

## **Fishlake OHV Route Designation Project Final Specialist Report/Undeveloped Character**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

This specialist report examines the potential effects of the proposed Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Route Designation Project to undeveloped (roadless) character on the Fishlake National Forest.

The Forest Service is concerned about short and long term effects associated with this management activity; particularly those which may adversely impact any potential wilderness characteristics associated with undeveloped areas.

Effects occurring in undeveloped areas related to wildlife, soils, water, biological diversity, cultural resources, etc. can be reviewed in the appropriate sections of the Environmental Impact Statement. These sections indicate that the above resources would generally be maintained or improved through each of the proposed actions.

This issue involves the effects of existing road authorizations and related human activities (primarily motorized travel) on the character of undeveloped areas presently being determined during the Fishlake National Forest's plan revision. This issue is important to many people who may want these identified areas kept unaltered by human activity or recommended for wilderness in the future. It is equally important to others who want these same areas developed and made more accessible using motorized vehicles.

Unmanaged recreation is one of the four threats to the National Forest System as described by its present Chief Dale Bosworth. As he stated, "...the issue is this: Back when we had light recreational use, we did not need to manage it; but now that it's heavier, we do. OHVs are a great way to experience the outdoors, and only a tiny fraction of the users leave lasting traces by going cross-country. But the number of people who own OHVs has exploded in recent years. In 2000, it reached almost 36 million. Even a tiny percentage of impact from all those millions of users is still a lot of impact. Each year, we get hundreds of miles of what we euphemistically refer to as "unplanned roads and trails."

On the Fishlake National Forest as a whole, OHV use has greatly increased in recent years (Reid 2005). There is a noticeable corresponding increase in encroachment by

unrestricted use into more primitive areas of the forest. This proposed Off Highway Vehicle Route Designation Project is focused towards addressing this trend.

### **EXISTING CONDITION/RELEVANT FOREST PLAN DIRECTION**

The term “undeveloped area” refers to an area usually of at least 5,000 acres, without developed and maintained roads, and substantially natural that was initially inventoried as part of either the National Roadless Area Review Evaluation (RARE II) process or the Land and Resource Management Planning Process (36 CFR 219.17(a)(1)).

The Utah (1984) Wilderness Act released National Forest System lands within the Fishlake National Forest to other multiple use management until the next planning cycle. At the end of this period, and during forest plan revision (presently under way), this inventory of roadless or undeveloped areas and the need for additional wilderness is again being evaluated using the updated Roadless Area Inventory and Evaluation Protocol for Region 4 of the Forest Service.

This specialist report does not evaluate wilderness suitability (36 CFR 219.17(a)(2)) of the inventoried roadless areas or the subsequent undeveloped areas being determined during the present plan revision process. It addresses potential effects to wilderness character for undeveloped areas from proposed changes outlined in alternatives for the route designation project.

The existing Fishlake Land and Resource Management Plan (1986) does not provide desired conditions, goals, or standards and guidelines to specifically address or maintain roadless or undeveloped character. However, some of the lands initially inventoried as roadless during the RARE II process were allocated in way coincident to generally maintaining potential wilderness characteristics, i.e., Research Natural Areas, critical wildlife winter range or habitat, and semi-primitive non-motorized areas. Other lands also inventoried earlier as roadless have been managed in ways that allowed road construction and other development such as timber harvest. The most recent inventory of undeveloped areas used in the analysis for this project incorporating the updated Region 4 Roadless Area Inventory and Evaluation Protocol contains approximately 30 percent more total acres than that determined during RARE II.

Overall, people and their associated activities have affected or influenced much of the project area. Particularly outside of the undeveloped area boundaries it is difficult to find areas of land that have not been impacted based on the measures described in this section. Generally, undeveloped character is largely the sense of remoteness and isolation a person may feel by the absence of people and their associated activities. Indicators of this condition are demonstrated by the presence or absence of motorized network densities (roads and trails), past and current harvest activities, improvements associated with cattle and sheep allotments and their use, and developed and dispersed recreation sites.

Presently there are 2,526 total miles of motorized roads and 1,014 miles of motorized trails distributed across the project area. There are 49 total miles of existing motorized roads and 482 miles of motorized trails contained within associated undeveloped areas. Additionally, relative to motorized use, a total of 502,386 acres or 54 percent of the undeveloped areas in the project area is presently open to cross-country motorized travel.

Forest Roads typically have a 14 foot wide driving surface with an additional 4 feet of clearing of vegetation on each side of the roadway (cut and fill slopes are often associated with these roads). Motorized trails are generally less than 5 feet in width, and minor cut and fill slopes may be associated with them.

Past and present timber sales are located in portions of the project area, however, no evidence (to the casual visitor) of timber sales exist or are currently planned in the designated undeveloped areas as determined during the undeveloped area evaluation conducted as part of forest the present plan revision.

Although located within the area of the route designation project, there are no developed recreation sites within designated undeveloped areas. These developed areas are highly used from approximately July 1 through October. Dispersed recreation sites serving a variety of uses exist throughout the project area, with higher concentrations near water and along access routes. The limited winter recreational use of these areas is primarily snowmobiling.

There are numerous livestock grazing allotments contained in the project area. These allotments encompass the entire forest except for a portion of the northwest face of Monroe Mountain within the Signal Peak Undeveloped Area. As also determined during the undeveloped area evaluation, major improvements are primarily limited to areas outside the undeveloped areas. However there are troughs, fences, water ponds, etc., located within these areas.

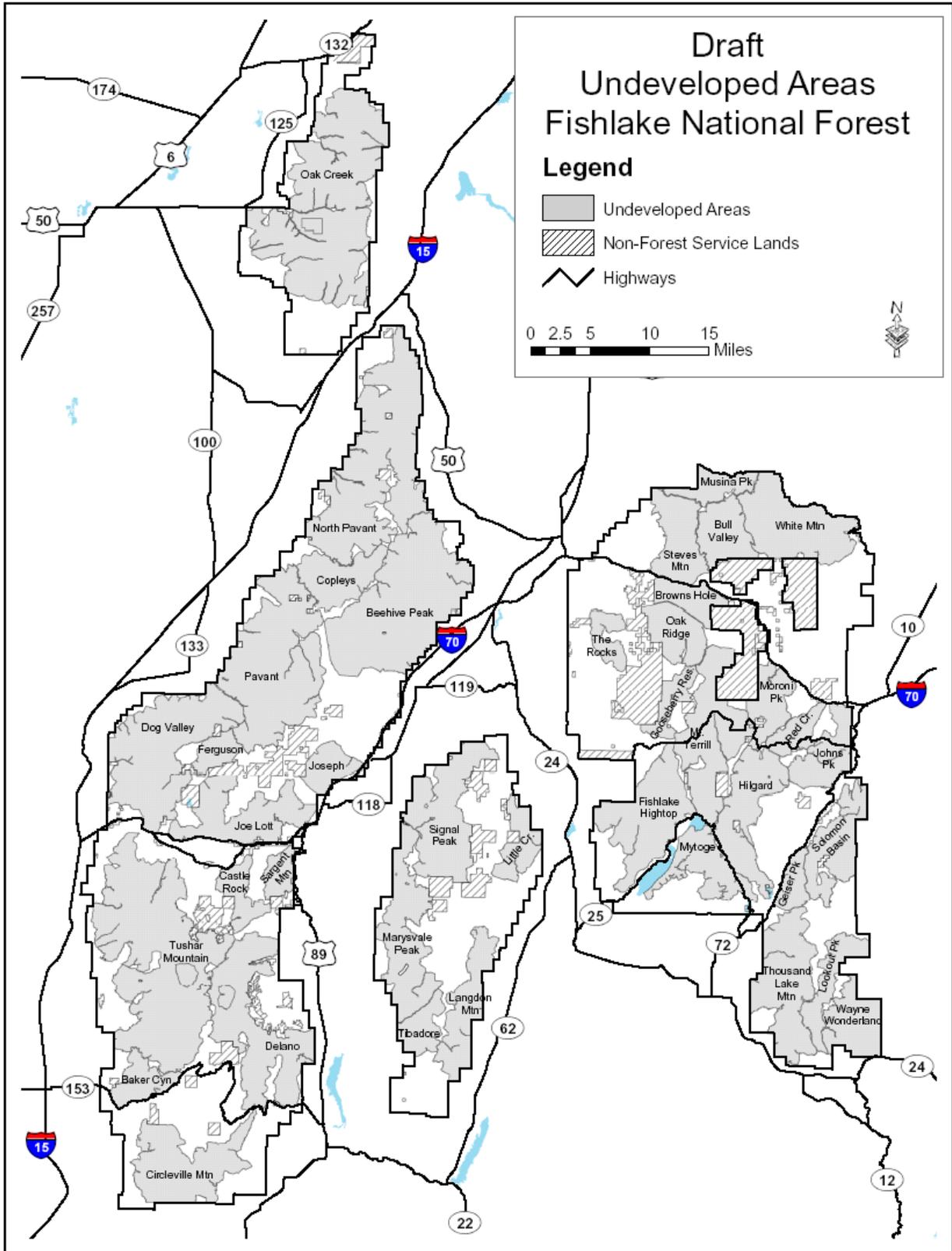
The following map illustrates the location of the undeveloped areas associated with the Fishlake OHV Route Designation Project.

