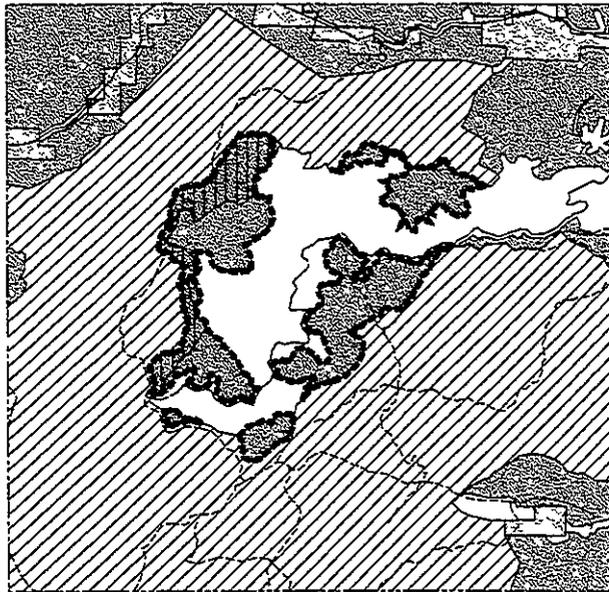
The area will remain non-motorized backcountry. Wild and Scenic River corridor and Wilderness would conflict. Wilderness boundaries along private subdivisions would be difficult to maintain. Wildlife habitat management through vegetation treatments is emphasized in some areas.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA C

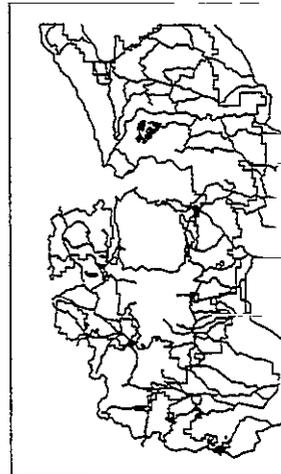
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	4,475	0
1 3	2,512	2,610	2,610	0	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	76	0
3 3	0	0	0	3,752	0	0
3 5	460	1,937	460	441	0	460
4 3	624	0	0	361	2	0
4 4	720	720	720	720	720	720
5 11	0	0	0	0	0	2,610
5 13	956	0	1,483	0	0	1,483
5 5	0	7	0	0	0	0
Total	5,272	5,274	5,273	5,274	5,273	5,273

Comanche Pk Adjacent Area Unit D

5,219 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

1,112 ACRES
 Larimer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA D

RECOMMENDED
 Estes-Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
This area is one of six small parcels in Adjacent Area D. It is surrounded by NFS land and accessible by the Crown Point and Pingree Park roads. Thick timber, bogs, and meadows characterize the parcel. The principal life zone is subalpine, dominated by lodgepole pine and spruce-fir, and includes old-growth stands. Some deer and elk summer range is present. Greenback cutthroat trout are in Sheep Creek. Elevation range 9200-10,100 feet.	None	The area is exceptionally scenic due to the vegetation and topography.	1,063 acres of suitable timber are present. Hunting, fishing, hiking, and some OHV use are the principal dispersed recreation uses. No grazing allotments are present. Some outfitter and guide permits have been issued for hunting. Mineral potential is low.	Although timber harvests have occurred on adjacent lands, the natural appearance and integrity are intact.	These opportunities are present.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The parcel is available and manageable as wilderness.	Challenge, solitude, and primitive recreation opportunities would be enhanced. The Comanche Peak Wilderness-RMNP ecosystem would be expanded.	The suitable lands would not be accessible for harvest or wildlife habitat improvement. The low OHV use would be prohibited. The parcel would be withdrawn from mineral entry.

RECOMMENDATION

This parcel is recommended for designation to expand adjacent Comanche Peak Wilderness and provide opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation.

4,107 ACRES
 Larimer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA D

NOT RECOMMENDED
 Estes-Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
This area is surrounded on three sides by wilderness. Adjacent non wilderness areas have been extensively harvested. The area thick lodgepole and spruce fir stands, bogs, wet areas, and rock outcrops. The life zone is subalpine. Lodgepole pine dominates with spruce-fir present. Elevation ranges from 9,200, 11,000 ft.	None	The area is exceptionally scenic with some old growth.	The area has significant opportunities for timber yield and harvests are planned. Deer and elk use this area as range year-round. Greenback cutthroat trout, a threatened species, has recently be reintroduced. Hiking, hunting, fishing, horseback riding, and camping are popular activities on two trails. No livestock grazing occurs in this RA. Fuel loading is heavy with potential for insect and disease outbreaks. Some mineral exploration is occurring.	It is generally intact and natural processes dominate.	Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation exist. Designation would also enhance qualities of the existing wilderness.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
This area is available. Designating these portions would not have the same management problems as designating the entire adjacent unit D.	Excellent opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self reliance. Elements of challenge are unlimited because of the areas size and adjacent wilderness. It will continue to offer opportunities for hiking and hunting.	A large portion of land would be removed from the category of lands suitable for harvest. Control of insect and disease and fire would be limited. Mineral exploration and development would be prohibited.

RECOMMENDATION

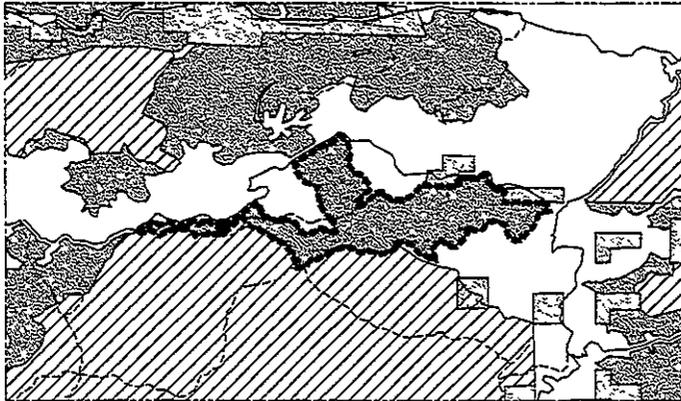
The area will remain backcountry primarily, with some areas for forest products and dispersed recreation. This recommendation is based upon the units, proximity to old timber sales, and the non-wilderness uses designation would preclude.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA D

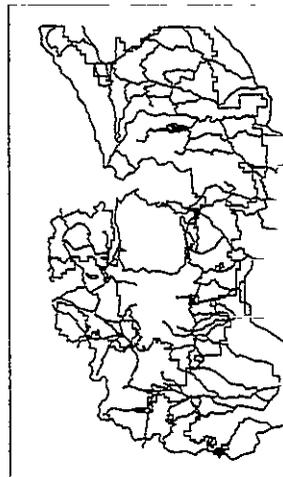
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	1,112	0	0	4,660	0
1 3	0	2,505	1,144	0	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	368	0
3 3	0	0	0	2,245	0	0
4 3	0	0	0	2,974	190	0
5 11	0	0	0	0	0	1,492
5 13	5,219	0	4,075	0	0	3,727
5 5	0	1,602	0	0	0	0
Total	5,219	5,219	5,219	5,219	5,218	5,219

Comanche Pk Adjacent Area Unit E

2,848 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

2,849 ACRES
Laumer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA E

NOT CAPABLE
Estes-Poudre Range District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area borders private property and is adjacent to the Comanche Peak Wilderness. The area has steep canyons, rolling mountain slopes and rock outcropping. Lodgepole pine is the principal vegetation type with some Douglas-fir and spruce-fir present. Elevation ranges from 7,800-9800 ft.	None	Exceptionally scenic	The area has been harvested. Dispersed recreation uses include motorized use, camping, hunting, hiking, and mountain biking. Deer and elk use the area for both winter and summer ranges. Vegetation management has occurred in the RA since the DEIS.	The natural appearance is intact except for recent harvests in the RA.	Some opportunities exist.

RECOMMENDATION

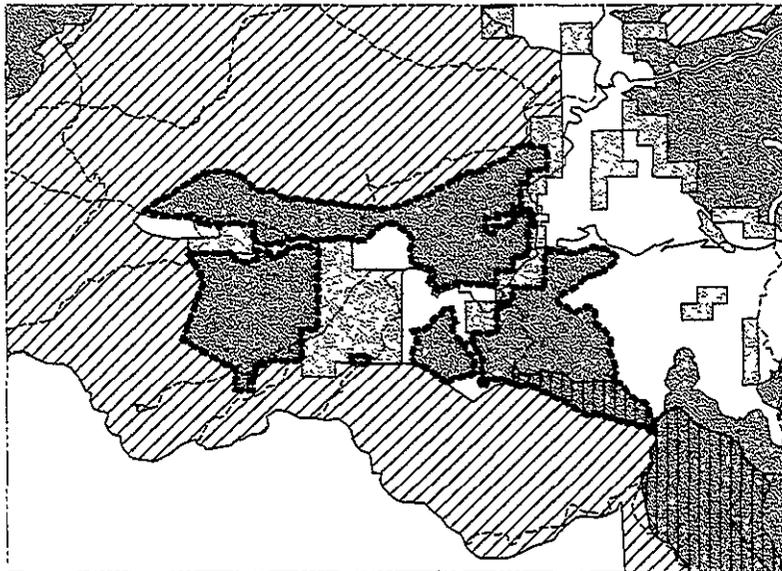
The area is not capable because of past and recent timber harvests (The Lower Flowers Timber sale was completed 6/97).

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA E

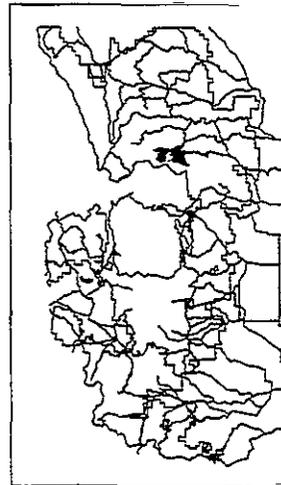
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	2,791	0
1 3	0	38	0	0	0	0
1 41	0	0	0	0	25	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	4	0
3 3	0	0	0	38	0	0
3 5	812	1,690	744	710	0	921
4 3	7	7	7	2,101	29	7
5 11	0	0	178	0	0	0
5 13	2,031	0	1,921	0	0	1,921
5 5	0	1,114	0	0	0	0
Total	2,850	2,849	2,850	2,849	2,849	2,849

Comanche Pk Adjacent Area Unit F

8,708 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Adjacent non wilderness has been extensively harvested. The area has steep canyons, rolling mountain slopes, and rock outcrops. The life zone is subalpine. Lodgepole pine dominates with some spruce-fir present. There is some ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir at lower elevations. Elevation ranges from 8,400-11,000 ft.	None	The area is exceptionally scenic and accessible.	The area has opportunities for timber yields (670 acres of suitable timber). Deer and elk use the area year round. Students hiking from Colorado State University's Pingree Park Campus is popular. Hunting, fishing, horseback riding, camping, and mountain biking are also popular activities in the area. Deer and elk could benefit from some vegetation treatments.	Though a significant portion of the area is adjacent to harvested areas, it is generally intact and natural processes dominate.	There are opportunities for solitude and designation would add to the adjacent Wilderness area's ability to provide this attribute. Challenge is high due to the rugged terrain.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. Private property along the border would make the area more difficult to manage.	This area offers excellent opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self reliance. It will continue to offer opportunities for hiking, hunting, and viewing wildlife. Study of its wild and unspoiled characteristics is feasible, as it is close to the Pingree Park Campus.	A 670 acres of land would be removed from the category of lands suitable for harvest. Controls of insect, disease and fire would be limited. Mountain biking would be prohibited. Wildlife habitat could not be improved with timber harvest and use of prescribed fires would be limited.

RECOMMENDATION

This area is recommended for wilderness designation (see map). This is based upon the area's manageability as wilderness, its proximity to the existing Comanche Peak Wilderness and Rocky Mountain National Park, and the few non wilderness uses affected by designation.

8,038 ACRES
Larimer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA F

NOT RECOMMENDED
Estes-Poudre Range District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Adjacent non wilderness has been extensively harvested. The area has steep canyons, rolling mountain slopes, and rock outcrops. The life zone is subalpine. Lodgepole pine dominates with some spruce-fir present. There is some ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir at lower elevations. Elevation ranges from 8,400-11,000 ft.	None	The area is exceptionally scenic.	The area has opportunities for timber yields (much of it accessible). Deer and elk use the area year round. Students hiking from Colorado State University's Pingree Park Campus and Sky Ranch use popular trails. Hunting, fishing, horseback riding, camping, and mountain biking are also popular activities. A potential ski area south of Hourglass Reservoir has been discussed. Livestock grazing occurs on two allotments. Deer and elk could benefit from some vegetation treatments.	Though a significant portion of the area is adjacent to harvested areas, it is generally intact and natural processes dominate.	There are opportunities for solitude and designation would add to the adjacent Wilderness area's ability to provide this attribute. Challenge is high due to the rugged terrain.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. Private property along the border would make the area more difficult to manage.	This area offers excellent opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self reliance. It will continue to offer opportunities for hiking, hunting, and viewing wildlife. Study of its wild and unspoiled characteristics is feasible, as it is close to the Pingree Park Campus.	Land would be removed from the category of lands suitable for harvest. Controls of insect, disease and fire would be limited. Mountain biking would be prohibited. Wildlife habitat could not be improved with timber harvest and use of prescribed fires would be limited.

RECOMMENDATION

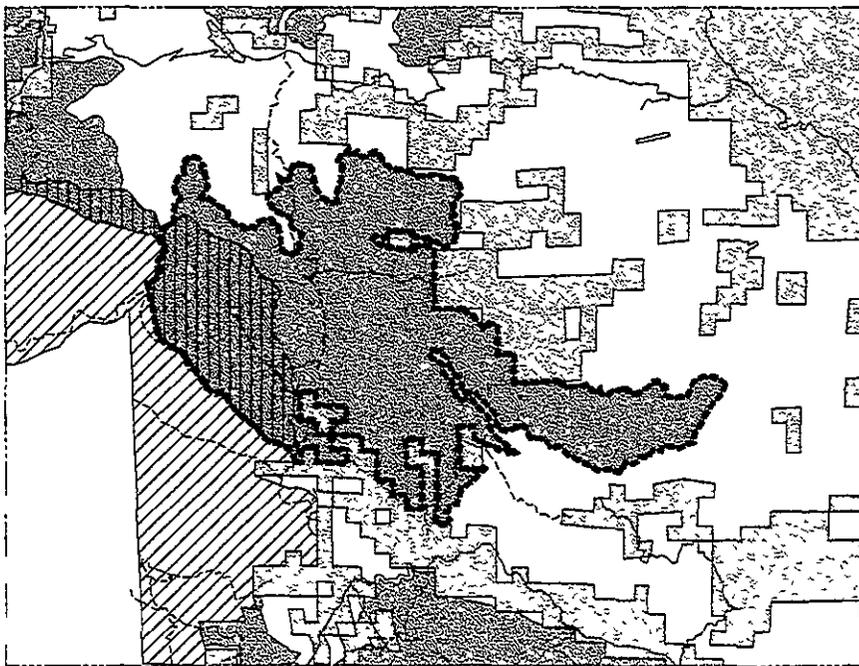
The area will remain backcountry nonmotorized primarily. The recommendation is based on the non wilderness uses designation would preclude. Activities such as mountain biking, prescribed fire for elk habitat, and timber management would be allowed.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA F

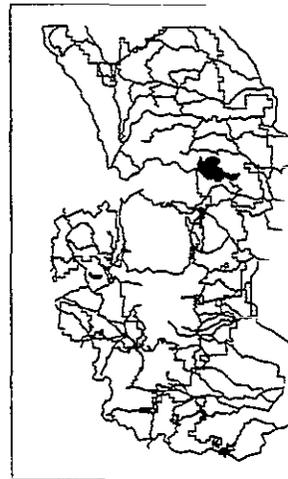
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	670	0	0	7,140	0
1 3	4,029	5,373	762	3,867	0	0
3 3	0	488	2,568	2,994	0	2,568
3 5	0	427	0	0	0	0
4 3	448	591	213	686	348	213
4 4	1,161	1,160	1,161	1,161	1,161	1,161
5 11	0	0	0	0	59	4,768
5 13	1,773	0	4,005	0	0	0
8 22	1,298	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8,709	8,709	8,709	8,708	8,708	8,710

Comanche Pk Adjacent Area Unit G

15,617 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

3,359 ACRES
Laumer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA G

RECOMMENDED
Estes-Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The Lookout Mountain Trail receives heavy motorized use. The area is generally broken with steep slopes. The life zone is subalpine. Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine dominate while spruce-fir and lodgepole occur at higher elevations. Some old growth lodgepole and spruce-fir are present. Elevation ranges from 8,200-11,200 ft.	None	The area has panoramic views, and opportunities for dispersed recreation.	The area has opportunities for timber yields. Timber harvest has occurred in the northeast portion. Motorized and non motorized recreation are popular. The area is important for big game migration and provide winter and transitional range. Deer and elk could benefit from some vegetation treatments such as prescribed fire.	Though a portion of the area is adjacent to harvested areas, it is generally intact and natural processes dominate.	There are opportunities for solitude in Miller Fork.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. The proposed portions are more manageable than designating the whole area.	The area has excellent opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self reliance exists. It will continue to offer opportunities for hiking and hunting.	A portion of land would be removed from the category of lands suitable for harvest. Controls of insect and disease and fire would be limited. One motorized trail would be closed. Mountain biking would be prohibited. Wildlife habitat improvement would be limited.

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend portions of this area to be designated as wilderness. This area is manageable as wilderness, does not conflict with many non-wilderness uses, and is adjacent to the existing wilderness and Rocky Mountain National Park.

12,259 ACRES
 Latimer County

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA G

NOT RECOMMENDED
 Estes-Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical/ Biological Description & Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
This area is adjacent to developed private lands Roads and some trails receive heavy use The area is generally broken with steep slopes and rock outcrops The life zone is subalpine Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine dominate while spruce-fir and lodgepole occur at higher elevations Elevation from 8,200-11,200 ft	There is one private inholding in this area	The area has panoramic views, and opportunities for dispersed recreation	The area has significant opportunities for timber yields Timber harvest has occurred in the northeast portion Motorized and non motorized recreation are popular Deer and elk use this area as winter and transitional range There are three livestock grazing allotments in the RA	Though a portion of the area is adjacent to harvested areas, it is generally intact and natural processes dominate	There are opportunities for solitude in Miller Fork Solitude is limited in other areas by development or adjacent private lands.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available Private property inside the area and along the border would make the area more difficult to manage	Area has excellent opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self reliance It offers opportunities for hiking and hunting The area is important for big game migration, and winter and transitional range Lower elevation ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir ecosystems would be added to the Wilderness System	A large portion of land would be removed from the category of lands suitable for harvest Controls of insect and disease and fire would be limited Two motorized trails would be closed Mountain biking would be prohibited

RECOMMENDATION

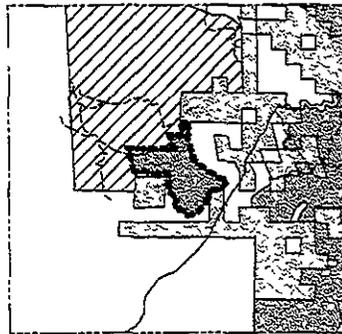
The area will remain available for a forested flora and fauna habitat management Wildlife habitat will be improved through vegetation treatments Mountain testing opportunities will be maintained

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA G

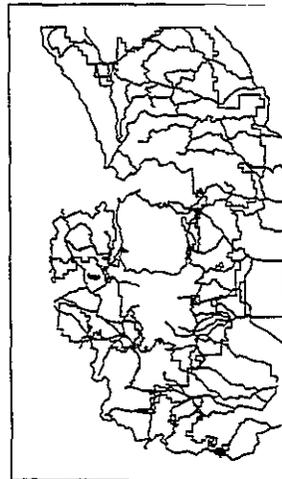
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	3,359	0	0	11,716	0
1 3	4,555	0	0	0	0	0
1 41	0	0	0	0	3,775	0
3 3	0	0	8	15,346	0	7,906
3 5	5,320	12,258	3,187	0	49	356
3 55	0	0	0	0	71	0
4 3	0	0	0	272	0	0
5 11	0	0	0	0	6	7,356
5 13	5,742	0	12,422	0	0	0
Total	15,617	15,617	15,617	15,618	15,617	15,618

Comanche Pk Adjacent Area Unit H

627 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA H

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is adjacent to the wilderness and some private land and National Forest. Topography is steep slopes, rock outcrops, and forested ridges. The area is montane with ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir primarily.	None	None, except the adjacent wilderness.	582 acres of suitable timber are present, but access is limited by private land. Little recreation use occurs due to the inaccessibility. The area is winter and transitional range for deer and elk. Greenback trout has been introduced into West Creek. No livestock grazing occurs.	The area appears natural, with natural ecosystem processes dominating.	The area has opportunities for solitude.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. Motorized trespass from adjacent private lands could be an issue.	Opportunities for solitude and naturalness would be maintained. Current recreation opportunities would be minimally affected. A small amount of lower elevation ecosystems would be added to the Wilderness System.	Wildlife habitat improvement would be more difficult. Timber harvest and mountain biking opportunities would be lost. Introduction of greenback trout on West Creek could be precluded.

RECOMMENDATION

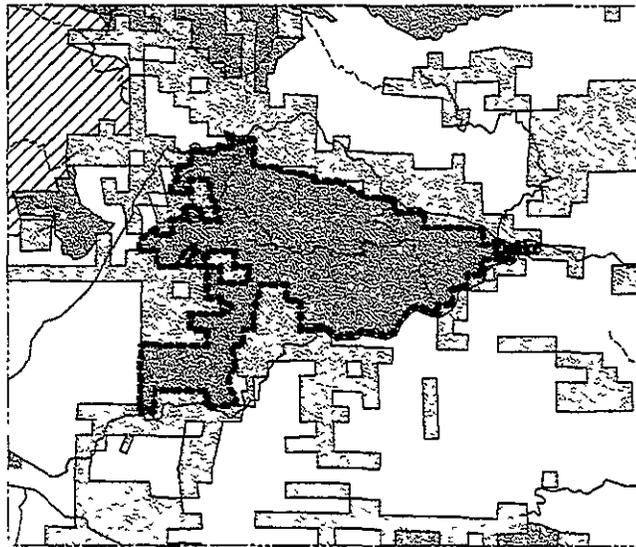
The area is not recommended for wilderness. Wildlife habitat improvement through prescribed fire and vegetation management, and mountain biking opportunities will be maintained. Boundaries with adjacent private land may be difficult to manage. The area is recommended for non-motorized uses, including limited management of forested habitat.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR COMANCHE PEAK ADJACENT AREA H

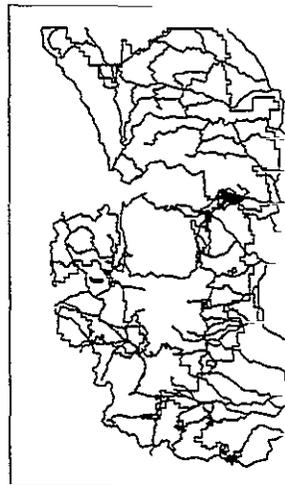
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
3 5	627	627	627	627	0	627
3 55	0	0	0	0	627	0
4 3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	627	627	627	627	627	627

Crosier Mtn.

7,205 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

7,205 ACRES
Laurel County

CROSIER MOUNTAIN

NOT RECOMMENDED
Estes-Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is mostly surrounded by private property. It has steep slopes and rock outcrops with tree covered ridges. Life zones are montane and subalpine. Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine dominate, with some spruce-fir and lodgepole pine at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 7,000-9,250 ft.	There is one inholding of private property (160 acres). Private properties border the RA.	The area affords views of some of the surrounding mountains and landscape. Watchable wildlife is abundant. It affords a good example of vegetation in its natural state. Lower elevation is accessible year round.	The area has opportunities for timber yields (4,447 acres are suitable). There has been little timber harvest in this area due to the high cost of access. Deer and elk use the area for winter and transitional range. Hiking, hunting, and mountain biking are popular on the trail system. Because water is in short supply, the area would not attract much overnight use.	Because of the little human interference, it is ecologically intact and natural processes dominate. Deer and elk could benefit from some vegetation treatments such as prescribed fire.	The area's small size is the only limit on the opportunity for solitude and challenging experiences. Vegetation and topography help to afford solitude and challenge.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone; Other Considerations
This area is available. Private property inside the area and along the border would make the area more difficult to manage as wilderness.	Excellent opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self reliance are provided. It will continue to offer opportunities for hiking and hunting. The area is important for big game migration. The area has a good representation of low elevation backcountry that is largely unspoiled.	Controls of insect, disease and fire would be limited. Timber harvest would be prohibited.

RECOMMENDATION

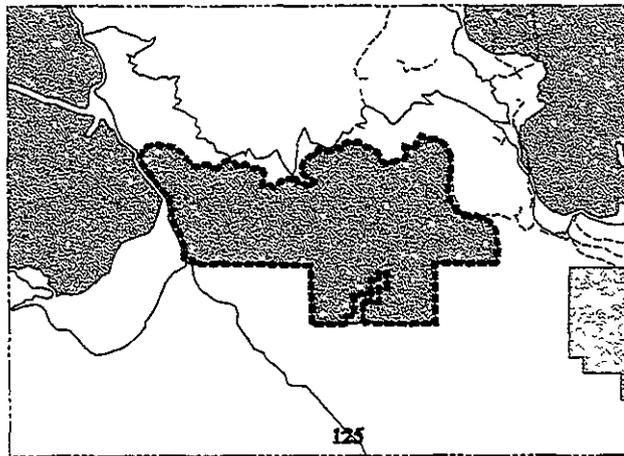
This area will remain backcountry with limited management for forested flora and fauna habitat. Wilderness designation would preclude mountain biking, prescribed fire for elk habitat improvement, and timber management. Wilderness with enclosed private land is difficult to manage.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR CROSIER AREA

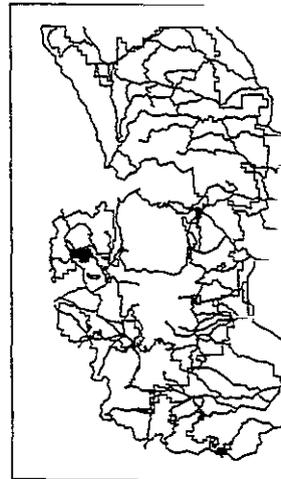
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 41	0	0	0	0	5,121	0
3 3	0	0	0	4,653	0	0
3 5	6,048	6,279	6,279	1,466	0	6,240
3 55	0	0	0	0	2,084	0
4 2	0	926	926	926	0	926
4 3	1,156	0	0	159	0	39
Total	7,204	7,205	7,205	7,204	7,205	7,205

Gold Run

6,597 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

6,597 ACRES
Grand County

GOLD RUN

NOT RECOMMENDED
Sulphur Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is adjacent to National Forest, private lands, and Colorado Hwy 125. The area has moderately steep slopes, narrow canyons, large meadows, and rocky outcrops. The primary vegetation is lodgepole and spruce fir, with some aspen. Elevation ranges from 9,500-10,500 ft.	None	Special features include scenery and habitat diversity.	5,892 acres of suitable timber exist, but access is difficult. Some easily accessible stands have been harvested. The inaccessibility limits recreation to snowmobiling and hunting. Some trespass motorized use occurs. Some gold prospecting has taken place, but potential is low. Elk and deer winter and summer range exist. Moose and bear also inhabit the area. There are no grazing allotments in the RA.	The area has a natural appearance, but is small.	Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities can be found in the center of the area.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. Some trespass motorized use could occur. The proximity of roads and motorized trails on three sides of the RA could affect opportunities for solitude.	Limited access would maintain opportunities for solitude in some areas. An undisturbed montane ecosystem would remain roadless.	Suitable timber could not be harvested. Mineral development would be prohibited. Existing opportunities for snowmobile use would be lost.

RECOMMENDATION

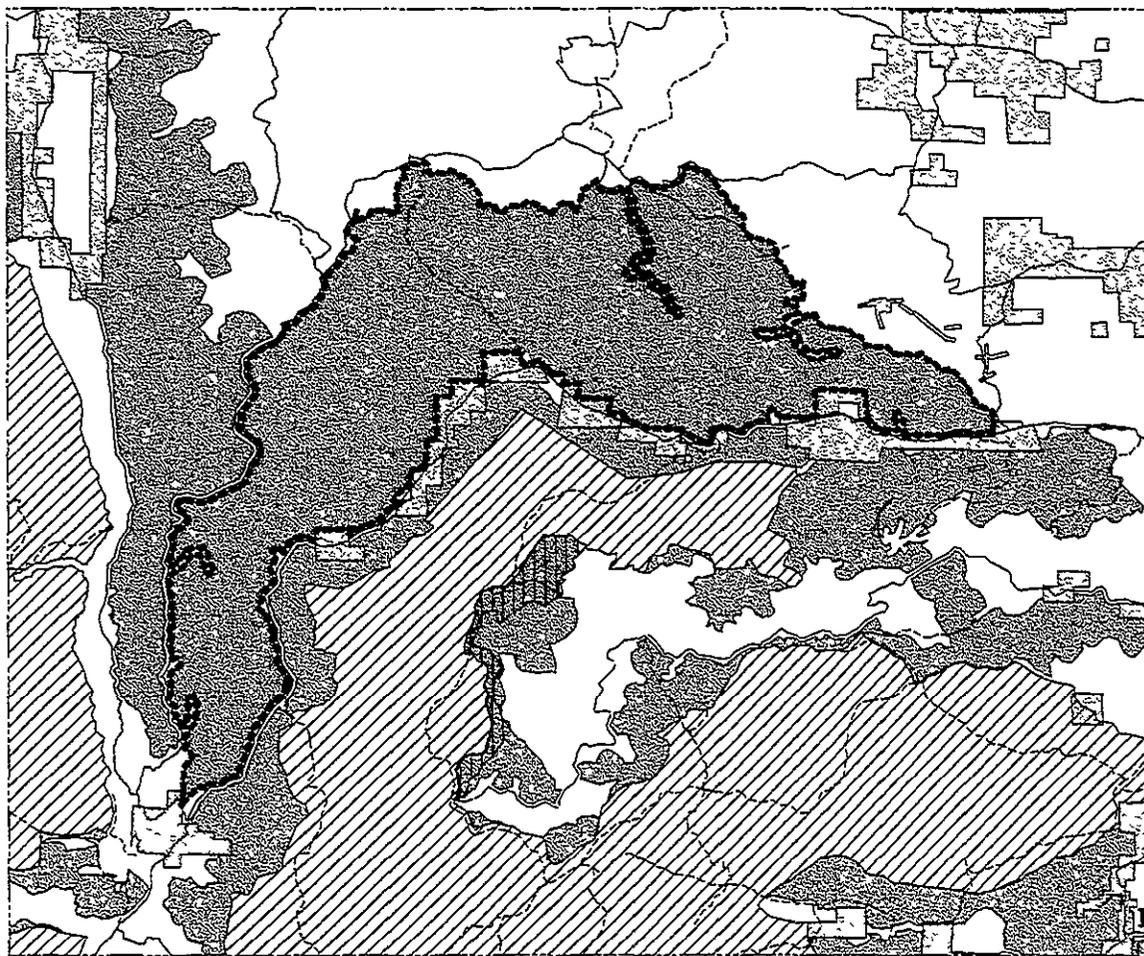
The area is not recommended for wilderness designation and will be managed primarily for backcountry, with some areas for dispersed recreation and vegetation management.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR GOLD RUN AREA

MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	5,954	0
1 3	2,622	5,391	0	0	0	0
3 55	0	0	0	0	57	0
4 3	586	920	586	6,597	299	586
5 11	0	0	0	0	286	3,365
5 13	3,389	0	6,010	0	0	2,646
5 5	0	286	0	0	0	0
Total	6,597	6,597	6,596	6,597	6,596	6,597

Green Ridge -East

26,692 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:700,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

26,693 ACRES
Larimer County

GREEN RIDGE EAST

NOT RECOMMENDED
Redfeather Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is primarily surrounded by National Forest Developed private land in Poudre Canyon to the south The area is high timbered plateau, shrub and grasses along the Poudre River. Present are ponderosa pine, juniper, Douglas-fir, lodgepole, and spruce-fir at higher elevations 1,204 acres of old growth exists in this RA Elevation ranges from 9,000-11,000 ft	None	Scenic views of Roaring Creek and the Poudre Canyon are popular Hunting and fishing are also special attractions	22,277 acres of suitable timber exist, and past harvests are not evident Recreation includes hunting, OHV use of roads, and hiking the Roaring Fork Trail Medium potential for locatable minerals occurs in the eastern portion, and some past mining activity is evident The area is year round range for bighorn sheep and transitional range for deer and elk Three allotments are grazed by livestock	The area is generally free from human disturbance	Opportunities for solitude exist throughout the area except near roads on the north edge near Colorado Hwy 14 Access is limited so challenge would be high