# Draft Undeveloped Areas Fishlake National Forest

## Legend

- Undeveloped Areas
- Non-Forest Service Lands
- Highways

0 2.5 5 10 15  
Miles



The key elements established to disclose and compare effects to undeveloped character are miles of newly authorized road and a narrative description of potential changes in the wilderness characteristics of manageability, natural integrity, natural appearance, opportunities for solitude, opportunities for primitive recreation or challenging experiences, special features, and remoteness. The degree to which each undeveloped area achieves each of these characteristics portrays the area's condition. Previous studies used to prepare the affected environment include the Fishlake National Forest Roadless Area Evaluation or Appendix C completed in 1986, and the more recent Undeveloped Area Evaluation conducted by the Fishlake and Dixie National Forests plan revision team in 2004.

The following existing condition descriptions display the results of these two evaluations, which outline the present quantitative and qualitative attributes for the undeveloped areas potentially affected by authorizing roads if an action alternative for this project is implemented. The potential wilderness characteristics listed above are used as comparison elements.

### BEEHIVE PEAK

Undeveloped Area Name:	Beehive Peak	Number of Acres in 1983 Appendix C:	56,572
1983 Appendix C Name(s):	Beehive Peak	Number of acres in 2004 inventory:	61,221
1983 Roadless Area Number:	08-317	District:	Fillmore
2004 Area Number:	0408106		

### **Section 1. - Description of the Area**

The Beehive Peak undeveloped area on the Fillmore Ranger District lies several miles northwest of Richfield, Utah. It is situated on the east slope of the Pahvant Range of mountains. Elevations range from 9,018 feet on Beehive Peak to about 5,500 feet at the mouths of the east flowing canyons. Topography varies from open meadows and rounded ridges to sharp peaks, deep canyons, and steep cliffs.

The main access to the unit is provided by a system of Forest Roads that extend from Richfield on the south, number 096, to Willow Creek at the north, number 102. Forest Road (number 096) provides access along most of the western edge. Several county roads extend along the forest boundary on the east side. There are cherry-stemmed roads and ATV use (south 1/3) within the area.

The unit is dissected with steep canyons cut into sedimentary formations of sandstone, shale and limestone. The erosion patterns in the north half of the unit create interesting features such as Beehive Peak and Strawberry Canyon.

Vegetation is dominated by Pinyon-Juniper, white fir, Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, aspen, limber pine, sage and grasslands.

There are no developed recreation sites. The recreational uses in the area include horseback riding, OHV, hiking, and hunting in the fall.

The wildlife species in the unit are not unusual for the habitat type. Some sightings of cougars and bald eagles in winter months are not unusual. The unit is not considered critical habitat for these species.

Pinyon Ips beetle was mapped in 2003 flight. There are beetle infestations in the white fir stands.

**Section 2. - Capability:**

Manageability - Mitigation by boundary change	Medium	Bounded on East by agency boundary, but also steep slopes. On the West is a Level 2 FS road at approximately Pahvant ridgeline. A few cherry-stemmed and motorized access routes.
Natural Integrity (ecosystem function):	High	Dry, rocky, sparse vegetation especially middle section.
Natural Appearance:	High	Most areas very remote and natural appearing; steep ATV tracks on SE edge are visible from I-70.
Opportunities for Solitude:	High	Large areas with little access. Steep, deep canyons.
Opportunities for Primitive Recreation/Challenging Experiences:	High	Hiking, hunting, horseback riding. Steep country provides much challenge.
Special Features: - Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive Species and other Wildlife - Historical and Scientific Study	Yes	Beehive Peak is a landmark. South Cedar Ridge Creek Canyon is very scenic.

**Section 3. - Availability**

Dispersed recreational activities such as hiking, horseback riding, OHV, and hunting are the major recreational uses.

The area is summer range for the deer and elk herds with some limited winter range areas. There are no fish in the area.

The area is an important watershed for the Richfield area for both culinary and irrigation water. Floods originating in the area have caused damage to the communities in the Sevier Valley.

There are no known significant archeological sites within the area.

Fire occurrence in the area is low because of the sparse vegetation on the lower slopes and more moist conditions at the higher slopes. Insect and disease potential is moderate.

There are small stands of timber at the head of most canyons. This volume is not included in the suitable acres for the forest timber program.

**Section 4. - Need**

Nearby Wilderness and their use:	Approx. 68 air miles to Nebo Wilderness Area.
Distance from Population Centers:	Approx. 88 air miles to Provo, Utah.

HILGARD

Undeveloped Area Name:	Hilgard	Number of Acres in 1983 Appendix C:	29,661
1983 Appendix C Name(s):	Hilgard	Number of acres in 2004 inventory:	24,843
1983 Roadless Area Number:	08-305	District:	Loa
2004 Area Number:	0408204		

**Section 1. - Description of the Area**

The Hilgard undeveloped area is located in the northern portion of the Fremont River Ranger District, Fishlake National Forest. Access is provided by Sevier County road 036 and the Fremont River road. Elevations range from 11,533 feet on Hilgard Mountain at the north end to about 8,000 feet at the south. The area is underlain by volcanic rock sculptured by glacial ice.

Vegetation of the area includes Pinyon juniper, Spruce / fir, and Douglas fir.

Livestock grazes the entire area. Dispersed recreation use is high in areas. UM creek has high recreation use all year long. The northern portion of the area contains merchantable timber.

In 2003 bug surveys insect activity was mapped.

**Section 2. - Capability:**

Manageability - Mitigation by boundary change	Low	The area is narrow and bisected by the Great Western Trail. Cherry stemmed road extends almost to Danish Meadows (a Private inholding). There is some motorized use of non-motorized trails.
Natural Integrity (ecosystem function):	Medium	Fire suppression and spruce invasion of aspen areas. Limited extent of invasive species. Danish Meadows is recovering from intensive livestock use.
Natural Appearance:	Medium	
Opportunities for Solitude:	Medium	
Opportunities for Primitive Recreation/Challenging Experiences:	Medium	Great Western Trail crosses the northern section. Backcountry horse use, hiking and hunting. Low amounts of mountain climbing and fishing in UM creek.
Special Features:		Recovery population of native genetically pure

- Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive Species and other Wildlife		Colorado River cutthroat.
- Historical and Scientific Study		

**Section 3. - Availability**

There are no proposed developed recreation sites within the area. The northern part of the area is spring, summer, and winter range for deer and elk.

Livestock grazes the entire area and there are several range facilities present on these allotments such as water troughs, fences, and water ponds. Several ponds have been constructed, and there is a small reservoir under special use permit.

The conifer stands in the Willies Flat - Hilgard sector represent a significant portion of the District's merchantable timber.

Fire risk is high. Insect and disease incidence is high in the conifers. Fuels treatments are planned for the northern section. No major cultural resource sites are known. No special features are present.

**Section 4. - Need**

Nearby Wilderness and their use:	Approximately 50 air miles to Box Death Hollow wilderness
Distance from Population Centers:	Approximately 100 air miles to Utah Valley (Provo)

**JOHNS PEAK**

Undeveloped Area Name:	Johns Peak	Number of Acres in 1983 Appendix C:	13,399
1983 Appendix C Name(s):	Johns Peak/Mt Alice	Number of acres in 2004 inventory:	13,627
1983 Roadless Area Number:	08-304	District:	Loa
2004 Area Number:	0408205		

**Section 1. - Description of the Area**

The Johns Peak undeveloped area is located in the northeast corner of the Fremont River Ranger District, Fishlake National Forest. It is accessible from Interstate Highway 70, Utah State Highway 72, and several forest highways.

The area is comprised principally of the peak and shoulders of Johns Peak (elevation 9,540), developed in soft Tertiary and Cretaceous formations. The terrain is rolling and open with some steep areas near Highway 72.

Pinyon-juniper stands cover about one quarter of this area. The area also hosts aspen and ponderosa stands, mixed conifer, Douglas fir, and subalpine fir

Current use is by cattle and wildlife. There is OHV use of the roads, but there is little other recreation. Recreation use is moderate, mostly during the hunting season and antler-shed hunting in the spring.

There are no special attractions within the area. No development activities are currently planned within the area.

In 2003 bug surveys insect activity was mapped.

**Section 2. - Capability:**

Manageability - Mitigation by boundary change	Medium	Nearly bisected by FS road 1559. I-70 to the north. BLM land to the east and Hwy 72. FS road 015 to the south.
Natural Integrity (ecosystem function):	Medium	Grazing, OHV and water developments
Natural Appearance:	Medium	
Opportunities for Solitude:	Low	Open terrain.
Opportunities for Primitive Recreation/Challenging Experiences:	Low	Limited opportunities.
Special Features: - Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive Species and other Wildlife - Historical and Scientific Study		None identified.

**Section 3. - Availability**

There are few recreation, watershed, and timber opportunities. Deer and elk use the area, but most of it is too open for quality big game habitat. Livestock grazes all of the area with availability of water affecting concentrations. There are several range facilities present on the allotments such as water troughs, fences, and water ponds.

The area contains no private lands or special use permits.

There are cultural resources in the Round Springs draw area. Fire, insect and disease risk is moderate to high in areas.

**Section 4. - Need**

Nearby Wilderness and their use:	Approximately 55 air miles to Box Death Hollow wilderness
Distance from Population Centers:	Approximately 98 air miles to Utah Valley (Provo)

LANGDON MOUNTAIN

Undeveloped Area	Langdon Mountain	Number of Acres in	12,408
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Name:		1983 Appendix C:	
1983 Appendix C Name(s):	Langdon Mountain	Number of acres in 2004 inventory:	18,189
1983 Roadless Area Number:	08-325	District:	Richfield
2004 Area Number:	0408401		

### Section 1. - Description of the Area

The Langdon Mountain undeveloped area is located at the southern end of the Monroe Mountain Unit of the Richfield Ranger District, southeast of the town of Koosharem. Access to the west side of the area is provided by the Monroe Mountain Road, (#068), and the south end by the Pole Canyon Road, (#072).

Pinyon-juniper and sagebrush dominate the east facing slopes while aspen and sagebrush compose a large part of the higher elevations.

Langdon Mountain, at an elevation of 10,314 feet is the highest point in the area. Lower elevations on the eastern boundary of the area extend down to 6,800 feet. The terrain varies from flat valley floors to steep sidehills and canyons. The higher elevations exhibit a gently rolling topography.

Some unimproved roads penetrate the area. There are approximately 1.5 miles of unauthorized road in Pine Canyon, one-fourth mile up Shaffer Canyon, and approximately 4 miles up North Fork Canyon. There are many OHV routes along the ridges between the canyons that have been created by hunter use over the years.

Maintained motorized trails also are found within the area. Trails are found in Rock Canyon in Pine Canyon. The Pine canyon/Killian OHV trail bisects the area from north to south. Recreationists and livestock permittees use trails.

Recreation use for the area comes largely in the form of OHV, hunting, and camping. Wheel tracks and use of undeveloped campsites have resulted in localized erosion.

### Section 2. - Capability:

Manageability - Mitigation by boundary change	Low	The area is long and narrow, bisected at least four times by motorized trails. Motorized use on non-motorized trails. Bounded on East by mid-slope agency boundary, and on the West by series of management activities and high clearance roads.
Natural Integrity (ecosystem)	Low	Lack of disturbance—getting PJ encroachment.
Natural Appearance:	Medium	
Opportunities for Solitude:	Low	Bisected too many times by motorized – hear and see traffic on State Route 62. Lack of screening vegetation.
Opportunities for Primitive Recreation/Challenging Experiences:	Low	Motorized access, no identified destinations or opportunities. Some challenge in steep canyons.
Special Features:		None identified.

T, E, or S Species and other Wildlife Historical and Scientific Study		
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### Section 3. - Availability

Recreation use consists primarily of OHV, with some hunting, hiking, and horseback riding. Use is highest in the fall during the hunts.

Deer and elk use the area. The lower elevations serve as wintering areas for big game while the upper elevations are used as spring/summer ranges. The intermediate slopes receive most of their use in the fall. Habitat for the winter range is in relatively poorer condition than summer range.

A multitude of non-game species inhabits the area. Upland game such as sage grouse, blue grouse, and morning doves can also be found.

The Langdon Mountain area is part of the Otter Creek watershed that eventually empties into Otter Creek Reservoir. Otter Creek Reservoir is a well-known and well-established fishery.

Domestic cattle and sheep graze the area. Several range improvements are located within the area. These include ponds, fences, troughs, and pipelines. One pipeline is located out of Pole Springs. Salt grounds are found in the area. Sheep use has changed vegetation from a grass-forb browse type to predominantly grass-browse on of the area. Six reservoirs are located in the area: Pole Canyon Pond, Chicken Hollow, Dead Horse Flat, Little Rock Canyon, Narrows Pond, and Rock Canyon Pond.

There are no known significant archeological sites within the area.

Fire risk is moderate. In most places, the insect and disease hazard is moderate and increasing, but it is high in the old stagnated conifer stands.

### Section 4. – Need

Nearby Wilderness and their use:	About 100 air miles from Mount Nebo Wilderness Area.
Distance from Population Centers:	Approx. 120 air miles from Provo, Utah.

### MOUNT TERRILL

Undeveloped Area Name:	Mount Terrill	Number of Acres in 1983 Appendix C:	22,848
1983 Appendix C Name(s):	Mount Marvine and UM Plateau-Mount Terrill	Number of acres in 2004 inventory:	30,035
1983 Roadless Area Number:	08-306 and 08-308	District:	Loa
2004 Area Number:	0408203		

### Section 1. - Description of the Area

The Mt. Terrill undeveloped area lies just east of the Gooseberry-Sevenmile road. It is accessible from that road or from a Level 3 road to Black Flat.

The area includes Mt. Terrill and UM Plateau and Mt. Marvine, which forms a horseshoe-shaped plateau, with the basin of UM Creek in between. One of the main features of this area is Mount Marvine itself also known as Sawtooth Mountain by many. Mt. Terrill extends up to 11,547 feet, the UM Plateau ranges in elevation from about 11,000 to 10,000 feet, and the lowest point of the area is about 9,200 feet at the southeast corner. Mt. Marvine is an 11,610 foot peak.

The vegetation ranges from aspen and conifer to alpine meadows. Elk and deer summer in the area, and there is beaver activity. Livestock graze the entire area, excluding the top of Mt. Marvine.

Recreation use is heavy during the hunting season. There is an ATV trail through the area that connects UM and Sevenmile (Sawmill Ck. / Black Flat trail).

Mt. Terrill and the glacial topography of UM Plateau are the most noteworthy features of this area.

In 2003 bug surveys insect activity was mapped.

**Section 2. - Capability:**

Manageability - Mitigation by boundary change	Medium	Bounded by Seven-mile road to the West and UM road to the East. Numerous cherry-stemmed roads and motorized trails in the northern part of the area.
Natural Integrity (ecosystem function):	Medium	Fire suppression and spruce/fir invasion. Invasive species present. The Johnson fire (2002) and South Marvine fire (2003) had beneficial effects. Recovering from historic overgrazing
Natural Appearance:	Medium	Roads and motorized routes, private land adjacency with some development
Opportunities for Solitude:	Medium	Motorized route in northern portions. Sights and sound of Fishlake basin from Mt. Marvine.
Opportunities for Primitive Recreation/Challenging Experiences:	High	Challenge of climbing Mt. Marvine, very rugged and remote.
Special Features: - Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive Species and other Wildlife - Historical and Scientific Study	Yes	Unique plant species (Penstemon parvis) reported in the potholes area. Recovery population of native genetically pure Colorado River cutthroat. Glacial landscapes of UM plateau.

**Section 3. - Availability**

Dispersed recreation use is heavy in this area, but no developed recreation sites are proposed for the area. There is a trailhead at Black Flat. The steep terrain of Mt.

Marvine limits most uses. Water developments are planned in the right fork of UM Creek. Spring Development is planned for the private land on western edge.

UM Creek is used for fishing and is an important source of irrigation water. The area constitutes a major elk and deer summer range. Livestock graze all of the area. There are several range facilities present on the allotments such as water troughs, fences, and water ponds. Seven Mile and UM Creek have more wetlands and riparian enclosures to grazing than anywhere else on the forest.

There is merchantable timber in the area, but no timber sales are planned. Fire, insect and disease incidence is High. There are many dead conifers north of Mt Terrill.

There is a Forest Service radio repeater on Mt. Terrill.

There are no known cultural resources.

**Section 4. - Need**

Nearby Wilderness and their use:	Approximately 56 air miles to Box Death Hollow wilderness
Distance from Population Centers:	Approximately 100 air miles to Utah Valley (Provo)

**THE ROCKS**

Undeveloped Area Name:	The Rocks	Number of Acres in 1983 Appendix C:	NA
1983 Appendix C Name(s):	NA	Number of acres in 2004 inventory:	6,266
1983 Roadless Area Number:	NA	District:	Richfield
2004 Area Number:	0408409		

**Section 1. - Description of the Area**

The Rocks undeveloped area is located on the Richfield Ranger District about 15 miles east of Richfield Utah. Brush Trail road (# 050) provides access to the area.

The area has very rocky and rugged terrain. The terrain features large and small rocks. The vegetation is dominated by Pinyon-Juniper and Gambel oak.

Current uses include livestock grazing, elk and deer winter range, and hunting. There is very little water available.

**Section 2. - Capability:**

Manageability - Mitigation by boundary change	Low	Bounded by Paiute Trail on East, and all other boundaries by management activities. Bisected twice by motorized routes, and has one authorized road cherry-stem. Narrow area
Natural Integrity (ecosystem function):	Low	PJ, high cattle grazing.
Natural Appearance:	Medium	
Opportunities for Solitude:	Low	Area is narrow and bisected by motorized use.
Opportunities for Primitive Recreation/Challenging Experiences:	Low	
Special Features: Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive Species and other Wildlife Historical and Scientific Study		None identified.

### Section 3. - Availability

Recreation use is primarily OHV riding, and hunting.

There is one livestock allotment. There are several range facilities present on the allotment such as water troughs, fences, and water ponds.

The fire risk is low, however, the fire hazard is low to high in places.

Risk of Insect or disease outbreaks is considered moderate in the Pinyon juniper stands.

Private lands are only located on the edges of this area

### Section 4. - Need

Nearby Wilderness and their use:	About 68 air miles from Mount Nebo Wilderness Area.
Distance from Population Centers:	Approx. 88 air miles from Provo, Utah.