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

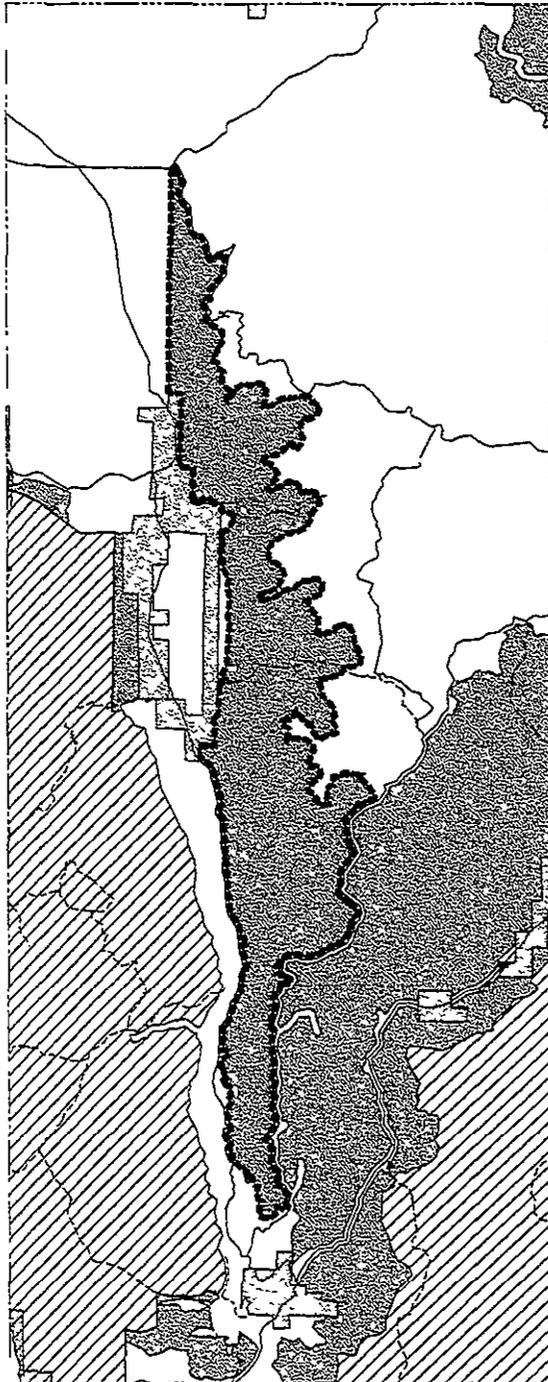
Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available Some parcels border roads that would create opportunities for motorized trespass	Lack of trails presents an opportunity for challenge and solitude A nonalpine ecosystem would be added to the Wilderness system	22,277 acres would be removed from the suitable timber for harvest lands base. No new motorized or mountain bike trails would be considered Controls of insect and disease would be limited. Fire danger may be increased because prescribed fire is limited Vegetation treatments for bighorn sheep would be limited

RECOMMENDATION

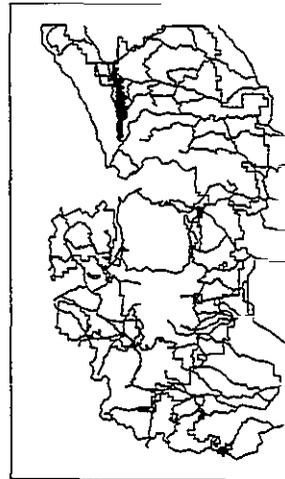
The area is not recommended for designation Backcountry nonmotorized and motorized opportunities are emphasized Some timber harvest and limited management for wildlife habitat are possible

Green Ridge - West

13,640 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

13,641 ACRES
Laurel County

GREEN RIDGE WEST

NOT RECOMMENDED
Redfeather Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is between the heavily traveled Laramie River Road and the Green Ridge Road. It is a timbered plateau with lodgepole pine in lower elevations, spruce-fir at higher elevations, and aspen in riparian areas. Elevation ranges from 9,000-11,000 ft.	None	Scenic views and hunting are the special features.	11,855 acres are suitable for timber harvest, with the highest potential along existing roads. Dispersed recreation occurs, but there is no developed trail system. The area is year round habitat for bighorn sheep, and transitional range for elk. Livestock grazing occurs on three allotments, and there are two inactive allotments.	The area has retained much of its natural integrity.	Some opportunities for solitude are limited due to proximity to roads in many areas.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
This area is available. Parcels border roads that would create opportunities for motorized trespass.	Few opportunities for challenge exist. Area would remain roadless. The solitude that exists would be maintained by designation.	No new snowmobile or mountain bike trails would be considered. Controls of insect and disease would be limited. Fire danger may be increased because prescribed fire is limited. Designation would remove 11,855 acres from the suitable for harvesting land base.

RECOMMENDATION

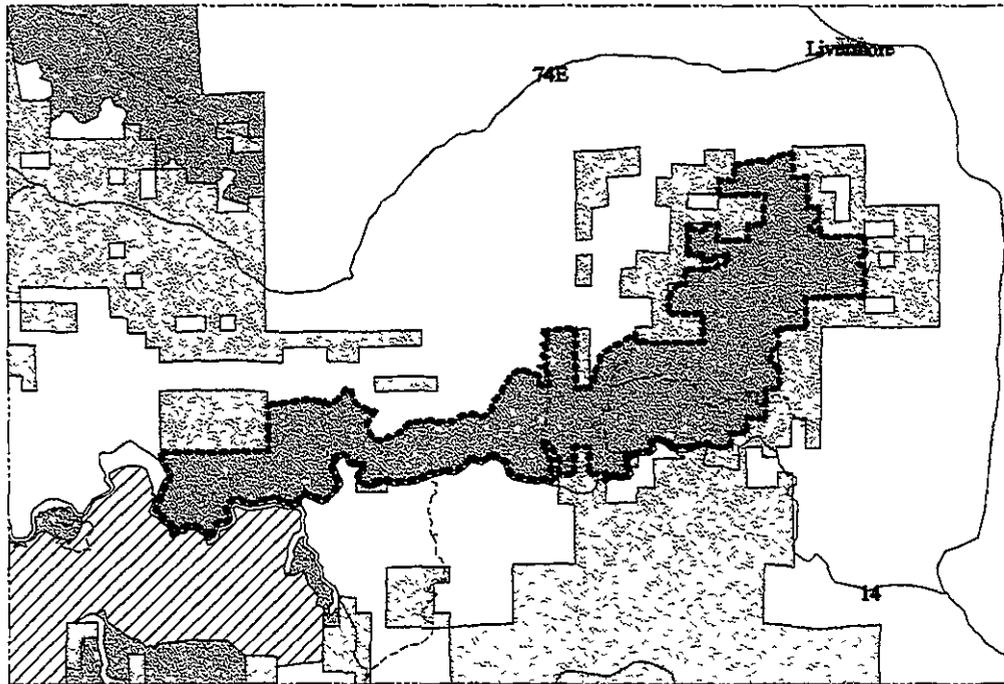
The area is not recommended to maintain flexibility for possible wildlife habitat improvement through vegetation treatments, backcountry motorized recreation, and the possibility of timber harvesting.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR GREEN RIDGE WEST AREA

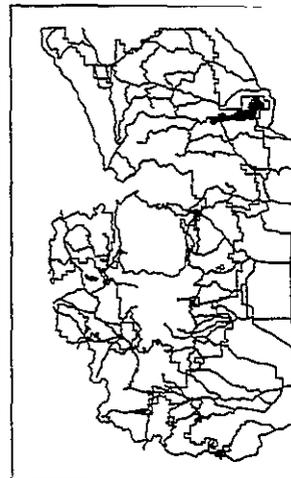
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 3	5,553	0	0	8,559	0	0
1 41	0	0	0	0	11,688	0
2 2	0	453	0	0	0	0
3 3	721	1,846	0	1,999	0	0
3 5	1,125	9,145	9,506	0	0	7,434
3 55	0	0	0	0	1,586	0
4 3	1,029	865	0	1,624	368	959
5 11	0	667	2,511	0	0	1,831
5 13	5,213	0	665	0	0	3,417
5 5	0	665	959	1,460	0	0
Total	13,641	13,641	13,641	13,642	13,642	13,641

Grey Rock

12,151 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

12,151 ACRES
Lairimer County

GREYROCK

NOT RECOMMENDED
Redfeather Range District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The south border is the Cache La Poudre River. The east border is Seaman Reservoir. The area is surrounded by city, state, private and BLM lands. The private areas are quite developed. The area has steep slopes, rock outcroppings, and narrow canyons. The principal vegetation is ponderosa and lodgepole pine, including some old growth (142 acres).	Mining claims exist within this area.	The Greyrock National Recreation Trail and Hewlett Gulch trail are the main attractions. Greyrock Mountain is the dominant feature, and the trail is extremely popular and heavily used.	Hiking, mountain biking, and rock climbing are popular activities. The potential for additional trails exists. 3,891 acres of suitable timber occur, but access is difficult. There are three active grazing allotments in the RA.	The interior portion appears natural and free from human disturbance. Private homes and roads on the boundaries detract from the natural appearance.	Opportunities for solitude are greatly diminished by the high year round recreation use on the trails. Other portions contain some opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available for wilderness. Adjacent private lands and development, and popularity of the area would detract from opportunities for solitude. Trespass access would make this area difficult to manage as a wilderness.	Wilderness attributes would be difficult to maintain in the heavily used areas along trails. The naturalness of the interior areas would be maintained. Lower elevation ecosystems would be added to the NWS.	3,891 acres would be removed from the suitable for harvesting land base. Mountain biking would be eliminated and other access might be curtailed. The use of fire to improve wildlife habitat would be limited.

RECOMMENDATION

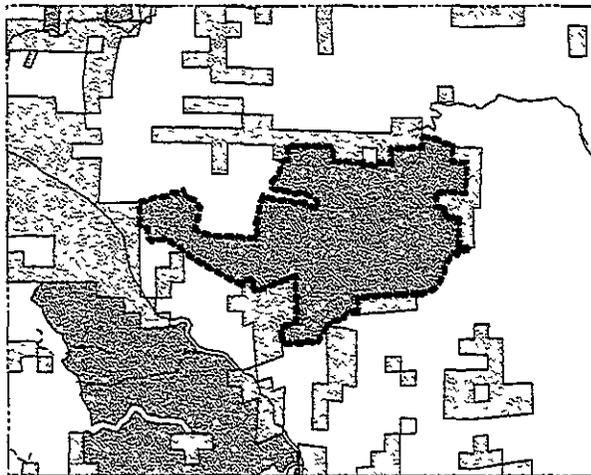
The area is not recommended. The area is minimally capable of providing wilderness quality experiences and solitude. The demand for recreational use is extremely high. The mix of intermingled private and public lands would make it difficult to manage as wilderness. Limited management of forested flora and fauna habitat and dispersed recreation will be emphasized.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR GREYROCK AREA

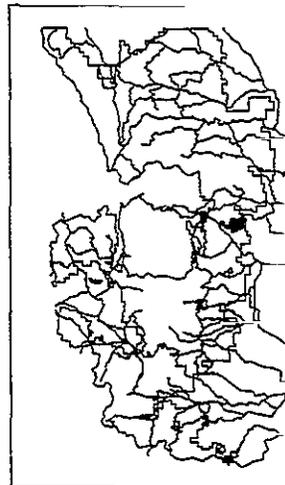
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 3	766	0	0	7,550	0	0
1 41	0	0	0	0	10,181	0
3 3	0	0	0	2,609	0	0
3 5	8,213	5,858	10,181	0	0	10,160
4 3	1,202	4,324	0	22	0	22
4 4	1,969	1,969	1,969	1,969	1,969	1,968
Total	12150	12151	12150	12150	12150	12150

Hell Canyon

5,924 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

5,924 ACRES
Larimer County

HELL CANYON

NOT RECOMMENDED
Estes-Poudre Range District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
<p>The area is mostly surrounded by private property. The area has broad plateaus and steep canyons. Lifezones are montane and subalpine. Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine dominate. Some lodgepole pine occurs at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 5,960-9,284 ft.</p>		<p>It affords a good example of low elevation undisturbed areas due to inaccessibility, dense stands of lodgepole to open ponderosa, and open meadows. There are a few scattered stands of old growth lodgepole.</p>	<p>The area has opportunities for timber yields and future sales are planned for the northwest part of the RA. Suitable timber covers 4,732 acres. Deer and elk use the area year round for range. Bighorn sheep were introduced here recently and hiking and hunting are popular. One livestock allotment exists in this RA.</p>	<p>The RA is ecologically intact and natural processes dominate. Deer and elk could benefit from some vegetation treatments such as prescribed fire.</p>	<p>The area does provide opportunity for solitude and challenging experiences. It is largely unspoiled and receives little use due to the inaccessibility.</p>

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone; Other Considerations
<p>This area is available. Private property along the border would make the area harder to manage as wilderness.</p>	<p>There are opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self reliance. It will continue to offer opportunities for hiking and hunting. The area represents a montane life zone that is free from development. Lower elevation ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir ecosystems would be added to the wilderness system.</p>	<p>Timber harvests would be precluded. Controls of insect, disease and fire would be limited. Mountain biking would be prohibited. Opportunities to improve wildlife habitat with timber harvests and prescribed fire would be prohibited and limited.</p>

RECOMMENDATION

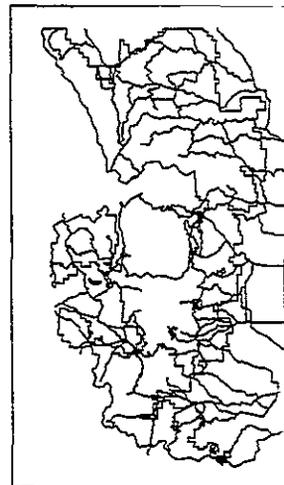
The area will remain backcountry with limited management for forested flora and fauna habitats. Wilderness designation would preclude mountain biking, prescribed fire for elk habitat, and timber management.

Indian Peaks Adjacent Area Unit A

1,085 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

1,085 ACRES

INDIAN PEAKS ADJACENT AREA A

**RECOMMENDED
and NOT RECOMMENDED**
Boulder Ranger District

Boulder County

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description / Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
Two parcels make up area, Fourth of July (878 ac) and Bald Mountain (208 ac) Access to Fourth of July is 2 trails Bald Mtn has only cross country access Fourth of July has private lands on south east and west. Both areas in the upper montane, subalpine, and alpine ecosystems Spruce-fir, lodgepole, limber pine, aspen are present Fourth of July area has small old growth stand of spruce-fir Elevation from 9,800-11,400 feet Deer/elk use area for summer habitat	None known	The relative remoteness of both areas	Timber harvest is limited by the steepness of the terrain 558 acre of suitable timber occurs Recreation opportunities are limited due to the lack of access Active mining occurs adjacent to the area, the potential is medium for locatable minerals One active grazing allotment is on the Bald Mountain parcel	The lack of access has maintained the natural appearance and integrity	The lack of access provides quality opportunities for solitude and primitive camping

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Foregone, Other Considerations
Both parcels are available	Solitude, natural appearance, integrity, challenge, and natural processes would be continued	Mineral withdrawal would occur. Steep terrain would limit other resource management such as timber and recreation Fire, insect and disease management would be limited by designation

RECOMMENDATION

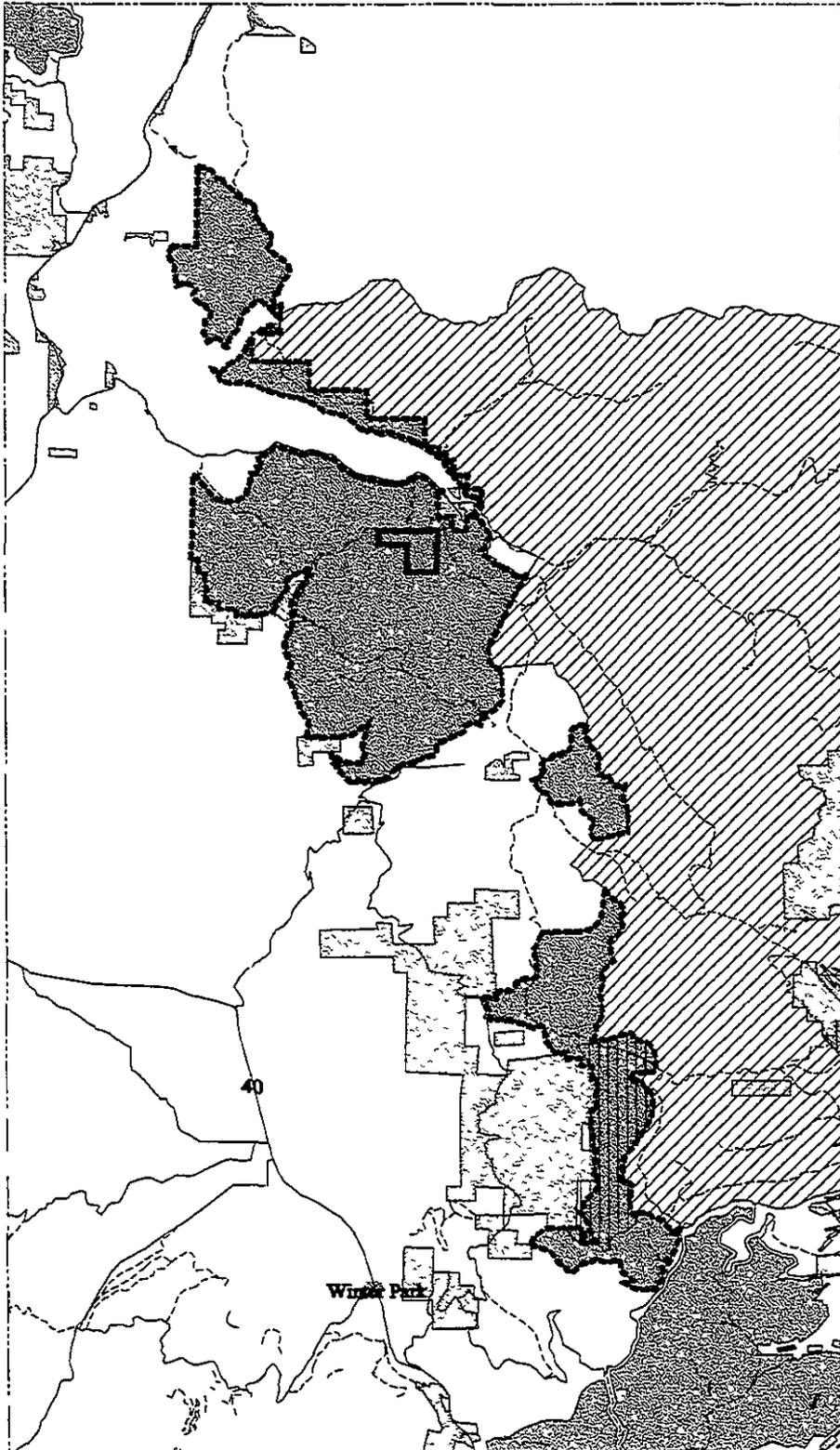
963 acres are recommended for wilderness designation, 112 acres will be managed for nonmotorized backcountry recreation, and 11 acres for dispersed motorized recreation