## EFFECTS

This section discusses the expected changes to the potential wilderness character of undeveloped areas as affected by authorizing currently unauthorized roads as part of the proposed OHV Route Designation Project. The key comparison elements for evaluating how the alternatives respond to the issue are miles of road newly authorized as well as narratively describing associated changes in manageability, natural integrity, natural appearance, opportunities for solitude, opportunities for primitive recreation or challenging experiences, special features, and remoteness

### Effects Common to all Alternatives

Changes in wilderness characteristics for any affected undeveloped area are consistent with decisions made in the existing 1986 Forest Plan and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act.

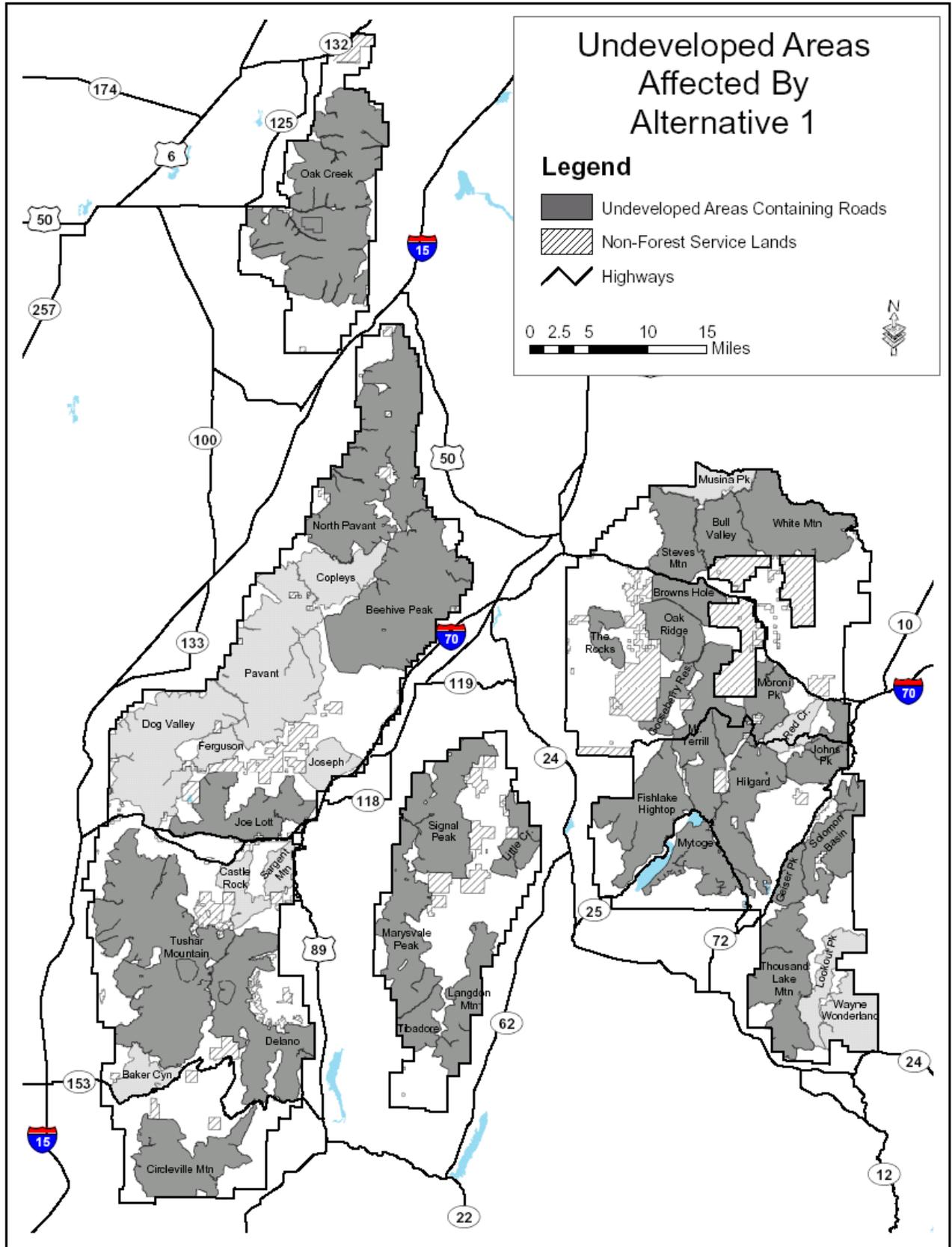
On February 12, 1999, the interim rule was published in the Federal Register. Subsequently, a temporary suspension of road construction and reconstruction in unroaded areas was in effect. At the time, the classification of an existing road was construed as construction by definition. Motorized trails (under 50 inches) were allowed in these areas. In May of 2005, the interim rule was replaced with the final rule for state petitions from the Bush administration allowing among other things, the construction, reconstruction or classification of roads in these areas. In this new rule, motorized trails may continue as before. The term “classified” was dropped and the definition of “construction” was changed in November of 2005 in the final travel management regulations.

Relative to earlier discussion, cross-country travel (both legal and not) and motorized use of nonsystem roads and trails has increased annually causing corresponding reduction in a sense of remoteness and naturalness within undeveloped areas. These nonsystem travelways, when used year after year, become a part of the public’s expectation for motorized access. Unauthorized motorized use has reduced the manageability of these areas based on past trends of unauthorized intrusions. The open nature of the terrain in some locations makes management of the undeveloped areas even more problematic.

In addition to direct effects discussed for each alternative, it should be noted that there are potentially indirect effects to undeveloped areas associated with sights and sounds, etc. from activities or development on adjacent lands. These secondary effects are more evident for the no action alternative due to the ever-increasing amount of open cross-country or unrestricted motorized use. The four action alternatives would consistently exhibit a much lower level of this indirect effect to undeveloped areas by limiting cross-country travel to four minor play areas located near the communities of Richfield, Elsinore, Bicknell and Torrey.

### **Effects of Alternative 1**

The following map shows the location of undeveloped areas containing roads for Alternative 1 (no action).



The table below summarizes the miles/acres of all open routes and area available for cross-country travel for alternative 1 (no action).

<b>Undeveloped Areas, Alternative 1 - Acres by Area and Motorized Miles by Area</b>						
<b>Undeveloped Area Name</b>	<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>Open Use/Exemption Acres</b>	<b>% of Total Area</b>	<b>Road Miles</b>	<b>Motorized Trail Miles</b>	<b>Total Motorized</b>
Baker Canyon	9,079.40	9,079.40	100%	0.00	0.20	0.20
Beehive Peak	60,872.00	34,740.49	57%	2.10	25.30	27.40
Browns Hole	8,211.75	1,658.38	20%	0.75	5.10	5.85
Bull Valley	13,273.20	470.08	4%	0.59	18.00	18.59
Castle Rock	8,269.79	8,269.78	100%	0.00	6.38	6.38
Circleville Mountain	28,629.54	20,650.13	72%	0.77	12.36	13.13
Copleys	14,843.28	10,203.21	69%	0.00	6.30	6.30
Delano	39,552.25	17,307.30	44%	2.25	6.51	8.76
Dog Valley	45,385.90	39,628.56	87%	0.00	21.15	21.15
Ferguson	5,769.90	131.36	2%	0.00	0.74	0.74
Fishlake Hightop	29,278.39	4,541.56	16%	0.23	8.83	9.06
Geiser Peak	6,010.91	754.61	13%	0.47	5.17	5.64
Gooseberry Reservoir	6,874.22	306.25	4%	0.28	8.71	8.99
Hilgard	24,635.97	24,183.19	98%	8.41	19.56	27.97
Joe Lott	24,357.87	24,357.91	100%	0.69	16.40	17.09
Johns Peak	13,497.40	13,497.39	100%	0.52	6.65	7.17
Joseph	8,100.82	8,100.82	100%	0.00	10.11	10.11
Langdon Mountain	18,183.54	18,183.54	100%	0.75	17.04	17.79
Little Creek	9,529.27	8,121.19	85%	0.93	8.43	9.36
Lookout Peak	11,221.28	692.34	6%	0.00	9.57	9.57
Marysvale Peak	27,167.64	26,829.08	99%	0.65	29.41	30.06
Moroni Peak	10,899.54	10,899.58	100%	0.81	18.93	19.74
Mount Terrill	29,954.74	7,821.91	26%	2.80	32.51	35.31
Musina Peak	7,811.07	187.21	2%	0.00	1.12	1.12
Mytoge	14,884.16	12,060.81	81%	2.19	0.64	2.83
North Pavant	64,180.08	49,649.73	77%	0.56	22.91	23.47
Oak Creek	78,296.22	48,733.30	62%	0.81	28.04	28.85
Oak Ridge	12,478.65	205.44	2%	0.18	14.87	15.05
Pavant	55,481.71	22,813.82	41%	0.00	13.06	13.06
Red Creek	6,864.00	6,864.02	100%	0.00	3.33	3.33
Sargent Mountain	5,524.62	5,524.61	100%	0.00	0.96	0.96
Signal Peak	29,899.84	11,648.95	39%	1.52	20.33	21.85
Solomon Basin	18,008.11	5,646.51	31%	1.94	8.45	10.39
Steves Mountain	16,451.03	486.87	3%	1.64	14.10	15.74
The Rocks	6,232.25	6,232.25	100%	10.50	8.62	19.12
Thousand Lake Mountain	29,257.02	2,552.19	9%	0.97	26.65	27.62
Tibadore	8,074.03	4,944.75	61%	1.14	1.51	2.65
Tushar Mountain	82,093.70	33,407.99	41%	4.25	16.28	20.53
Wayne Wonderland	15,049.54	403.73	3%	0.00	0.76	0.76
White Mountain	29,136.47	601.17	2%	0.93	6.93	7.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>933,321.09</b>	<b>502,391.41</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>49.63</b>	<b>481.92</b>	<b>531.55</b>

Alternative 1 would allow both direct and indirect effects to associated undeveloped areas to continue to increase, particularly in relation to open cross-country travel. Therefore, there would be an increase in negative effect to natural integrity, natural appearance, remoteness, solitude, opportunities for primitive recreation or challenging experiences, manageability and special features of these areas consistent with motorized off-road use trends.

In contrast to the action alternatives, Alternative 1 would not obliterate or reclaim any existing system or non-system routes. Accordingly, the potential benefit of improvements in manageability (limited motorized access), and a corresponding positive effect to potential wilderness characteristics, particularly solitude and apparent naturalness would not be realized.

### **Effects common to the Action Alternatives**

No acreage in any undeveloped area is open to cross-country travel for any of the action alternatives--restricting this open motorized travel greatly contributes to potential wilderness character. However, a dispersed camping designation of 300 feet for Alternative 2 and 150 feet for Alternatives 3, 4 and 5 on either side of designated roads or motorized trails allows use of existing routes to access dispersed campsites. This is reflected in the small amount of open use acres indicated on the tables associated with each alternative, and has relatively small effect to potential wilderness character.

Generally, road authorization in undeveloped areas could directly change the physical and biological aspects of the associated lands for the longer term and accordingly affect its wilderness characteristics indefinitely. A more modified setting would heighten one's sensation of being in a developed area. The character of the greater landscape may change because the sights, sounds and other evidence of people could be noticed for some distance, even beyond the area directly affected.

Some effects on wilderness characteristics are relatively short-lived, as is evidenced with some forms of vegetative management such as that using a Dixie harrow. Other more apparent changes to potential wilderness character, i.e., roading, may endure indefinitely due to soil scarring, continuing use, etc.

Undeveloped areas containing or visually adjacent to roads and motorized trails would in a relative sense, be proportionately modified in natural integrity and apparent naturalness. In these areas, opportunities for solitude and the associated sense of remoteness would be reduced dependant on contrasting sights and sounds. Conversely, reducing roads or motorized trails in undeveloped areas would increase these wilderness characteristics. Additionally, obliterating roads outside of undeveloped areas would allow create much more manageable boundaries.

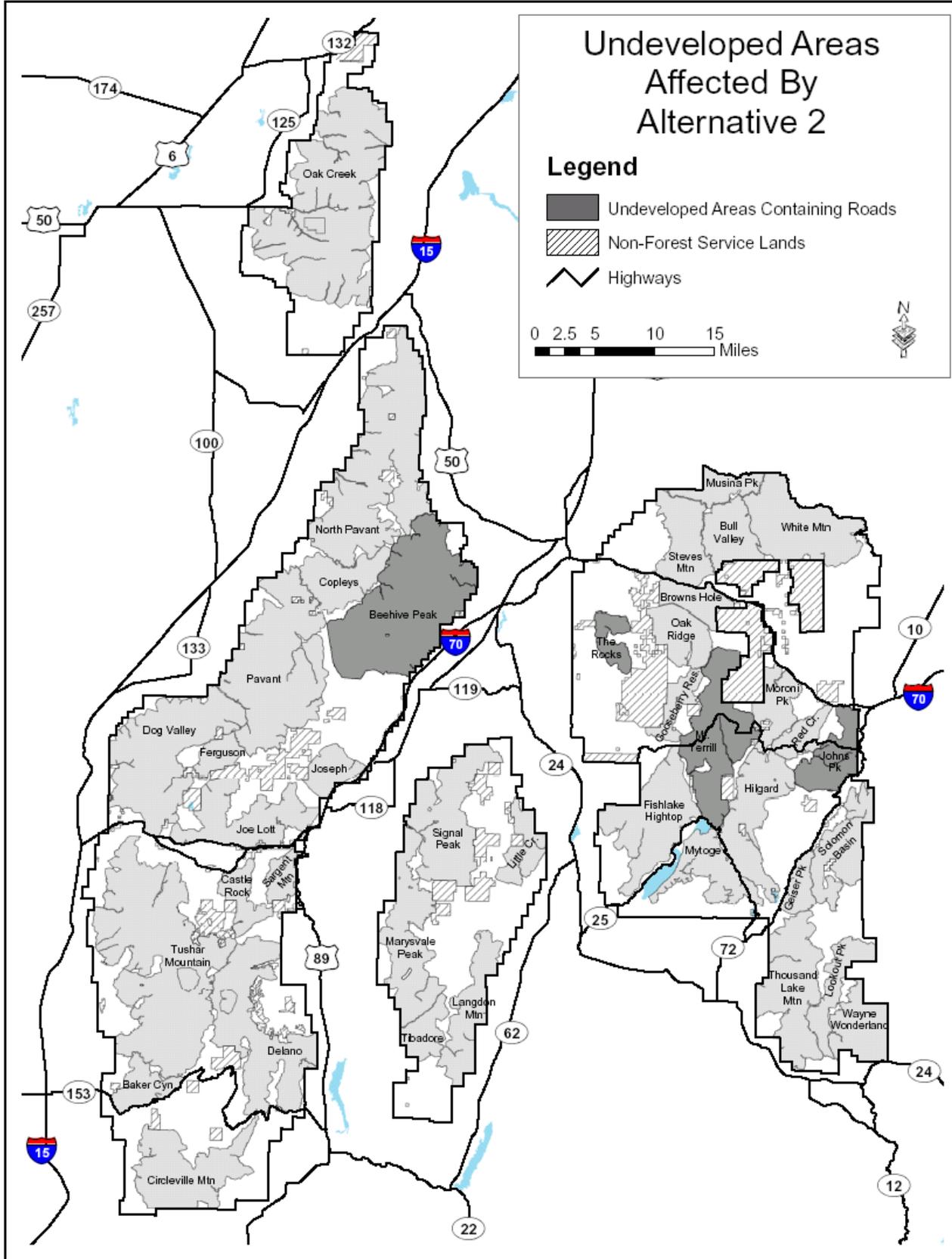
The project's impact to an undeveloped area could change the recreational use of the area itself. Forest users seeking a relatively primitive recreation experience might choose not to visit the area subsequent to increased development, and the number of forest users

seeking a more modified setting could increase. Indirectly, development or activity occurring outside of the undeveloped areas themselves could also have the effect of encouraging recreationists to use these relatively less developed areas for camping, etc. Subsequently, the remoteness and solitude of these areas located near activity or development could be degraded as users move into these undeveloped areas to seek a more unmodified natural setting.

As a result, the more developed of these areas would not likely be considered for wilderness suitability until such time the evidence of human related development is not substantially noticeable. This would especially be the case for future revisions of the Forest Plan and therefore, could remove or limit future opportunities to consider and recommend wilderness.

### **Effects of Alternative 2**

The following map shows the location of undeveloped with roads to be authorized for Alternative 2.



The table below summarizes the miles of open motorized routes (including acres associated with a 300-foot wide right-of-way exemption) for Alternative 2.

Undeveloped Areas, Alternative 2 - Acres by Area and Motorized Miles by Area						
Undeveloped Area Name	Total Acres	Open Use/ Exemption Acres	% of Total Area	Road Miles	Motorized Trail Miles	Total Motorized
Baker Canyon	9,079.40	342.56	4%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Beehive Peak	60,872.00	2,841.45	5%	1.94	21.68	23.62
Browns Hole	8,211.75	313.30	4%	0.00	4.01	4.01
Bull Valley	13,273.20	1,225.32	9%	0.00	10.78	10.78
Castle Rock	8,269.79	638.82	8%	0.00	2.21	2.21
Circleville Mountain	28,629.54	1,407.66	5%	0.00	10.87	10.87
Copleys	14,843.28	1,188.69	8%	0.00	6.30	6.30
Delano	39,552.25	1,208.34	3%	0.00	0.29	0.29
Dog Valley	45,385.90	2,703.20	6%	0.00	15.01	15.01
Ferguson	5,769.90	307.57	5%	0.00	0.09	0.09
Fishlake Hightop	29,278.39	802.97	3%	0.00	0.98	0.98
Geiser Peak	6,010.91	328.34	5%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gooseberry Reservoir	6,874.22	681.95	10%	0.00	5.30	5.30
Hilgard	24,630.36	1,319.39	5%	0.00	5.77	5.77
Joe Lott	24,357.87	1,656.16	7%	0.00	7.19	7.19
Johns Peak	13,497.40	653.04	5%	0.52	0.00	0.52
Joseph	8,100.82	133.03	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Langdon Mountain	18,183.54	1,921.03	11%	0.00	15.87	15.87
Little Creek	9,529.27	646.01	7%	0.00	4.32	4.32
Lookout Peak	11,221.28	522.09	5%	0.00	3.24	3.24
Marysval Peak	27,167.64	2,088.83	8%	0.00	16.11	16.11
Moroni Peak	10,899.54	1,475.80	14%	0.00	14.45	14.45
Mount Terrill	29,954.74	1,944.96	6%	1.19	15.84	17.03
Musina Peak	7,811.07	187.77	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mytoge	14,884.16	803.91	5%	0.00	0.00	0.00
North Pavant	64,180.08	3,362.31	5%	0.00	17.23	17.23
Oak Creek	78,296.22	3,968.20	5%	0.00	20.52	20.52
Oak Ridge	12,478.65	1,069.89	9%	0.00	14.19	14.19
Pavant	55,481.71	3,323.61	6%	0.00	15.51	15.51
Red Creek	6,864.00	381.63	6%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sargent Mountain	5,524.62	235.85	4%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Signal Peak	29,899.84	800.53	3%	0.00	2.93	2.93
Solomon Basin	18,008.11	477.04	3%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Steves Mountain	16,451.03	1,171.05	7%	0.00	9.14	9.14
The Rocks	6,232.25	538.72	9%	0.74	3.54	4.28
Thousand Lake Mountain	29,257.02	1,849.12	6%	0.00	21.11	21.11
Tibadore	8,074.03	430.48	5%	0.00	0.85	0.85
Tushar Mountain	82,093.70	2,359.50	3%	0.00	2.55	2.55
Wayne Wonderland	15,049.54	156.30	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
White Mountain	29,136.47	642.51	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>933,315.48</b>	<b>48,108.93</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>4.39</b>	<b>267.88</b>	<b>272.27</b>

Specific effects to undeveloped areas for Alternative 2 are presented below.