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR INDIAN PEAKS ADJACENT AREA A

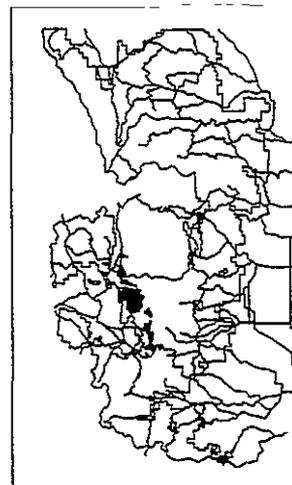
MA	Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	963	0	0	838	0
1 3	1,075	112	0	0	28	0
3 3	0	0	0	0	219	0
3 5	0	0	0	0	0	1,085
4 3	11	11	1,085	1,085	0	0
Total	1,086	1,086	1,085	1,085	1,085	1,085

Indian Peaks Adjacent Area Unit B

21,968 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

2,030 ACRES
Grand County

INDIAN PEAKS ADJACENT AREA B (RANCH CREEK)

RECOMMENDED
Sulphur Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The Ranch Creek area is a strip between private land and the Indian Peaks wilderness. Rugged terrain is characterized by timbered and alpine gentle to steep slopes, leading to talus slopes and tundra. Lodgepole pine and spruce-fir are the primary vegetation. Elevation ranges from 9,700-11,800 ft.	None	Several creeks have Colorado cutthroat trout, and the historic and popular Moffat Road over Rollins Pass focuses the southern boundary.	390 acres of suitable timber lands exist. Dispersed non-motorized activities occur, including hiking, mountain biking, fishing, hunting, and snowmobiling. Opportunities exist to expand the trail system. Old growth forest provides habitat for black bear, mountain lions, and deer and elk summer range. There are no grazing allotments present.	Access is limited to the Rollins Pass Road and a few trails. The area appears natural.	The inaccessibility of the area contributes to opportunities for solitude.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. It is manageable due to the limited access, although trespass motorized use from adjacent private lands is possible.	Opportunities for solitude and naturalness would be maintained. The size of the adjacent wilderness would be expanded.	Timber harvest would be prohibited. Snowmobiling and mountain biking opportunities would be lost, although existing use is low.

RECOMMENDATION

2,030 acres are recommended for wilderness designation because of the wilderness values present.

19,939 ACRES
Grand County

INDIAN PEAKS ADJACENT AREA B

NOT RECOMMENDED
Sulphur Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description/ Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
Contains Green Ridge (2,139 ac), Knight Ridge (1,095 ac), Strawberry (12,504 ac) which is south of reservoir and extends toward Granby, Meadow Ck (1,043 ac) & remainder of Ranch Ck Unit (3,136 ac) Green & Knight Ridges include Lake Granby shoreline Three units, a portion of fourth and fifth are in Arapaho National Recreation Area Area is rugged terrain Gentle to steep forested slopes lead to areas above timberline Lodgepole pine/spruce fir dominate vegetation with meadow parks/riparian at lower elevations Elevation from 8,300-13,500 ft	None known	The area provides scenic views and relatively intact ecosystems	15,071 acres of suitable timber are present with some difficulties in access Historic logging is still evident in the Strawberry unit The areas are in the ARNA and are used for hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, fishing, and hunting Snowmobiling occurs in all units Opportunities to increase dispersed recreation activities exist Old growth and forested areas provide habitat for bald eagles, winter and summer range for deer and elk, bear, moose, and river otter There are no active grazing allotments in the RA	The Green Ridge is a small unit that is on the fluctuating Lake Granby shoreline Some trespass motorized use occurs The Knight Ridge unit is also small and sits on Lake Granby The Strawberry unit is relatively intact, but has remains of old historic logging Mechanized use of the trail is popular The Meadow creek unit is adjacent to a popular roaded area and has evidence of past logging The Ranch Creek Unit is adjacent to the heavily traveled Rollins Pass Road, but is largely intact	Green and Knight Ridge units can be accessed by boat, and use on the reservoir provides noise and visible impact as well as dispersed use onshore The Strawberry unit is popular with mountain bikers, hunters, and snowmobilers Ditch maintenance occurs Meadow Creek is adjacent to popular roads and trails Opportunities for solitude occur in the Ranch Creek unit

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available Trespass from motorized use could occur in the Green Ridge and Strawberry units in summer, and the Ranch Creek and Strawberry and Green Ridge units are accessible by snowmobile Some opportunities for solitude are affected by boat use on Lake Granby and roads adjacent to some units	Designation would maintain the natural appearance and integrity of the RA Opportunities for solitude in parts of the Strawberry, Meadow Creek, and Ranch Creek units would be maintained	The expansion of mountain bike trails and winter snowmobile opportunities would be prohibited Timber harvest would not occur

RECOMMENDATION

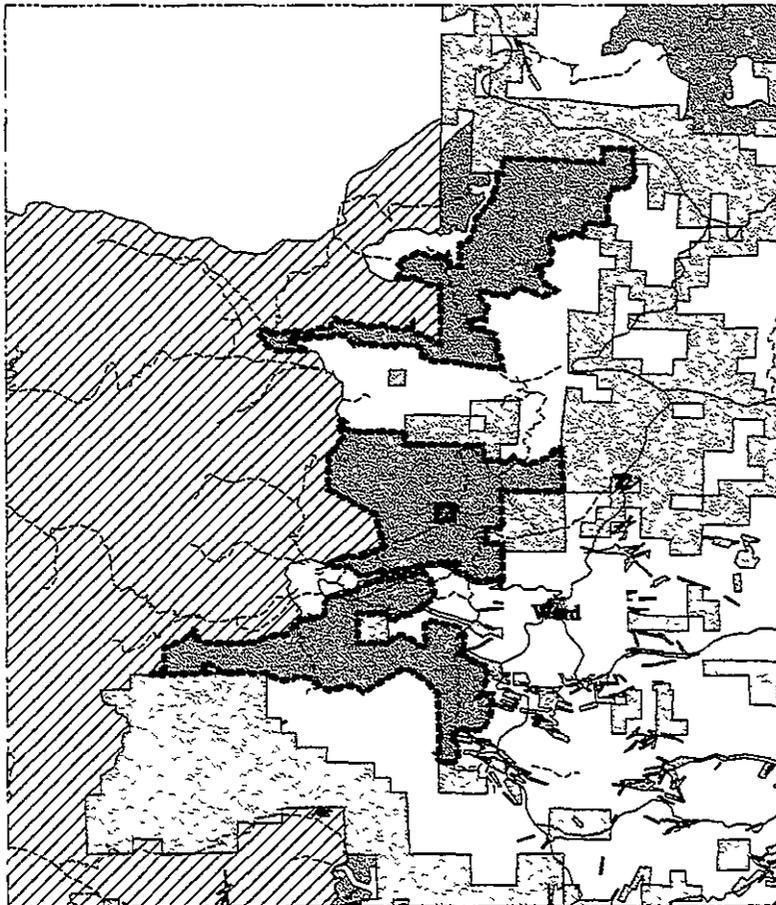
The area is not recommended for wilderness designatin 11,643 acres will be managed as part of the ANRA special interest area The remainder is nonmotorized backcountry, motorized dispersed recreation opportunities, and some vegetation management areas

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR INDIAN PEAKS ADJACENT AREA B

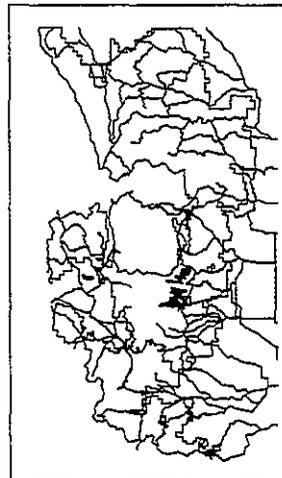
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	2,030	0	0	20,954	0
1 3	4,233	5,843	0	0	0	0
1 42	0	0	0	0	168	0
3 1	11,643	11,643	11,643	11,643	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	5	0
3 3	0	1,060	0	0	0	7,214
3 5	3,293	0	3,820	3,898	0	3,820
4 3	605	0	3,147	6,428	61	3,011
5 11	0	0	0	0	0	1,726
5 13	306	0	3,359	0	0	1,444
5 5	0	1,394	0	0	0	0
8 21	0	0	0	0	782	4,429
8 22	1,890	0	0	0	0	326
Total	21,970	21,970	21,969	21,969	21,970	21,970

Indian Peaks Adjacent Area Unit C

10,804 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

10,805 ACRES
Boulder County

INDIAN PEAKS ADJACENT AREA C

NOT RECOMMENDED
Boulder Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
Three areas adjacent to wilderness are included Left Hand (3,392 acres), South St Vrain (3,579 acres) and Ironclads (3,832 acres) All are accessible by high standard roads and trails Left Hand is adjacent to Brainard Lake Recreation complex, Niwot Ridge Biosphere Reserve, Indian Peaks Wilderness, Boulder's watershed, and other NFS lands South St Vrain is adjacent to the Brainard Lake complex, wilderness, and private lands Ironclads is adjacent to wilderness, NFS and private lands Elevation ranges from 8,320-12,400 feet The first two areas have primarily spruce-fir, aspen and lodgepole with tundra in Left Hand Ironclads has ponderosa and lodgepole pine, spruce-fir, and aspen	14 use restrictions and encumbrances occur in the area, including mineral reservations and withdrawals Left Hand reservoir extends into that area An isolated 40 acre parcel occurs in the South St Vrain area	The Lefthand and South St Vrain areas are adjacent to the Brainard Recreation complex. Some old growth occurs	All three areas have been logged, 8,197 acres are suitable for timber production Recreation activities include mountain bicycling, hiking, cross-country skiing, and hunting Trailhead, trail surfacing for mountain bicycling trails, and an expansion of the Brainard recreation complex are planned Various special use permits for research, outfitter-guides, and powerlines occur	Old timber sales have regenerated and the natural integrity is generally intact Left Hand Reservoir is not natural when drawn down	Portions of the parcels adjacent to the heavily used Brainard Lake recreation complex are affected Other areas have opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The southern portion of the South St Vrain is not considered capable due to heavy use from the Brainard complex The Lefthand area is not considered capable due to the adjacent research development on Niwot Ridge and heavy use from the Brainard complex.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

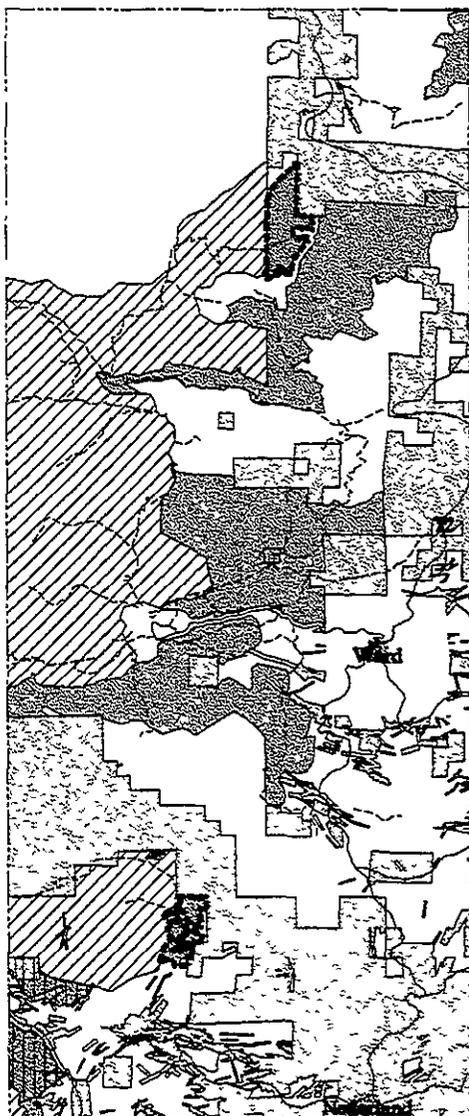
Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone; Other Considerations
The northern South St Vrain (from South St Vrain creek north) and Ironclad areas are available and suitable for designation	All values would be maintained Lower elevation ecosystems would be added to the Wilderness system in the Ironclads unit	Opportunities to manage vegetation would be lost Mountain bicycling would be prohibited on the heavily used Sourdough Trail, and some OHV opportunities would be lost. Wildlife habitat improvement would be precluded Water rights could be affected on South St Vrain Creek

RECOMMENDATION

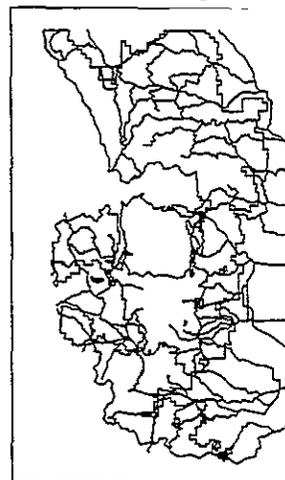
The capable areas are primarily recommended for Backcountry Nonmotorized Recreation Management (MA 1.3) They are not recommended for wilderness because of effects on planned recreation projects, the loss of mountain bicycling opportunities, and the need to have areas where wilderness-independent opportunities can occur

Indian Peaks Adjacent Area Unit D

844 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

843 ACRES
Boulder County

INDIAN PEAKS ADJACENT AREA D

NOT RECOMMENDED
Boulder Range District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Three parcels are included Caribou (190 acres), Rainbow Lakes (98 acres), and Allenspark (555 acres) All are accessible by roads and trails All are adjacent to the Indian Peaks wilderness and NFS and private lands Elevations range from 8,700-10,200 feet Primary vegetation is spruce-fir, aspen, and lodgepole pine Three stands of spruce-fir old growth in two areas Deer, elk, bear, and cougar use the area	Two patented mining claims are in the Caribou parcel	No known special features occur	815 acres of suitable timber occur The Rainbow Lakes CG is adjacent to the Caribou and Rainbow Lakes parcels OHV use occurs in the Caribou parcel, and hiking is popular in all three parcels The areas have low-moderate potential for locatable minerals One grazing allotment is active	The natural appearance and integrity of all three areas are relatively intact	Opportunities for solitude are lacking due to use from adjacent developed facilities in the Caribou and Rainbow Lakes parcels, OHV use in the Caribou parcel, and adjacent uses from private lands adjacent to the Allenspark parcel.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone; Other Considerations
The areas are available Opportunities for solitude are impacted by use from the adjacent private land and Forest recreation developments	Natural processes would continue Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir ecosystems would be added to the Wilderness System	Designation would have little effect on timber production due to low acreage and steepness Management of wildfire and insect and disease outbreaks could be more difficult.