### Beehive Peak

This undeveloped area of 60,872 acres in size would contain 1.94 miles of newly authorized road (U0861) located above the town of Aurora. This road is the preferred access to the main Paiute Trail. This existing road proposed for authorization is near the edge of the undeveloped area nearest town. Effects to the potential wilderness characteristics of natural integrity and appearance, solitude and manageability of would be comparatively negligible for this action due to the amount of present development (roading, fencing, structures) and disturbance (mining, dumping) visible throughout the area.

In summary, visitors using the Beehive Peak Undeveloped Area would perceive minor change in the areas wilderness characteristics upon formally adding this road to the system. Especially since other road and motorized trail in the area would be obliterated (3.6 miles total), with offsetting positive effect in addition to that of eliminating unrestricted or cross-country motorized travel. The generally high rating for wilderness character as outlined in the existing condition for this undeveloped area would remain.

### Johns Peak

This undeveloped area covering 13,497 acres contains 0.52 miles of road (U0273) at its northwest boundary to be newly authorized in this alternative. Alternative 1 retains this same 0.52 miles of system road remaining in this undeveloped area. No designated motorized trails would remain in this area (3.83 obliterated). And again, for Alternative 2 there would not be any area open to unrestricted motorized travel in this undeveloped area, which in alternative 1 (no action) has 100 percent of its area open to motorized unrestricted travel.

This undeveloped area is of relatively smaller size, and only moderate in the existing amount of apparent development or disturbance. However, the effect of this road to natural appearance would be noticeable to the casual forest visitor only in a small portion of the area due to its intruding only half a mile from the area's boundary. Effects to the area's potential wilderness character overall, should remain within the threshold requisite to maintaining its status as an undeveloped area as rated moderate to low in the existing condition description.

### Mount Terrill

This undeveloped Area of 29,955 acres would have 1.19 miles of road (U0475) newly authorized in this alternative. In comparison, the no action alternative has 2.80 miles involving an additional road. 7,822 acres are open to motorized cross-country travel in Alternative 1 or 26%. Motorized trail miles are reduced almost by half (17 miles) relative to Alternative 1.

The newly authorized road is located at the end of the eastern appendage of the undeveloped area near several other existing system roads and motorized trails. In relation, the effects this road has on the undeveloped character of the entire area would be small.

### The Rocks

In this undeveloped Area of only 6,232 acres, a 0.74-mile extension of road 279 would be newly authorized in Alternative 2. In comparison, the no action alternative has 10.5 total miles of road network in this area and Alternative 3 has 3.19 miles. Outside of seasonal restrictions for big-game winter range, this entire area remains open to motorized cross-country use in the no-action alternative. All of the action alternatives disallow this motorized unrestricted travel during all seasons of the year.

In the existing condition description, this undeveloped area is rated low for manageability, natural integrity, opportunities for solitude, and opportunities for primitive recreation or challenging experiences. Natural Appearance was moderate. There were no special features and it is relatively close to communities or populated areas, contributing to a marginal sense of remoteness for visitors there. It is anticipated that the added affects of authorizing this 0.74 mile section of road that roughly bisects the undeveloped area in half would place the area below the threshold of being continued as an undeveloped area, also defined as usually of 5,000 contiguous acres in size. Consequently, the area would likely not be recommended as wilderness in the future.

### **Effects of Alternative 3**

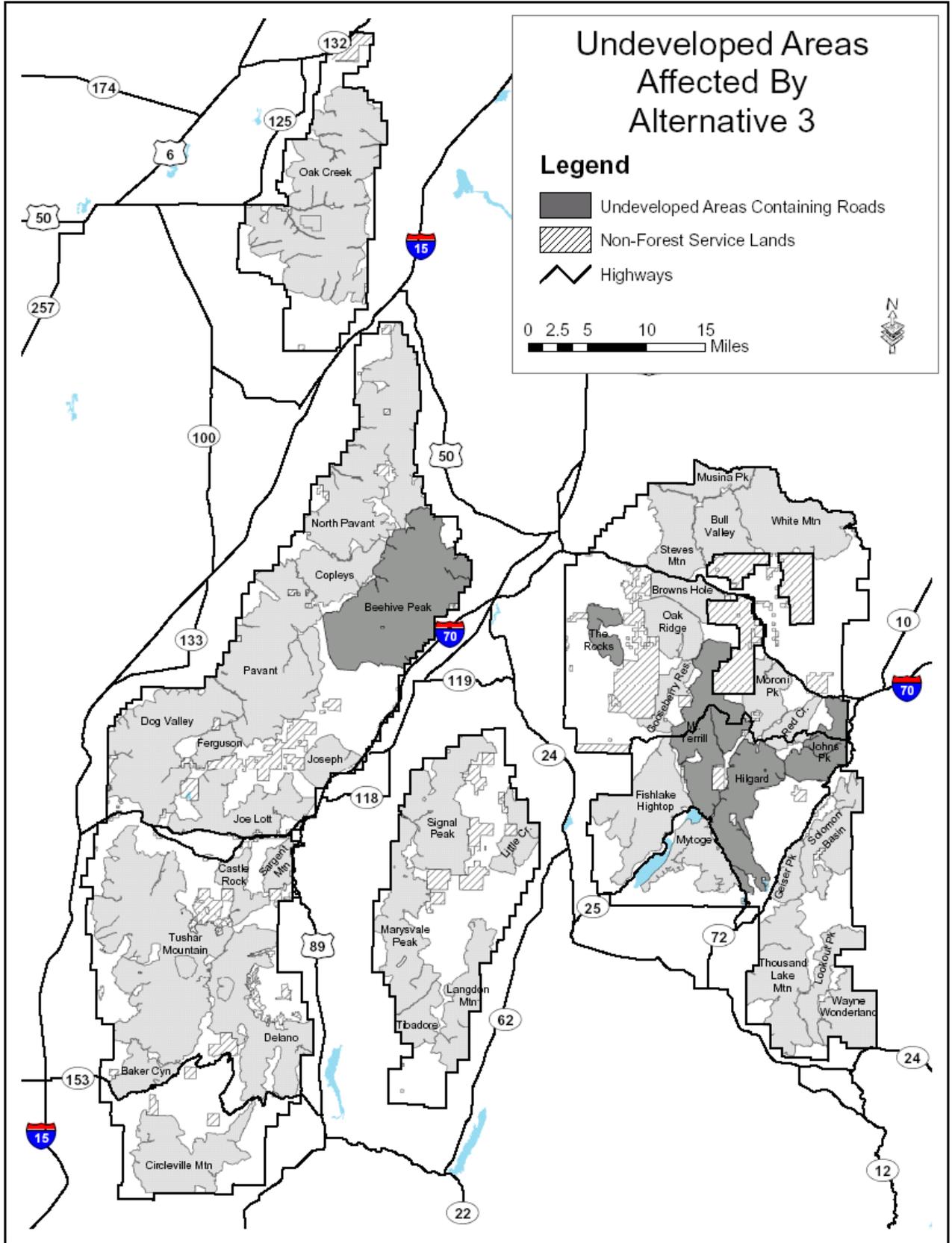
The following map shows the location of undeveloped areas with roads to be authorized for Alternative 3.

# Undeveloped Areas Affected By Alternative 3

## Legend

- Undeveloped Areas Containing Roads
- Non-Forest Service Lands
- Highways

0 2.5 5 10 15 Miles



The table below summarizes the miles of open motorized routes (including acres associated with a 150-foot wide dispersed camping designation) for Alternative 3.

Undeveloped Areas, Alternative 3 - Acres by Area and Motorized Miles by Area						
Undeveloped Area Name	Total Acres	Open Use/Exemption Acres	% of Total Area	Road Miles	Motorized Trail Miles	Total Motorized
Baker Canyon	9,079.40	144.34	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Beehive Peak	60,872.00	1,229.07	2%	1.94	18.73	20.67
Browns Hole	8,211.75	153.32	2%	0.00	4.01	4.01
Bull Valley	13,273.20	560.59	4%	0.00	11.04	11.04
Castle Rock	8,269.79	320.92	4%	0.00	2.21	2.21
Circleville Mountain	28,629.54	678.01	2%	0.00	10.87	10.87
Copleys	14,843.28	554.63	4%	0.00	6.30	6.30
Delano	39,552.25	478.31	1%	0.00	0.41	0.41
Dog Valley	45,385.90	1,310.62	3%	0.00	17.82	17.82
Ferguson	5,769.90	133.28	2%	0.00	0.09	0.09
Fishlake Hightop	29,278.39	669.12	2%	0.00	9.11	9.11
Geiser Peak	6,010.91	143.26	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gooseberry Reservoir	6,874.22	335.56	5%	0.00	5.76	5.76
Hilgard	24,630.36	693.93	3%	0.91	6.71	7.62
Joe Lott	24,357.87	872.02	4%	0.00	10.41	10.41
Johns Peak	13,497.40	326.56	2%	0.52	3.81	4.33
Joseph	8,100.82	52.23	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Langdon Mountain	18,183.54	847.81	5%	0.00	14.13	14.13
Little Creek	9,529.27	301.09	3%	0.00	4.32	4.32
Lookout Peak	11,221.28	292.29	3%	0.00	4.42	4.42
Marysvale Peak	27,167.64	920.27	3%	0.00	14.74	14.74
Moroni Peak	10,899.54	679.93	6%	0.00	14.17	14.17
Mount Terrill	29,954.74	866.22	3%	1.19	15.68	16.87
Musina Peak	7,811.07	0.34	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mytoge	14,884.16	343.09	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
North Pavant	64,180.08	1,454.89	2%	0.00	17.00	17.00
Oak Creek	78,296.22	1,328.08	2%	0.00	21.06	21.06
Oak Ridge	12,478.65	504.46	4%	0.00	14.19	14.19
Pavant	55,481.71	1,477.60	3%	0.00	15.60	15.60
Red Creek	6,864.00	120.71	2%	0.00	0.23	0.23
Sargent Mountain	5,524.62	92.64	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Signal Peak	29,899.84	341.23	1%	0.00	2.93	2.93
Solomon Basin	18,008.11	207.69	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Steves Mountain	16,451.03	509.41	3%	0.00	9.14	9.14
The Rocks	6,232.25	340.45	5%	3.19	3.54	6.73
Thousand Lake Mountain	29,257.02	877.42	3%	0.00	20.49	20.49
Tibadore	8,074.03	119.24	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tushar Mountain	82,093.70	1,078.02	1%	0.00	5.09	5.09
Wayne Wonderland	15,049.54	74.54	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00

White Mountain	29,136.47	246.98	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>933,315.48</b>	<b>21,680.17</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>7.75</b>	<b>284.01</b>	<b>291.76</b>

Specific effects to undeveloped areas for Alternative 3 are presented below.

### Beehive Peak

This undeveloped Area of 60,872 acres in size would again contain 1.94 miles of newly authorized road (U0861) located above the town of Aurora and would accordingly exhibit effect similar to Alternative 2. The area would receive some added benefit, primarily in natural appearance by roughly doubling the amount of motorized trails to be obliterated (6.28 miles).

### Hilgard

This 24,630 acre undeveloped area contains a section of road (0.45 miles) to be newly authorized in this alternative. This half-mile section of road (1509) heads toward an inholding of private land at Danish Meadows. There are tentative plans to extend this road an additional quarter mile to access this property in the near future.

In referring to the existing condition for this undeveloped area as described in its capability section; all present wilderness characteristics are rated medium, except manageability which is low. There are no special features other than the presence of Colorado River Cutthroat, which would benefit from route designation and closing the area to motorized cross-country travel. There is apparent development in the area associated with livestock improvements and a significant portion of the District's merchantable timber is located in this area at Willies Flat.

In essence: This undeveloped area is moderate in size. Its existing suitability for wilderness consideration is medium at best. The Tidwell Canyon area near its eastern contains a high density of roads and motorized trails with associated indirect or secondary effect. It would be expected that the overall status of the Hilgard Undeveloped Area would remain relatively the same, given the limited potential impact of authorizing this short section of road.

### Johns Peak

As in Alternative 2, this undeveloped Area covering 13,497 acres contains the identical 0.52 miles of road (U0273) at its northwest boundary to be authorized in this alternative and is affected much the same relative to wilderness characteristics. However as in the no action, this alternative does keep the 3.73 miles of existing motorized trail (allowed in undeveloped areas according to accepted protocol (USDA 2004)), with limited added effect.

## Mount Terrill

This undeveloped Area of 29,955 acres also would have the same 1.19 miles of road (U0475) newly authorized for this alternative as in Alternative 2, with about a mile more of associated motorized trail to be obliterated. Accordingly, for all intents, effects to undeveloped character are very similar to Alternative 2.

## The Rocks

As discussed before, this undeveloped Area is only 6,232 acres. In this alternative, another 2.45 miles of road connecting the main Paiute ATV Trail (Road 050) to the rocks trail (#310) would be newly authorized in addition to the 0.74-mile extension of road 279 authorized in Alternative 2.

This action alternative also would prohibit motorized off designated route travel during all seasons of the year. Again, outside of seasonal restrictions for big-game winter range this entire area remains open to motorized cross-country use in the no-action alternative.

As discussed for Alternative 2, in the existing condition description this undeveloped area is rated low for manageability, natural integrity, opportunities for solitude, and opportunities for primitive recreation or challenging experiences. Natural Appearance is moderate. There were no special features and it is relatively close to communities or populated areas, contributing to a marginal sense of remoteness for visitors there. To an extent beyond Alternative 2, it is anticipated that the added affects of authorizing these roads (3.19 miles total) would discount the area as suitable for future wilderness consideration.

## **Effects of Alternative 4**

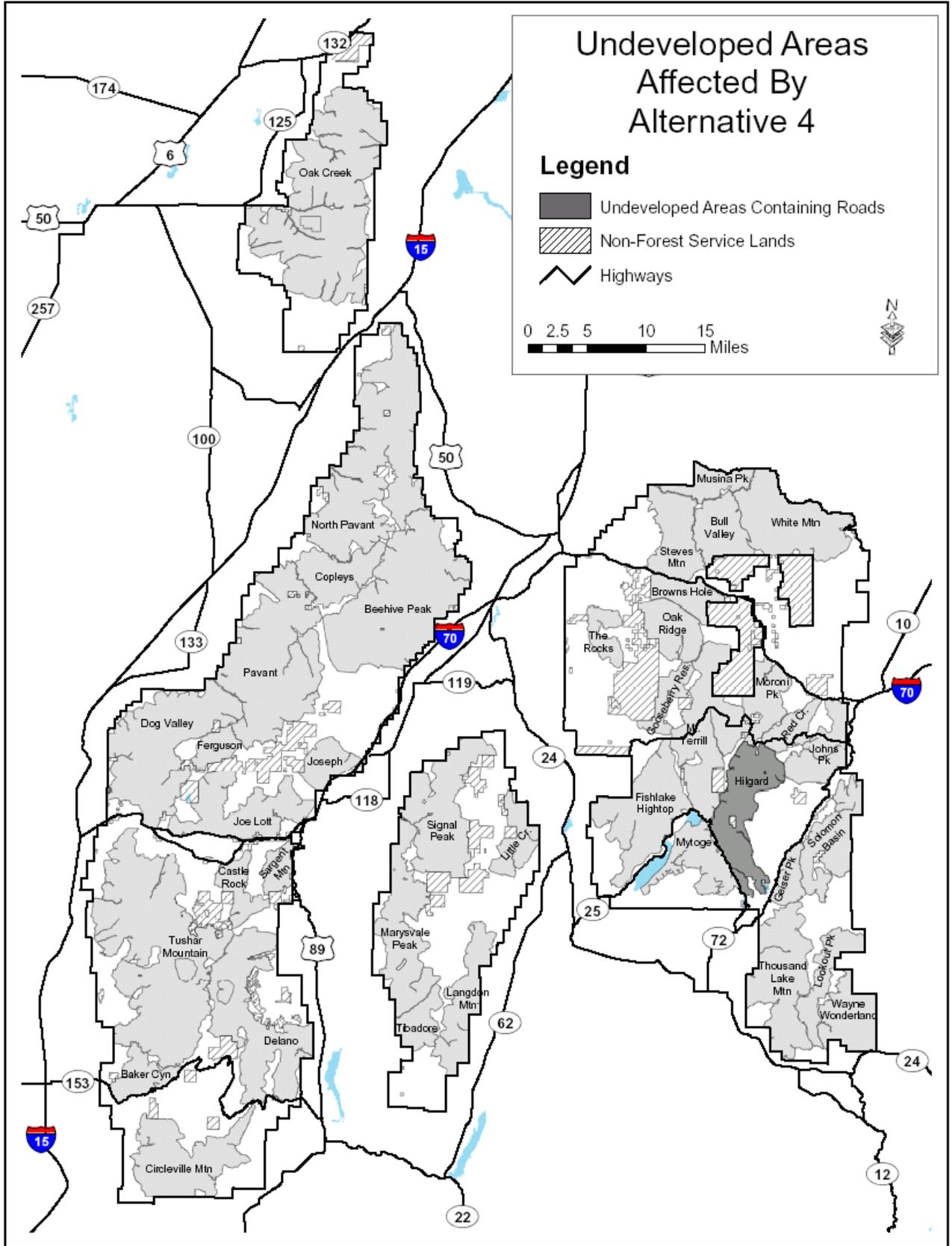
The following map shows the location of undeveloped areas with roads to be authorized for Alternative 4.