RECOMMENDATION

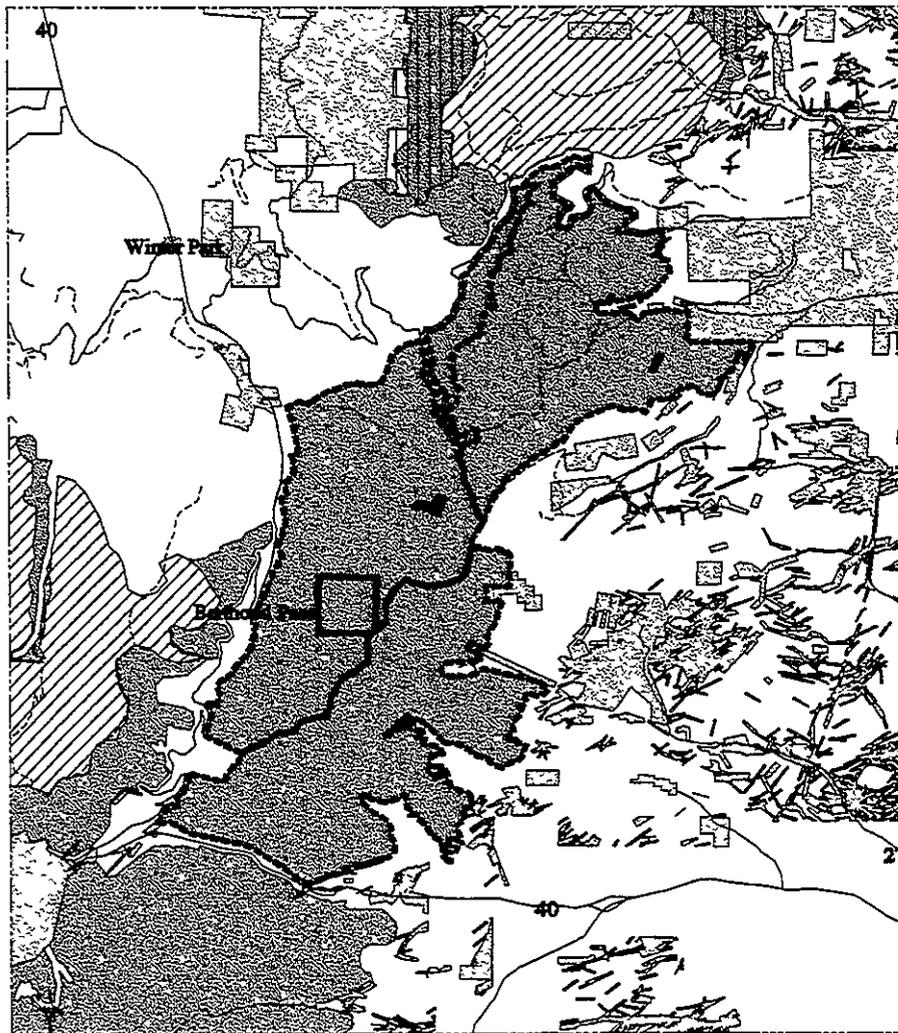
The areas are not recommended for wilderness designation to provide opportunities for backcountry motorized and dispersed recreation The opportunities for solitude are also limited

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR INDIAN PEAKS ADJACENT AREA D

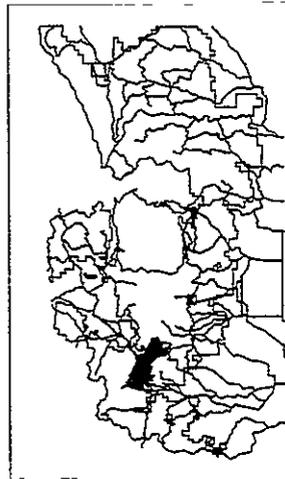
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	405	0
1 3	25	0	0	0	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	150	0
3 3	710	516	516	11	288	516
3 5	0	33	0	0	0	0
4 3	108	294	294	832	0	294
5 11	0	0	33	0	0	33
Total	843	843	843	843	843	843

James Peak

26,045 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

26,045 ACRES

Boulder, Clear Creek and Grand Counties

JAMES PEAK

NOT RECOMMENDED

Boulder, Clear Creek, and Sulphur Ranger Districts

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical & Biological Description/Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area straddles the Continental Divide from Berthoud Pass to the Rollins Pass Road. Berthoud Pass and the US Hwy 40 corridor are to the south and west. Private lands are to the south and east. Winter Park ski complex is to the west and the Moffat Tunnel for the railroad is to the east and west. The Indian Peaks Wilderness is to the north across the Rollins Pass Road. Primitive roads and trails access the area. Serrated peaks, alpine tundra, and areas of spruce, fir, and lodgepole characterize the area. Several rare plant species occur. A wide range of habitat for wildlife exists.	Five inholdings occur, totalling approximately 650 acres. One owner has proposed road access to his property. Various encumbrances occur, including mineral reservations, R O W for the Moffat Tunnel, and a powerline. A communications tower will be moved from NFS lands to a state inholding.	Five peaks exceed 13,000 ft and 55 percent of the area is above timberline. Several high altitude lakes exist. Important historic and prehistoric resource sites have been found. Old growth stands of spruce and fir occur.	Several water developments exist and are drawn down in summer. Timber harvesting has occurred in Moffat Tunnel area, roads and old lumber camp evident. Heavy snowmobile use on west side of area, with other winter sports elsewhere. OHV use on adjacent roads. Mountain biking and hiking popular. Old prospect pits evident. Most of the area has low mineral potential, with some medium potential in southern part. One active grazing allotment. There are 8,314 acres of suitable timberlands, with some access difficulty. The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail will go through area.	Many human impacts exist in or near the area. Old roads are still evident. The pad for an old aircraft beacon, two old lumber camps, an old powerline, a transmountain diversion ditch, human enhanced lakes and the existing communications site tower are also apparent. However, some parts of the RA maintain a natural appearance and have no imprints of man's work.	Opportunities for solitude do occur in some parts of the RA.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. Opportunities for solitude are limited by human impacts next to the area. These include Winter Park and Berthoud Pass ski areas, the US 40 corridor, the Moffat Tunnel fans, trails, the Mines Peak electronic site, adjacent 4WD roads, the communication tower, and lakes that are drawn down.	The natural appearance of the area not affected by the imprints of man's work, and opportunities for solitude, primitive unconfined recreation and challenges in portions of the area where activities/developments that are within or adjacent to the area are not a factor, would be maintained.	Designation would have little effect on timber harvests due to the difficulty of access. Snowmobiling opportunities would be curtailed. No mineral development could occur. Recreation use might increase with designation. Wildlife habitat improvement could be limited.

RECOMMENDATION

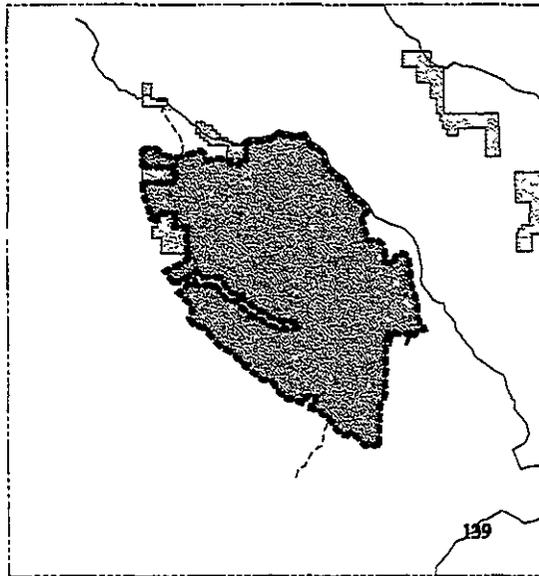
The Forest Service believes the qualities and unique characteristics of this area can be effectively protected without wilderness designation. 20,302 acres will be managed as a special interest area emphasizing, protecting, and/or enhancing the undeveloped character of the area. Motorized recreation use is prohibited. Natural ecological processes are the principal forces in the area. Other management emphasis include dispersed recreation and snowmobiling opportunities, wildlife habitat improvement, and allowing the expansion of adjacent ski areas.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR JAMES PEAK AREA

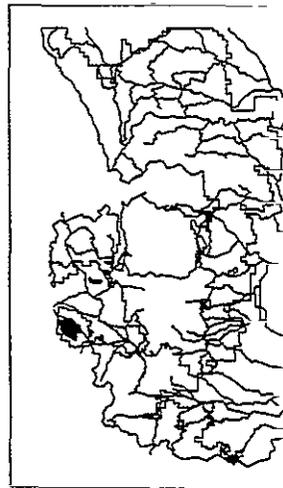
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	23,197	0
1 3	21,810	0	5,903	15,404	0	0
3 1	0	20,302	0	0	0	0
3 3	997	245	7,235	2,063	1,919	12,912
3 5	474	1,521	0	0	0	0
3 55	0	0	0	0	433	0
4 2	0	637	475	475	0	394
4 3	1,632	2,890	8,880	7,176	457	8,172
5 11	64	0	852	0	0	852
5 13	311	0	0	0	0	2,789
5 5	0	0	1,773	0	0	0
7 1	0	0	0	0	38	0
8 22	757	449	926	926	0	926
Total	26,045	26,044	26,044	26,044	26,044	26,045

Kelly Creek

8,194 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

8,194 ACRES
Grand County

KELLY CREEK

NOT RECOMMENDED
Sulphur Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Forest roads border the area. A primitive road accesses the interior. Private lands and ranches, BLM, State, and Forest lands surround this area. Moderately steep to gentle slopes, v-shaped valleys, rocky outcrops, and meadows characterize the area. Lodgepole pine dominates, with ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir at lower elevations. Willow and riparian areas are common. Old growth lodgepole is present (800 acres). Elevation ranges from 8,500-10,250 ft.	None	The area is scenic, supports diverse wildlife habitat, and has old growth.	5,936 acres of suitable timber for harvest is present, and several stands have been harvested in the past. Hunters are the primary users with some hiking and snowmobiling occurring. The potential for oil and gas is high. Black bear inhabit the large blocks of interior forest and elk use this area in the summer. The lower elevations are important for deer and elk winter range. There are two active grazing allotments in this RA.	The interior road is used by a rancher for livestock management, as well as by a few mountain bikers and snowmobilers. Aspen Lodge, an isolated cabin with motorized access, also detracts from the natural appearance in one area. The area is primarily a natural ecosystem supporting diverse wildlife habitat.	Opportunities for solitude occur because use is low except in hunting season. Livestock may also affect this opportunity.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available.	A relatively undisturbed ecosystem, diverse wildlife habitat, and opportunities for solitude would be maintained. Some old growth and lower elevation ecosystems would be added to the wilderness system.	Mineral development and timber harvest would be prohibited. Opportunities for mountain biking and snowmobiling would be lost.

RECOMMENDATION

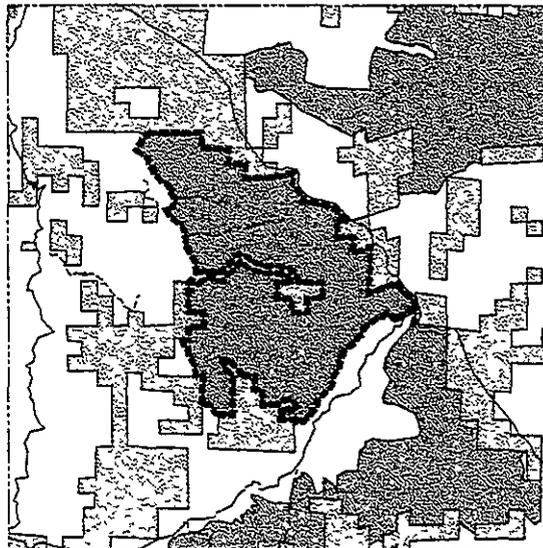
The area is not recommended for wilderness designation. The area will be managed primarily for backcountry nonmotorized recreation in 7,918 acres. Some wildlife habitat improvement with limited management is also emphasized on 277 acres.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR KELLY CREEK AREA

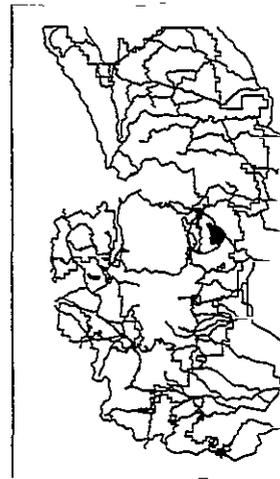
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	7,948	0
1 3	0	7,917	0	0	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	96	0
3 5	8,195	278	3,855	0	0	3,855
3 55	0	0	0	0	111	0
4 3	0	0	0	8,195	39	0
5 11	0	0	4,340	0	0	1,071
5 13	0	0	0	0	0	3,268
Total	8,195	8,195	8,195	8,195	8,194	8,194

Lion Gulch

6,576 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

6,576 ACRES
 Larimer County

LION GULCH

NOT RECOMMENDED
 Estes-Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is surrounded by private lands on three sides. The area has broad plateaus intersected by steep canyons. Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir are the main vegetation types with some lodgepole pine at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 6,800-9,290 ft.	One parcel of private property totaling 120 acres is present.	The primary attraction is the Homestead Meadows National Historic District and the old homesteads. There are a few scattered stands of old growth.	Deer and elk use the area year round. Wild turkey inhabit the area. Prescribed burning is needed to best manage habitat. Merchantable timber is present (5,165 acres). Hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and viewing historical structures are popular recreation activities.	The majority of the area is natural and free from human disturbance with the exception of the homestead area. Private property and roads on the boundaries detract from the natural appearance and opportunities for solitude.	Opportunities for solitude, serenity, and self reliance are available.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone; Other Considerations
The area is available for wilderness with the possible exception of the Historic District. Adjacent private property would make it difficult to manage as wilderness.	The area could provide representation of some plant series that are not represented in the National Wilderness Preservation System in Region 2 of the Forest Service. The low elevation recreation opportunities would be maintained.	5,165 acres would be removed from the category of lands suitable for harvest. Options for managing insect and disease and fire would be limited. Opportunities to improve wildlife habitat with vegetation management and prescribed fire would not be available.

RECOMMENDATION

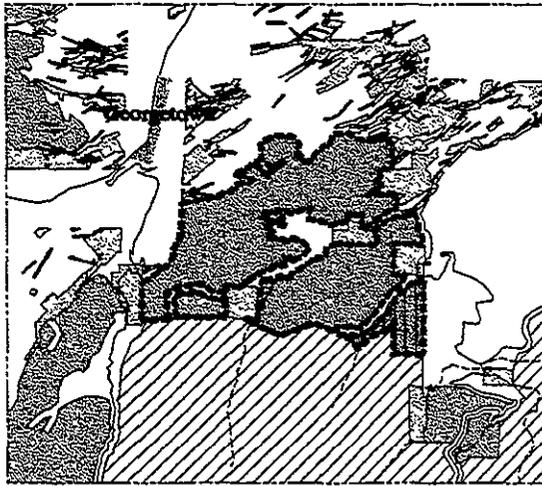
The area is not recommended for designation. The mix of intermingled private and public lands would make it difficult to manage as wilderness. Options to improve wildlife habitat would be limited. Protection of the homesteads would be more difficult. Mountain biking would be prohibited. The area is allocated as flora and fauna habitat-limited management, with the Historic District allocated as a special interest area for interpretation and recreation opportunities.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR LION GULCH AREA

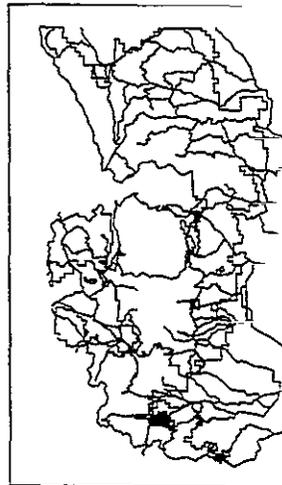
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 3	0	0	0	0	6,318	0
3 1	0	1,962	0	0	0	0
3 3	0	0	0	2,588	0	0
3 5	6,378	4,415	0	2,137	0	0
3 55	0	0	0	0	258	0
4 2	0	165	165	165	0	165
4 3	198	33	0	1,686	0	0
5 11	0	0	4,116	0	0	4,314
5 13	0	0	2,295	0	0	2,097
Total	6,576	6,575	6,576	6,576	6,576	6,576

Mt. Evans Adjacent Area Unit A

5,741 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

5,741 ACRES

MOUNT EVANS ADJACENT AREA

**RECOMMENDED AND
NOT RECOMMENDED**
Clear Creek Ranger District

Clear Creek County

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical/ Biological Description / Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
The area consists of three ridge peninsulas separated by road corridors. Elevation ranges from 9,300-11,568 ft. Spruce-fir occurs at higher elevations, with 140 acres of old growth. Lodgepole, ponderosa pine, and aspen occur at lower elevations, with 130 acres of old growth lodgepole.	None	West Chicago Creek, alpine settings, and the aspen and old growth stands.	5,543 acres of suitable lodgepole and spruce-fir occur, but poor accessibility limits harvesting. Trail hiking and hunting are the primary recreation uses, with the Hell's Hole trail receiving heavy use. The area has high-medium potential for locatable minerals. The area contains elk and bighorn sheep winter range and mountain goat summer range. Prescribed fire and selected felling of lodgepole pine are being used to improve habitat. There are no grazing allotments in the RA.	Most of the area appears natural, except for prescribed fire activities and primitive road development.	Opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation are limited to two ridges between the road corridors (1,500 acres).

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available.	The naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be maintained. The wilderness would be expanded.	The suitable lands for timber harvest would be lost. Mineral entry withdrawal would prohibit development. Wildlife habitat improvement would be more difficult.

RECOMMENDATION

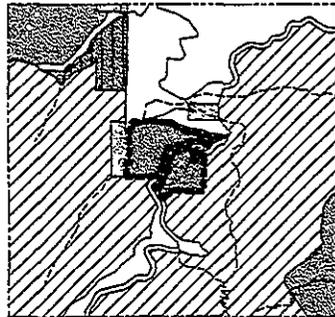
417 acres are recommended for wilderness designation, and would expand the Mt. Evans Wilderness. 5,324 acres are allocated to backcountry recreation primarily, with scenery and dispersed recreation emphasized in some areas. These allocations will maintain the natural processes and opportunities for solitude in most of the RA.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR MT EVANS ADJACENT AREA A

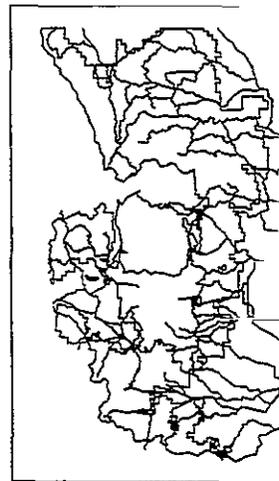
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 2	0	417	0	0	5,100	0
1 3	2,050	4,062	0	4,062	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	460	0
3 3	0	0	0	653	0	0
3 55	0	0	0	0	101	0
4 2	0	451	451	451	0	451
4 3	591	797	562	562	65	562
5 11	3,101	0	0	0	0	4,576
5 13	0	0	0	0	0	153
5 5	0	0	4,715	0	0	0
7 1	0	14	14	14	14	0
Total	5,742	5,741	5,742	5,742	5,740	5,742

Mt. Evans Adjacent Area Unit B

717 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

717 ACRES
Clear Creek County

MOUNT EVANS ADJACENT AREA B

NOT RECOMMENDED
Clear Creek Range District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is between the Idaho Springs Reservoir access road and the Mt Evans Scenic Byway, and includes the Mt Goliath Natural Area (bristlecone pine) It is adjacent to the wilderness. Elevation ranges from 10,400-11,800 ft. The area has rock cliffs and talus slopes, with some spruce-fir and bristlecone pine. Spruce-fir and bristlecone pine old growth amounts to 188 acres and 160 acres respectively.	None	Mt Goliath Natural Area, and herds of elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats	Steep access minimizes the potential for timber harvest (486 acres of suitable timber). Three developed trails receive moderate to heavy use for hiking and watching wildlife. Additional trails are possible. The area is summer and winter range for mountain goats, and summer range for bighorn sheep. No grazing allotments are present.	The areas within one half mile of the Byway corridor are impacted by heavy dispersed recreation use from the highway. The remainder of the area is natural appearing.	Little opportunities for solitude exist during the higher use summer season. Use during the rest of the year when the Byway is closed is minimal.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. The corridor along the Byway is heavily impacted during the summer by dispersed use.	The areas with natural appearance and opportunities for solitude would be maintained.	Interpretive opportunities for the Byway and Natural Area would be lost.

RECOMMENDATION

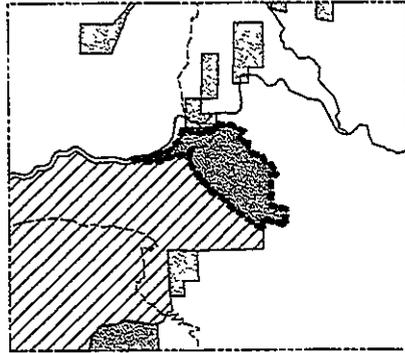
The management areas will emphasize scenery along the Byway, and protection and interpretation of the bristlecone pines in the area.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR MT EVANS ADJACENT AREA B

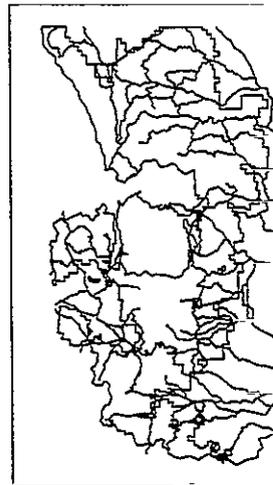
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	422	0
2 2	154	154	154	154	0	0
4 2	0	563	563	563	0	717
4 3	563	0	0	0	295	0
Total	717	717	717	717	717	717

Mt. Evans Adjacent Area Unit C

1,038 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

1,037 ACRES
Clear Creek County

MOUNT EVANS ADJACENT AREA C

NOT RECOMMENDED
Clear Creek Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The RA is at the northern edge of the wilderness Colorado Highway 103 is north of the area, and a closed evident four wheel drive road is to the east The area is a ridge from Mount Evans, with elevations of 9,400-11,709 ft Much of the area has spruce-fir, with 373 acres of old growth Mixed lodgepole pine and aspen occur at the lower elevations	None	Chief Mountain, 11,709 ft , is easily accessible and provides panoramic views	Poor access and steep slopes limit timber harvest potential (854 acres of suitable timber) The Chief Mountain trail receives moderate use, and some hiking and cross-country skiing occurs on the closed primitive road No grazing allotments are present	The area has retained a natural appearance.	Most of the area is influenced by the popular highway use and the Squaw Peak electronic site, visible from much of the RA, but the majority of the RA has opportunities

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

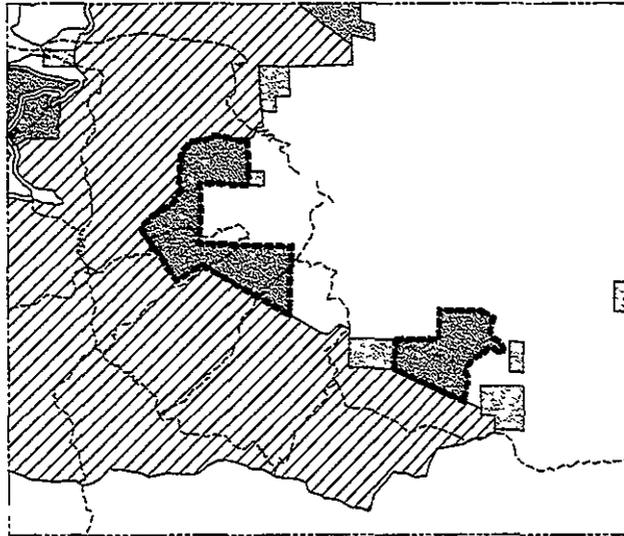
Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone; Other Considerations
The area is available The highway and the adjacent Squaw Peak electronic site detract from solitude in some parts of the area	Old growth, the natural appearance and the opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be preserved	Suitable timber would not be available Prescribed fire and thinning to maintain natural processes would be restricted

RECOMMENDATION

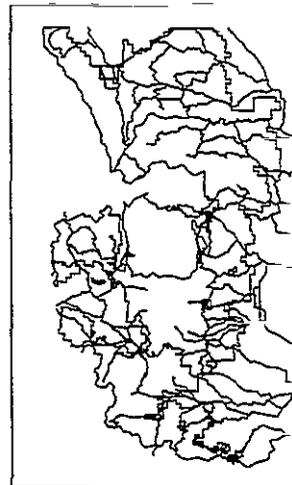
The RA will emphasize backcountry recreation, maintaining naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation without a recommendation for wilderness designation Scenic resources will be managed for the highway users adjacent to the RA

Mt. Evans Adjacent Area Unit D

2,787 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

2,787 ACRES
Clear Creek County

MOUNT EVANS ADJACENT AREA D

NOT RECOMMENDED
Clear Creek Range District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
Area has two blocks of private land east of the RA, with the wilderness to the west. Elevation ranges are 8,200-11,000 ft. The area is located on the steep rugged slopes of Mt Evans. Spruce-fir and lodgepole pine are the primary vegetation, with some aspen and ponderosa pine. Some spruce-fir and lodgepole old growth occurs (1000 acres). Area is adjacent to the CDOW Elk Management Area.	No inholdings	Scenic views, important elk winter ranges, old growth	Access to the RA is limited. Much of the area is suitable for harvest (2,425 acres), but no harvests have been completed. Trail corridors receive moderate to heavy use for hiking, with some horse and mountain bike use. Fishing is popular. Elk habitat could benefit from vegetation treatments such as small timber harvests. No grazing allotments are present.	The area has retained a natural appearance.	Half of the eastern block (969 acres) does not provide for these opportunities because of use on adjacent private land and road corridors. The western block (1,818 acres) has opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. The area could be managed due to the adjacent elk management area and wilderness. Limited access would aid enforcement and interpretation.	The western block would provide enhanced opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation with designation. Old growth would be permanently protected. Some lower elevation ecosystems would be added to the Wilderness System.	The suitable timber would not be available, wildlife habitat improvement using timber harvest would be prohibited, and the area would be withdrawn from mineral entry. Mountain biking opportunities would be lost.

RECOMMENDATION

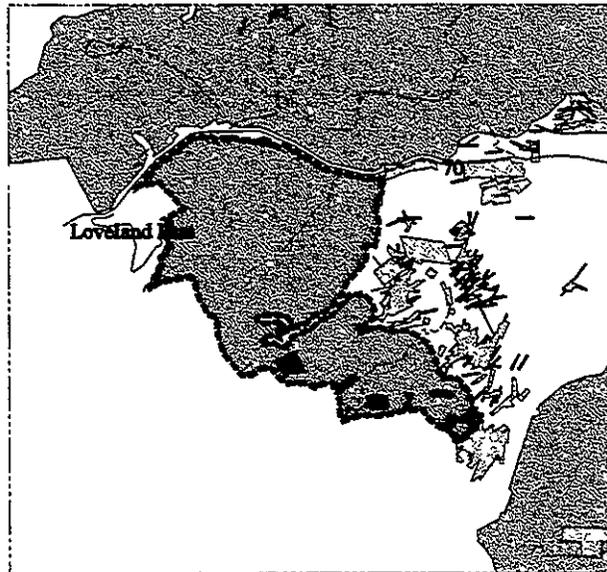
The area is not recommended for wilderness designation because wildlife habitat management will be more effective with timber harvests and prescribed fire, especially adjacent to the state elk management area, fire suppression and prescribed fire may be needed to protect adjacent private lands, and insect and disease control is possible. Backcountry recreation opportunities will also be maintained.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR MT EVANS ADJACENT AREA D

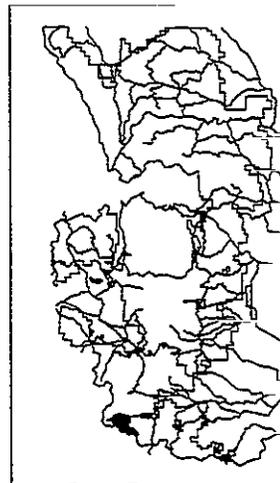
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	1,789	0
1 3	626	0	0	1,818	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	998	0
3 3	0	0	0	969	0	0
3 5	2,162	2,787	0	0	0	0
5 13	0	0	0	0	0	2,787
5 5	0	0	2,787	0	0	0
Total	2,788	2,787	2,787	2,787	2,787	2,787

Mt. Sniktau

8,317 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

8,317 ACRES
Clear Creek County

MOUNT SNIKTAU

**RECOMMEDED AND
NOT RECOMMENDED**
Clear Creek Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The RA lies south of I-70, east of the Loveland Ski Area, north of the Continental Divide, and west of Steven's Gulch Road. The RA has glacial cirques, rugged peaks and snowfields. 71% of the area is above timberline, with alpine meadows and scree. Spruce-fir with scattered lodgepole and aspen occur. 650 acres of spruce-fir and 420 acres of lodgepole are old growth. Elevation is 10,000'-14,270'.	46 acres of patented mining claims are inholdings.	Gray's and Torrey's Peaks are both 14,000' peaks, accessed by the heavily used Gray's Peak National Recreation Trail. Hikers also use the Continental Divide. The old growth stands are unique and the boreal toad occurs near I-70.	2,693 acres of tentatively suitable spruce-fir have no developed access. Previous sales are not evident. Nonmotorized recreation activities occur, with hiking being popular, especially on the 14'ers. Additional trails are possible, and a bike trail will be constructed along I-70. Mountain goats, Bighorn sheep and elk use the area. No livestock grazing occurs.	Approximately 2,600 acres are impacted by development, recreation use, and mining. Approximately 5,000 acres remain natural.	4,500 acres provide solitude and primitive recreation.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. The I-70 corridor, Loveland Ski Area, US Highway 6, and the National Recreation Trail impact opportunities for solitude on approximately 3,000 acres.	The 14'er access is heavily used, with few opportunities for solitude. Natural appearing area and opportunities for solitude in some parts of the RA would be preserved. Some Old-growth would be permanently protected.	The suitable timber would not be available. Existing mountain bike and snowmobiling opportunities would be lost. Mineral development would be prohibited by withdrawal.

RECOMMENDATION

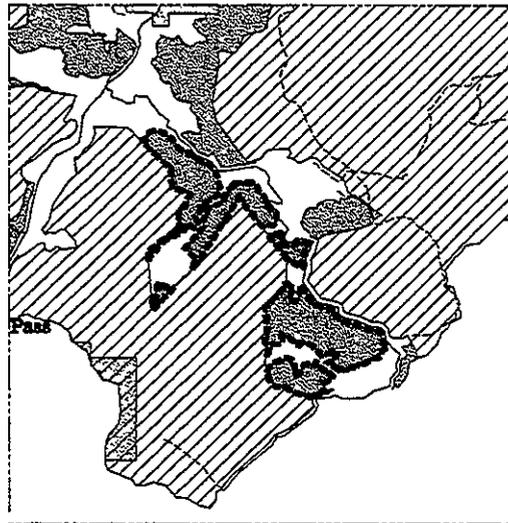
The area is not recommended for designation as wilderness. 5,124 acres have been allocated to backcountry recreation, 490 acres to a special interest area (the Gray's and Torrey's Peak Trail), 584 acres to allow for Loveland ski area expansion, and 2,119 acres for scenery and dispersed recreation. When the adjacent White River evaluates its roadless areas, the ARNF may reexamine the Mt. Sniktau RA. As more than 5,000 acres retains a roadless character, Congress can still designate the area as wilderness, if they choose to do so.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR MT. SNIKTAU AREA

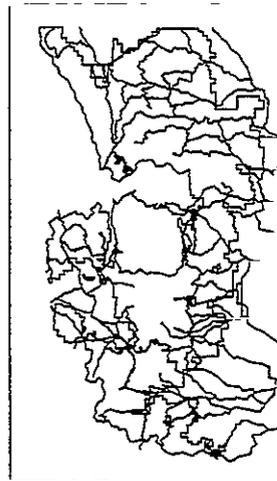
MA	Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	6,340	0
1 3	6,683	5,124	5,932	5,932	88	0
3 1	0	490	0	0	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	420	0
3 3	0	0	0	0	0	5,932
3 55	0	0	0	0	759	0
4 2	0	1,158	1,158	1,158	0	1,158
4 3	1,441	961	644	644	710	644
8 22	193	584	584	584	0	584
Total	8,317	8,317	8,318	8,318	8,317	8,318

Neota Adjacent Area

2,169 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

2,169 ACRES
Larimer County

NEOTA ADJACENT AREA

NOT RECOMMENDED
Redfeather Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Access to the four parcels is by the Long Draw Road. They are surrounded by the wilderness and National Forest. Trap Park is a narrow valley, while steep slopes are characteristic of the other parcels. The principal life zone is subalpine, with lodgepole pine and spruce-fir dominating. Elevation ranges from 10,000 to 10,900 ft.	None	The adjacent wilderness and scenery are the special features.	1,516 acres of suitable timber are present. 143 acres have been cut in the past, but for the most part is not evident. Hiking and mountain biking are popular in Trap Park. Fishing, hunting, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling also occur. The Long Draw Road is a popular dispersed recreation area. The RA is summer range for deer and elk. Moose and black bear are present. Boreal toads may be present. There is one inactive livestock grazing allotment in the area.	Portions of the area possess a natural appearance and have retained ecological integrity.	The adjacent Long Draw road detracts from solitude, but other areas provide opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The areas are available and manageable, although enforcement of mountain bike and snowmobile trespass would be difficult from along the heavily used Long Draw Road.	Solitude and nonmotorized and nonmechanized recreation opportunities would be retained. The natural ecosystem of the wilderness would be enlarged and preserved.	Motorized and mechanized recreation opportunities would be prohibited. The suitable timber could not be harvested.

RECOMMENDATION

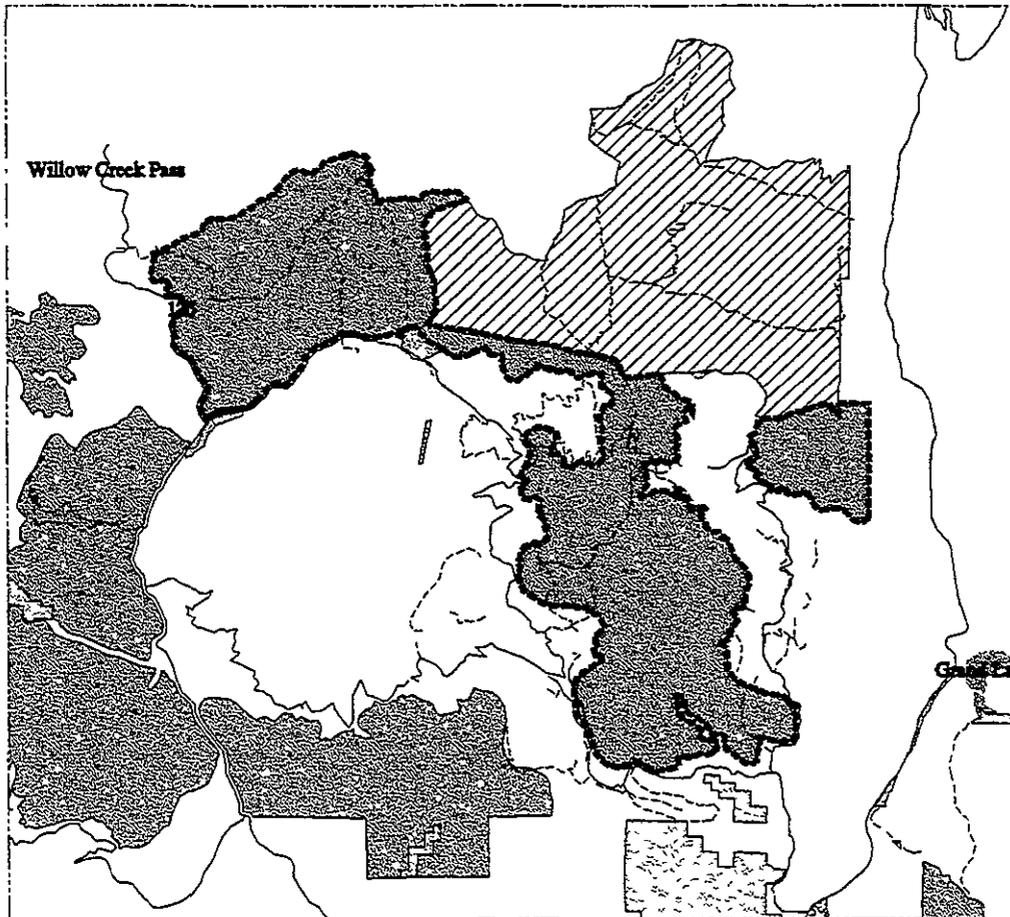
No parcels are recommended for designation to maintain motorized and mechanized recreation opportunities. Trespass from Long Draw Road would be difficult to manage. The Trap Park area will be managed as backcountry while other areas are managed for dispersed recreation.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR NEOTA ADJACENT AREA

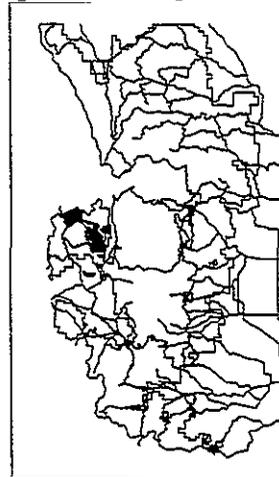
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	2,005	0
1 3	720	782	0	1,134	0	0
3 3	0	0	0	427	0	0
3 55	0	0	0	0	47	0
4 3	676	1,292	0	608	118	30
5 11	0	0	0	0	0	2,139
5 13	774	0	0	0	0	0
5 5	0	95	2,169	0	0	0
Total	2,170	2,169	2,169	2,169	2,170	2,169

Never Summer Adjacent Area

20,083 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

NEVER SUMMER ADJACENT AREA

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
Area adjacent to Rocky Mtn National Park, Never Summer Wilderness, and includes Congressionally designated Bowen Protection Area. Access is easy due to many foot, horse, and vehicle trails. The terrain varies from alpine peaks over the Continental Divide to broad timbered ridges and v-shaped valleys. Lodgepole pine, spruce-fir, alpine meadows and tundra exist. Elevation ranges from 9,000-12,700 ft. Moose, black bear, and bighorn sheep are present in the area.	None	The area has 3,292 acres of old growth. Much of the old growth and a wildlife security area is in the Bowen Protection Area. Rock dikes radiate from Radial Mountain.	10,116 acres are suitable for timber harvest, but 7,500 are protected in the 11,600 acre Bowen Protection Area. Summer recreation use includes hiking, camping, and fishing. Heavy motorized use occurs on old logging roads and several popular trails. The eastern portion receives heavy snowmobile use. An interpretive trail guides visitors in the Protection Area. The potential for oil and gas is high but the Bowen Protection Area is withdrawn. Two livestock grazing allotments present.	The majority of the eastern portion is in the Bowen Protection Area, and mountain bikes and snowmobile use is allowed. The narrow strip surrounding the protection area contains small harvested areas and motorized and mechanized trails, as does the western portion. The majority of the area is natural appearing.	The motorized and mechanized trails in the narrow strip and the western portion reduce the opportunities for solitude in that area. Opportunities exist in the core of the area, and in other areas if the motorized use is prohibited.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available, although Congress has allowed motorized use in the Bowen Protection Area. That use could be changed by Congress.	Naturalness and opportunities for solitude would be increased and maintained. The old growth, 3,292 acres, is mostly protected in the Bowen area, but additional areas would be preserved.	Mechanized and motorized recreation would be prohibited. Suitable timber would not be available. The RA would be withdrawn from mineral entry and leasing.

RECOMMENDATION

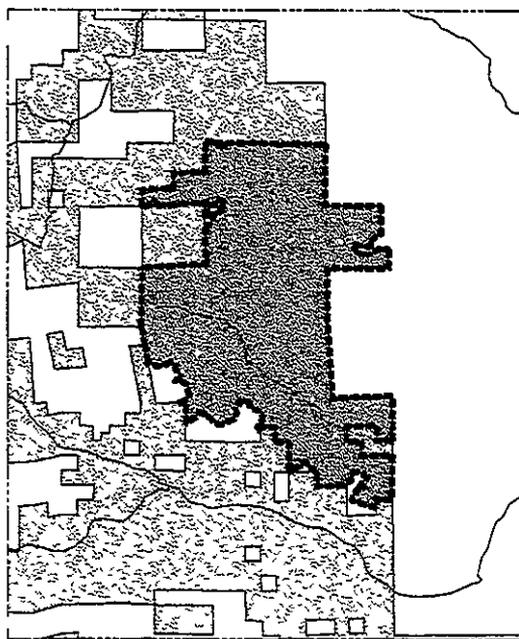
The RA is not recommended for designation. 8,613 acres, the Bowen Protection Area, will be managed as a special interest area. Mechanized and motorized recreation opportunities will be maintained in an additional 11,082 acres.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR NEVER SUMMER ADJACENT AREA

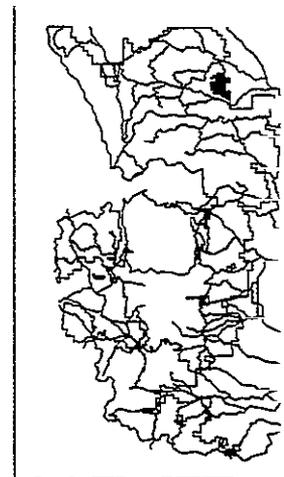
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	6,330	0
1 3	138	0	0	0	0	0
1 41	0	0	0	0	4,646	0
1 42	0	0	0	0	7,098	0
3 1	8,613	8,613	8,613	8,613	0	1,514
3 21	0	0	0	0	5	0
3 3	0	7,635	0	0	504	0
3 55	0	0	0	0	1,501	0
4 3	938	3,447	391	11,183	0	97
5 11	0	0	0	0	0	11,146
5 13	10,394	0	11,079	0	0	7,328
5 5	0	388	0	287	0	0
Total	20,083	20,083	20,083	20,083	20,084	20,085

North Lone Pine

9,469 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

9,469 ACRES
 Larimer County

NORTH LONE PINE

NOT RECOMMENDED
 Redfeather Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
The area is surrounded by private land on three sides. Access is provided by a four mile route across the State Lone Pine Wildlife Area. The RA has rock outcroppings, steep slopes, and shallow ponds. Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir are the main vegetation types with some lodgepole pine at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 6,500 to 8,050 ft.	3,840 acres of the RA have private mineral rights.	The primary attraction is the Lone Pine Creek Trail, which is used by mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians. Hunting is also a popular activity.	Some critical winter range for deer and elk is present. Other species such as black bear, mountain lion, and bighorn sheep inhabit the area. It is excellent habitat due to the inaccessibility of most of the area. Hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and mountain biking are popular. There is one active range allotment present. The northwest portion of the area has a high potential for minerals. 6,186 acres of suitable timber and a limited amount of salvage harvest is located in the southwestern portion of the RA.	The majority of the area is natural and free from human disturbance. An old road and old timber sales are visible. Private property and roads on the boundaries detract from the natural appearance and solitude.	Trespass motorized use from adjacent private property may limit opportunities for solitude.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

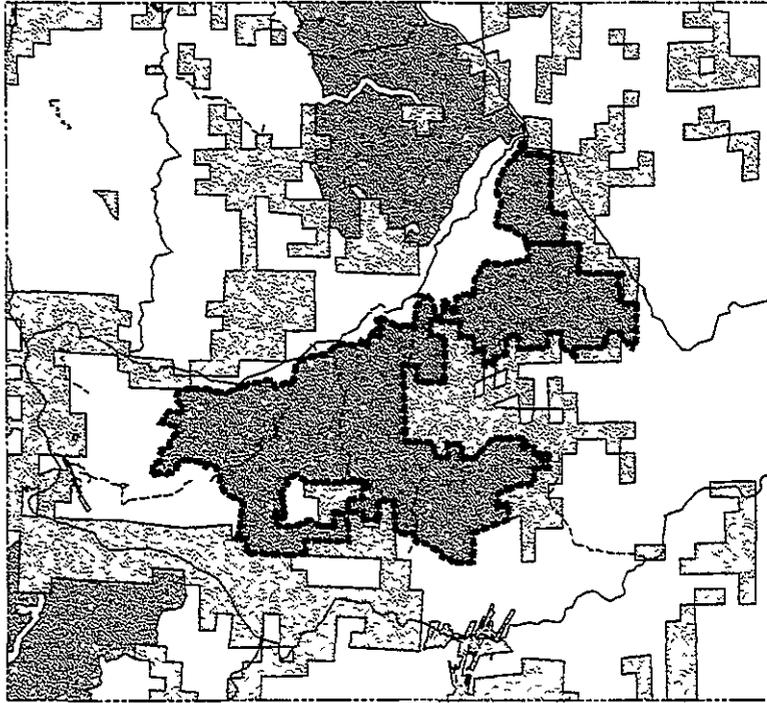
Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone; Other Considerations
The area is available for wilderness. Adjacent private property would make it difficult to manage as wilderness due to motorized trespass.	Solitude, natural ecological processes, and primitive recreation opportunities would be maintained. Lower elevation ecosystems would be added to the Wilderness System.	6,186 acres would be removed from suitable timber lands. Mountain biking would be prohibited. Options for managing disease, insects, and fire would be limited. Private mineral development cannot be prohibited.

RECOMMENDATION

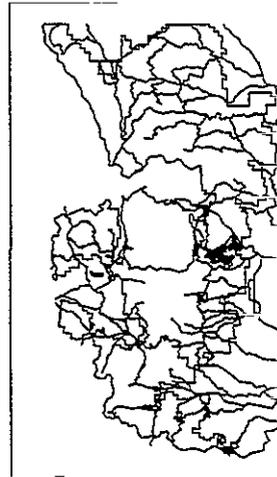
The area is not recommended for designation. The recommended management emphasis is backcountry non motorized recreation and the Lone Pine Research Natural Area. Natural low elevation ecosystems will be maintained with these allocations.

North St. Vrain

11,718 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

11,719 ACRES
Boulder County

NORTH SAINT VRAIN

NOT RECOMMENDED
Boulder Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude and Unconfined Recreation
This area is not adjacent to existing wilderness, and is accessible by two roads and seven trails. The area has adjacent undeveloped and developed private lands on all sides. The prominent feature of the area is the North St Vrain canyon. Elevations range from 5,800-9,134 feet. Coniferous and deciduous lower montane ecosystems occur, including cottonwood, lodgepole and ponderosa pine. Deer, elk and bighorn sheep use the area.	The area has at least 23 use restrictions and encumbrances. The most recent was a temporary mineral withdrawal for the North St Vrain Wild and Scenic River Study.	The North St Vrain watershed is one of the last free-flowing sections of river on the Front Range. It is recognized by the Colorado Division of Wildlife as a Wild Trout Water, and has opportunities for fishing, hiking, camping, and ecosystem studies.	A limited amount of vegetation management has occurred, some related to the recent mountain pine beetle epidemic. Although the area has 8,632 acres of suitable timber, the extreme topography limits access. Fishing and hiking are the primary recreation activities. Mineral potential is low. One grazing allotment is active. Assorted water rights exist. Three outfitter guides are permitted.	The majority of the area is very natural. Exceptions include the old Sheep Mountain Ranch and road and other roads that are closed to vehicle access.	The difficult travel in and access to the canyon provide quality opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation. The area is capable of designation.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available.	The area would provide opportunities for solitude, primitive unconfined recreation and challenges due to the limited access. Natural processes would continue. The North St Vrain would be protected from development. Lower elevation ecosystems would be added to the Wilderness System.	Timber harvest would not be greatly affected as access is limited. Recreation use might increase with designation, wildlife habitat improvement could be limited. Fire management would be more difficult, as would be insect and disease control. Designation would create a downstream wilderness which could preclude development of existing water rights above the area.

RECOMMENDATION

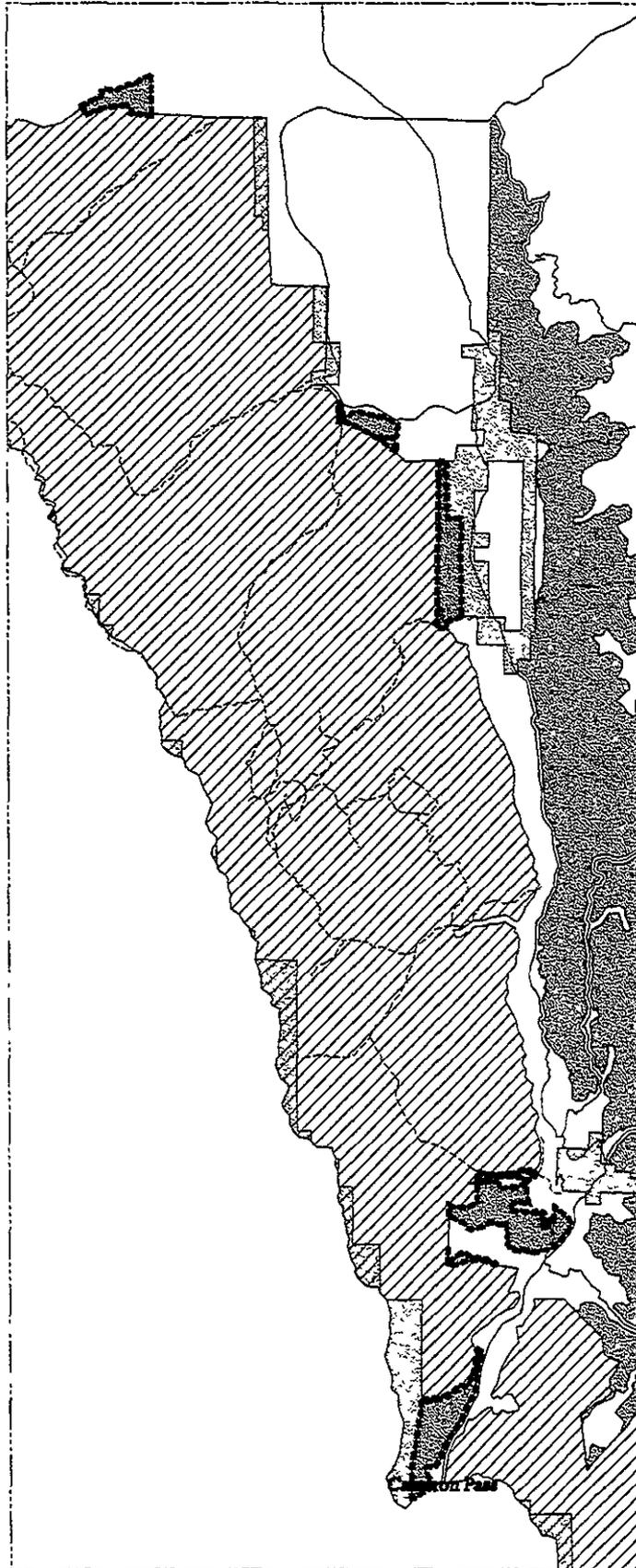
The area is not recommended for designation due to the recommendations of an advisory committee formed by Congressman David Skaggs. Participating groups and individuals reached consensus in 1993 that stated the area should remain as is and legislation should be passed prohibiting dams and reservoirs on the main stem of the river. This legislation has been passed and signed into law. *Alternative B* recommends managing the area using a combination of Management Area Prescriptions including 2.2 (Research Natural Areas), 3.5 (Forested Flora and Fauna), and 1.41 (Core Area Ecosystems). We believe natural ecosystems and processes can be maintained using these allocations.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR NORTH ST. VRAIN AREA

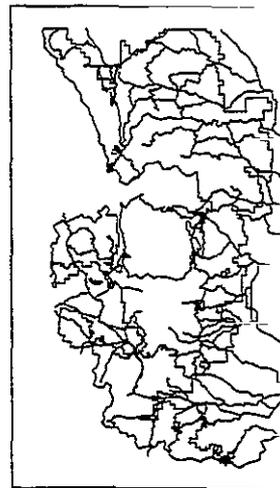
MA	Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	11,312	0
1 3	1,817	0	6,743	798	0	0
1 41	0	2,461	0	0	0	0
1 5	0	0	0	6,370	0	0
2 2	0	4,213	0	0	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	395	0
3 3	0	0	0	0	0	6,743
3 5	9,474	5,018	4,514	3,794	0	4,514
3 55	0	0	0	0	12	0
4 22	0	12	12	12	0	12
4 3	362	15	62	745	0	62
5 11	65	0	388	0	0	0
5 13	0	0	0	0	0	388
Total	11,718	11,719	11,719	11,719	11,719	11,719

Rawah Adjacent Area

2,780 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

2,780 ACRES
 Larimer County

RAWAH ADJACENT AREA

NOT RECOMMENDED
 Redfeather Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
Private, state, and national forest surrounds these seven parcels. Moderate to steep slopes and ridges primarily contain spruce-fir with some lodgepole. The elevation ranges from 8,200 - 11,170 ft.	None	Scenery and proximity to the existing Rawah Wilderness are the special features.	2,300 acres of suitable timber are present, but access is difficult in the southern unit. Horse riding, hiking, and cross country skiing occur. Moose, deer, and elk use the area year round. There are two active grazing allotments in the RA.	The area has maintained its natural appearance.	The area does offer some opportunities for solitude away from Colorado Hwy 14. Challenge would be high because of a lack of trails.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available for wilderness. Monitoring and law enforcement would be required to prevent motorized trespass.	Solitude and nonmotorized and nonmechanized recreation opportunities would be retained. The natural ecosystem of the wilderness would be enlarged.	The area would no longer be available for timber harvest. 2,300 acres would be removed from the suitable lands base. Designation would restrict options for preventing and controlling wildfires and insect and disease.

RECOMMENDATION

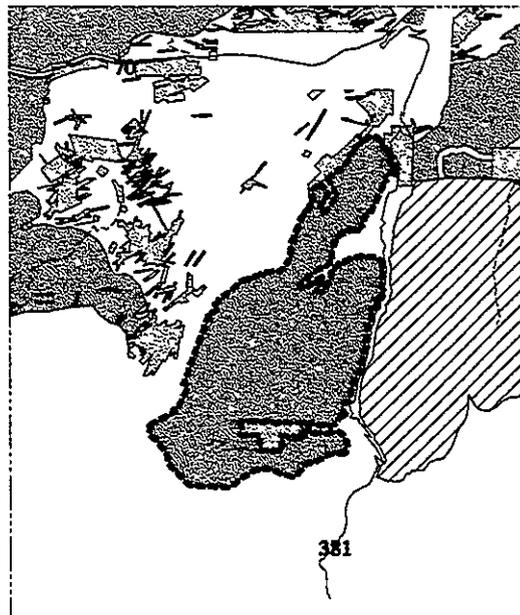
No areas are recommended for designation. Opportunities for dispersed recreation, backcountry recreation, wildlife habitat improvement, and forest products are maintained.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR RAWAH ADJACENT AREA

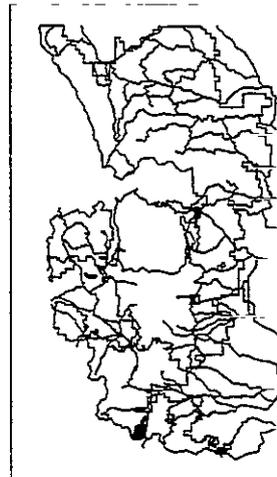
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	2,624	0
1 3	1,144	490	0	214	0	0
3 3	0	0	0	890	0	0
3 5	0	754	754	0	0	531
3 55	0	0	0	0	57	0
4 3	1,077	978	0	1,384	99	140
5 11	291	0	0	0	0	1,887
5 13	268	0	291	0	0	222
5 5	0	560	1,735	291	0	0
Total	2,780	2,782	2,780	2,779	2,780	2,780

Square Top Mtn.

6,444 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

6,444 ACRES
Clear Creek County

SQUARE TOP MOUNTAIN

NOT RECOMMENDED
Clear Creek Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical/Biological Description & Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
The area is bounded on the east by Guanella Pass road, on the south by the Pike and White River National Forests, on the west by the Argentine power line, and on the north by Upper Cabin Creek Reservoir. Three trails access the area. A ridge with four high peaks to 13,794 ft dominate the RA. Alpine meadows and steep talus slopes, tundra are present. Spruce-fir is the dominant vegetation with 1,396 acres of old growth.	Silver Dollar and Murray Reservoirs are in the RA.	Square Top Mountain, 13,794 ft, in an expansive alpine setting. Mountain goats and bighorn sheep inhabit the area.	1,023 acres of suitable timber are present. No timber harvest has occurred due to the high altitude and low accessibility. Some hiking, hunting, snowmobiling, and fishing occur. Additional trails could be added. Developed sites are possible on the Guanella Pass road, a scenic byway. No grazing allotments are present.	Due to the lack of access, the southern and central areas (approximately 6,000 acres) are natural appearing.	Approximately 3,400 acres of the southern and central area provides opportunities for solitude.

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available. The corridor on the Guanella Pass Scenic Byway provides less opportunities for solitude.	Old growth, opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, and existing ecosystems would be preserved.	The suitable timber would not be available - however, access is difficult. Snowmobiling opportunities would be lost. Developed recreation sites would be limited on the Byway.

RECOMMENDATION

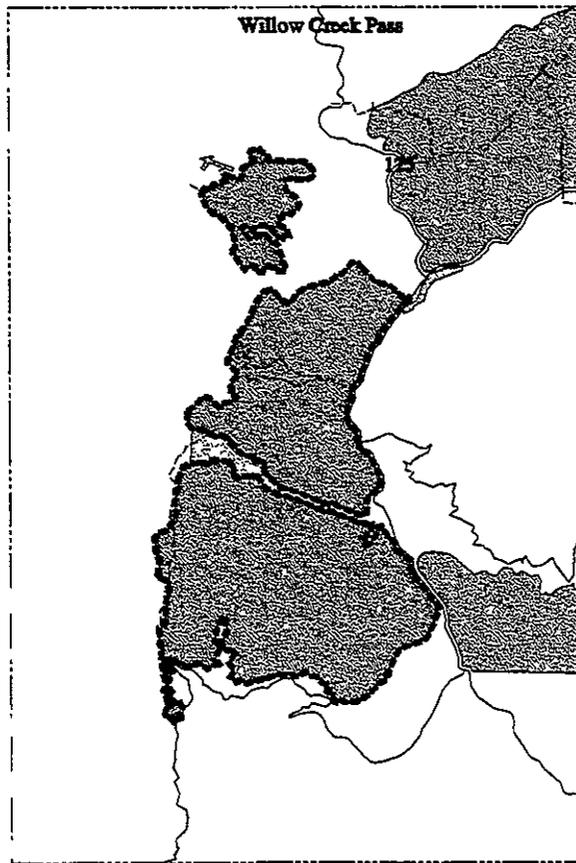
The area is not recommended for wilderness designation. 4,984 acres are managed for nonmotorized backcountry recreation, and 1,460 acres for scenery and recreation opportunities adjacent to the Scenic Byway. When the adjacent White River and Pike-San Isabel NF's evaluate their RAs, the ARNF may reexamine these areas. As more than 5,000 acres retain a roadless character, Congress can still designate the area as wilderness, if they choose to do so.

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR SQUARE TOP MOUNTAIN AREA

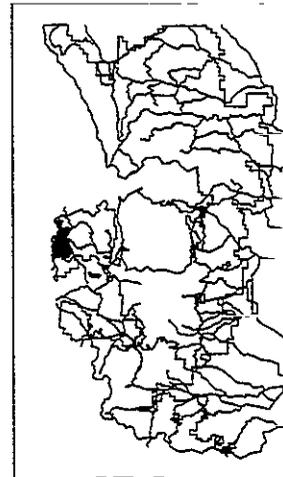
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	5,929	0
1 3	5,929	4,984	4,984	4,984	0	0
3 3	0	0	0	0	0	4,984
3 55	0	0	0	0	16	0
4 2	0	1,313	1,313	1,313	0	1,313
4 3	514	147	129	147	499	129
5 13	0	0	0	0	0	18
5 5	0	0	18	0	0	0
Total	6,443	6,444	6,444	6,444	6,444	6,444

Troublesome

13,832 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

13,833 ACRES
Grand County

TROUBLESOME

NOT RECOMMENDED
Sulphur Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description & Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
The majority of the RA is on the adjacent Routt National Forest (46,884 acres) The area on the AR is between the Routt Forest and Colorado Hwy 125 Access is provided by several roads Moderately steep slopes are dissected by narrow stream bottoms and large meadows, with common rock outcrops Lodgepole pine and aspen are at lower elevations while spruce-fir occurs at higher elevations Elevation ranges from 8,800-13,000 ft	None	The area provides an intact montane ecosystem with some lodgepole old growth Scenic vistas are present	11,701 acres of suitable timber are present, but access is limited Two motorized trails provide hiking and mountain biking opportunities The Mulstay Road is a very popular motorized ORV route Snowmobiling is also very popular The potential for oil and gas is high The area is summer range for deer and elk Black bear also inhabit the area There is one active grazing allotment in the area	The natural integrity of the area is intact	Opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation are present

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available for designation The limited access provides manageability, although snowmobile trespass may be an issue	The area has opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation in a natural appearing area If designated, designation would permanently protect a montane ecosystem	Timber harvest would be prohibited Mechanized and motorized recreation opportunities would be lost The area would be withdrawn from mineral development

RECOMMENDATION

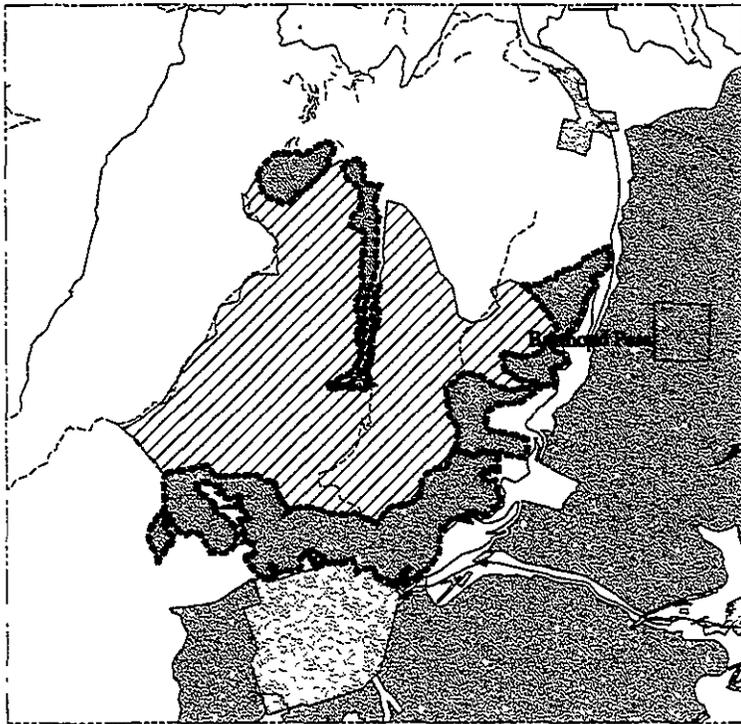
If the larger parcels of the RA on the Routt NF were recommended for wilderness designation, the parcel on the ARNF would have been also The management emphasis for the AR is backcountry recreation for 11,500 acres, 1,866 acres for motorized backcountry and dispersed recreation, and 463 acres for forest products The roadless character is maintained on 83% of the RA

MANAGEMENT AREA ALLOCATIONS FOR TROUBLESOME AREA

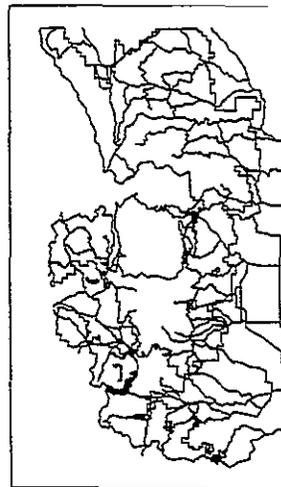
MA	Acres In Each Alternative					
	A	B	C	E	H	I
1 2	0	0	0	0	12,129	0
1 3	247	11,506	0	0	0	0
3 21	0	0	0	0	1,328	0
3 3	0	1,455	0	11,259	70	0
4 3	2,385	411	411	2,310	284	411
5 11	0	197	0	0	23	2,018
5 13	11,203	266	13,424	0	0	11,406
5 5	0	0	0	266	0	0
Total	13,835	13,835	13,835	13,835	13,834	13,835

Vasquez Adjacent Area

6,133 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

6,133 ACRES

Grand and Clear Creek Counties

VASQUEZ ADJACENT AREA

NOT RECOMMENDED

Clear Creek and Sulphur Ranger Districts

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical/Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
The area is a corridor between the Vasquez Wilderness (1993 designation), Winter Park Ski Resort, US Highway 40, Berthoud Pass, the operating Henderson Mine, Jones Pass Road, and the Fraser Experimental Forest High peaks, steep slopes, broad valleys, and small lakes are present 70% of the area is alpine meadow. Spruce-fir stands occur Elevation ranges from 9,800-12,900 ft	16 acres of private inholdings are in the area	The alpine area offers panoramic views, 717 acres of spruce-fir old growth, access to the wilderness, and backcountry bowl skiing	1,512 acres of timber are suitable for harvest, but access is difficult Dispersed recreation occurs, including hiking, crosscountry skiing, mountain biking, and snowmobiling The rugged terrain limits additional recreation development The Henderson Mine is a large scale development for molybdenum, and the area has a medium potential for locatable minerals No grazing allotments are in the RA Moose, bighorn sheep, elk, and deer use the area in the summer	The natural integrity and appearance are intact adjacent to the wilderness boundary	Opportunity for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation are diminished by the highway and road corridor, the Henderson mine, and the ski areas Sounds of traffic and other development intrude along the corridors Areas near the wilderness boundary provide opportunities

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

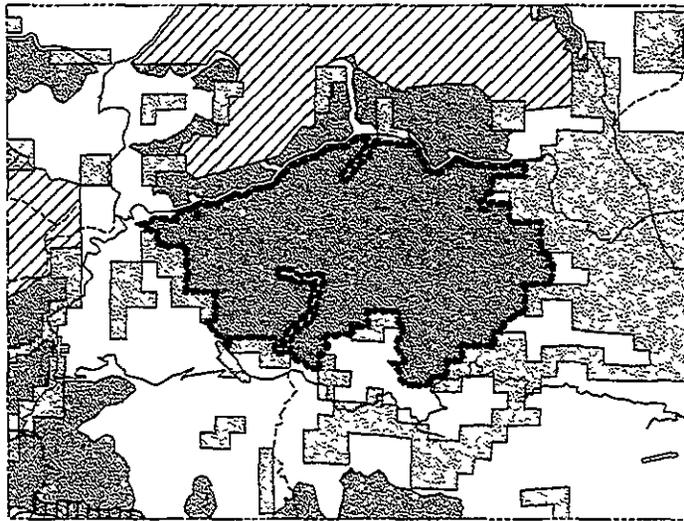
Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
The area is available Some trespass is likely from roads and development adjacent to the RA Opportunities for solitude are diminished in the corridors	Old growth, opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, and natural appearing areas would be preserved	Mineral development would be prohibited Suitable lands for timber would not be available Mechanized and motorized recreation opportunities would be lost

RECOMMENDATION

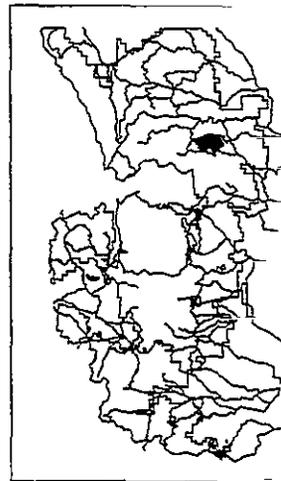
The area is not recommended for wilderness Opportunities for solitude are diminished due to adjacent development However, the roadless character is maintained as the management emphasis is primarily backcountry nonmotorized and dispersed recreation Potential acreage for ski area expansion is also allocated

White Pine Mtn.

10,208 NFS Acres



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000
0 1
Miles



Legend

-  Roadless Area
-  Designated Wilderness
-  Recommended for Wilderness
-  Not National Forest System Lands
-  This Roadless Area
-  Roads
-  Trails

10,209 ACRES
Lairimer County

WHITE PINE

NOT RECOMMENDED
Estes-Poudre Ranger District

WILDERNESS CAPABILITY

Physical and Biological Description and Surroundings	Nonfederal Interests	Special Features	Resource Uses	Natural Appearance and Integrity	Opportunities for Solitude & Unconfined Recreation
The area has steep slopes Tree cover is dense especially on north slopes with Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine dominating Lodgepole pine and spruce-fir occur at higher elevations 721 acres of lodgepole pine and spruce-fir old growth are present Elevations are 6,400'-10,380'	No inholdings	West White Pine Mountain is a former fire lookout and the four-wheel drive road to it receives heavy use	The area has significant opportunities for timber yields (9,750 suitable acres) There has been timber harvest in this area Deer and elk use the winter and summer range and could benefit from some vegetation treatments such as prescribed fire Area gets little recreation use except for the West White Pine Road Livestock allotments are in the area	There are some closed four-wheel drive roads but it is ecologically intact and natural processes dominate	There are opportunities for solitude, challenging experiences, and primitive recreation

WILDERNESS EVALUATION

Wilderness Availability and Manageability	Wilderness Values Maintained or Enhanced	Resources Forgone, Other Considerations
This area is available Private property adjacent to the area would make the boundary difficult to manage for trespass	Opportunities for solitude, serenity, and a sense of self-reliance would be maintained It will continue to offer opportunities for hiking and hunting The area is important for big game migration The area has a good representation of low elevation backcountry that is largely unspoiled Natural processes and old growth would be preserved.	Controls of insect, disease and fire would be limited Timber harvest and prescribed fire for elk and deer habitat improvement would be prohibited. There would be no motorized use

RECOMMENDATION

The area is not recommended for wilderness to maintain flexibility for improving wildlife habitat and fuels reduction by prescribed fire and vegetation management The area may be proposed as an area to displace and move elk from the Estes Park area