# Undeveloped Areas Affected By Alternative 4

## Legend

- Undeveloped Areas Containing Roads
- Non-Forest Service Lands
- Highways

0 2.5 5 10 15 Miles



The table below summarizes the miles of open motorized routes (including acres associated with a 150-foot dispersed camping distance designation) for Alternative 4.

<b>Undeveloped Areas, Alternative 4 - Acres by Area and Motorized Miles by Area</b>						
<b>Undeveloped Area Name</b>	<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>Open Use/Exemption Acres</b>	<b>% of Total Area</b>	<b>Road Miles</b>	<b>Motorized Trail Miles</b>	<b>Total Motorized</b>
Baker Canyon	9,079.40	140.83	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Beehive Peak	60,872.00	466.12	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Browns Hole	8,211.75	88.45	1%	0.00	2.44	2.44
Bull Valley	13,273.20	456.46	3%	0.00	8.28	8.28
Castle Rock	8,269.79	318.02	4%	0.00	2.21	2.21
Circleville Mountain	28,629.54	351.45	1%	0.00	1.88	1.88
Copleys	14,843.28	328.62	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delano	39,552.25	466.10	1%	0.00	0.26	0.26
Dog Valley	45,385.90	600.58	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ferguson	5,769.90	114.63	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fishlake Hightop	29,278.39	342.05	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Geiser Peak	6,010.91	142.68	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gooseberry Reservoir	6,874.22	133.87	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hilgard	24,630.36	429.91	2%	0.46	1.42	1.88
Joe Lott	24,357.87	611.39	3%	0.00	4.66	4.66
Johns Peak	13,497.40	262.69	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Joseph	8,100.82	52.23	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Langdon Mountain	18,183.54	268.98	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Little Creek	9,529.27	146.61	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lookout Peak	11,221.28	209.67	2%	0.00	0.70	0.70
Marysvale Peak	27,167.64	329.76	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Moroni Peak	10,899.54	164.81	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mount Terrill	29,954.74	554.36	2%	0.00	8.65	8.65
Musina Peak	7,811.07	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mytoge	14,884.16	337.27	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
North Pavant	64,180.08	780.24	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Oak Creek	78,296.22	601.16	1%	0.00	1.31	1.31
Oak Ridge	12,478.65	240.83	2%	0.00	6.54	6.54
Pavant	55,481.71	844.94	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Red Creek	6,864.00	107.96	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sargent Mountain	5,524.62	92.64	2%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Signal Peak	29,899.84	182.73	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Solomon Basin	18,008.11	207.69	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Steves Mountain	16,451.03	300.12	2%	0.00	3.58	3.58
The Rocks	6,232.25	73.45	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thousand Lake Mountain	29,257.02	335.78	1%	0.00	3.32	3.32
Tibadore	8,074.03	114.39	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tushar Mountain	82,093.70	867.82	1%	0.00	0.06	0.06
Wayne Wonderland	15,049.54	68.39	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00

White Mountain	29,136.47	241.95	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>933,315.48</b>	<b>12,377.63</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>45.31</b>	<b>45.77</b>

Alternative 4 has a limited amount of authorized road proposed in only one undeveloped area and there accordingly would be very little direct effect to potential wilderness character. Indirect effect would be consistent with the other action Alternatives 2 and 3, due to visual and audible perceptions of unscreened adjacent activity or development common to all three.

In summary, Alternative 4 would have the least amount of potential impact to the wilderness character of undeveloped areas in comparison to all other alternatives.

The limited effect to the one undeveloped area containing 0.46 mile of newly authorized road is presented below.

### Hilgard

For this alternative, this 24,630 acre undeveloped area contains one short section of road to be newly authorized, totaling 0.45 miles. As described for Alternative 3, this half-mile section of road (1509) heads towards an inholding at Danish Meadows. There are plans to possibly extend this road an additional quarter mile to access this property in the future.

For reasons described earlier in more detail for Alternative 3, and to a somewhat more positive extent: The overall status of this area would remain much the same relative to potential suitability as wilderness; given the limited potential impact of authorizing this section of road, primarily used in the future to access private property.

### **Effects of Alternative 5**

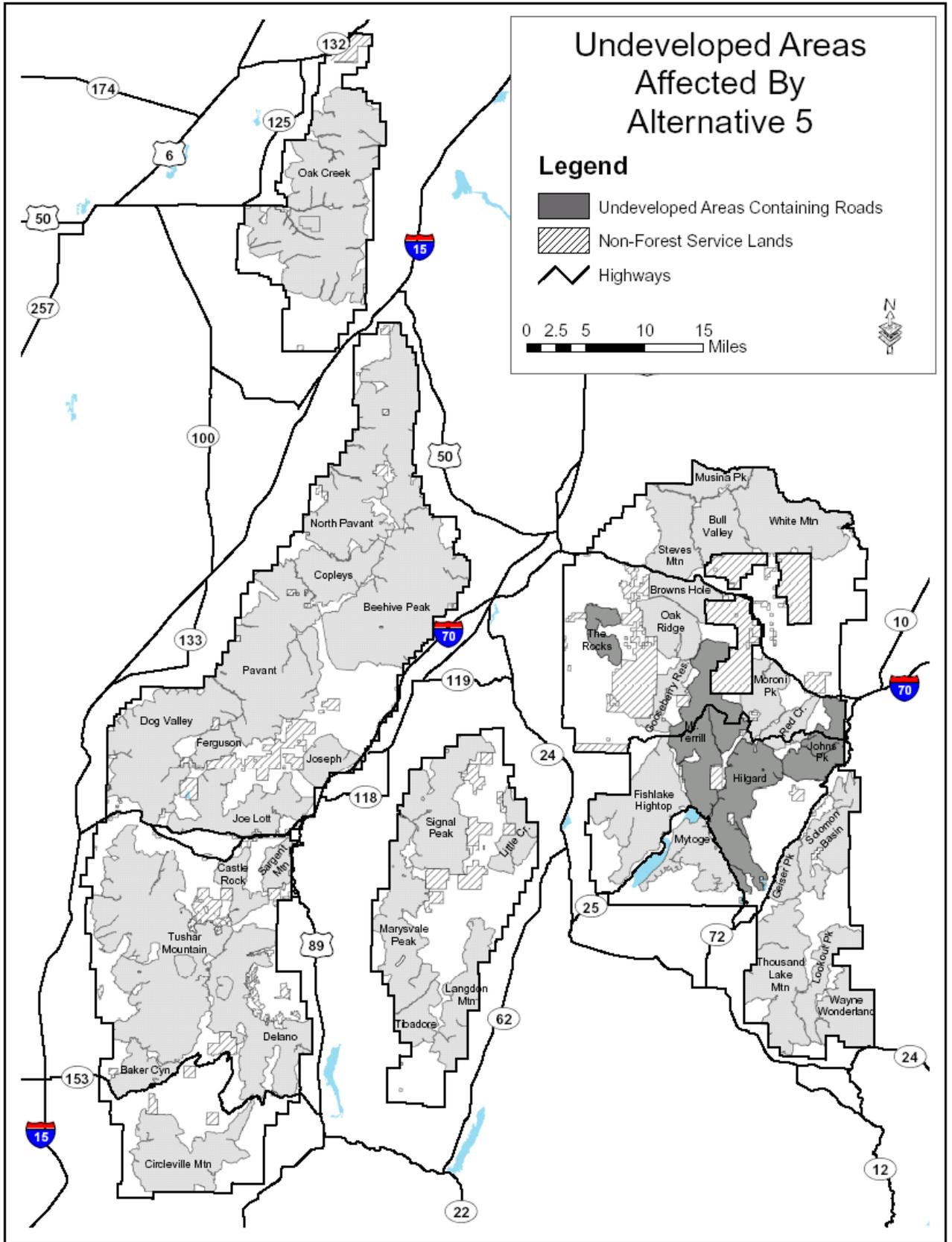
The following map shows the location of undeveloped areas with roads to be newly authorized for Alternative 5.

# Undeveloped Areas Affected By Alternative 5

## Legend

- Undeveloped Areas Containing Roads
- Non-Forest Service Lands
- Highways

0 2.5 5 10 15 Miles



The table below summarizes the miles of open motorized routes for Alternative 5 including acres associated with a 150-foot dispersed camping distance designation.

<b>Undeveloped Areas, Alternative 5 - Acres by Area and Motorized Miles by Area</b>						
<b>Undeveloped Area Name</b>	<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>Open Use/Exemption Acres</b>	<b>% of Total Area</b>	<b>Road Miles</b>	<b>Motorized Trail Miles</b>	<b>Total Motorized</b>
Baker Canyon	9,079.40	118.24	1%	0.00	0.20	0.20
Beehive Peak	60,872.00	1,252.95	2%	0.00	21.08	21.08
Browns Hole	8,211.75	154.00	2%	0.00	4.01	4.01
Bull Valley	13,273.20	557.81	4%	0.00	11.04	11.04
Castle Rock	8,269.79	323.65	4%	0.00	2.21	2.21
Circleville Mountain	28,629.54	677.00	2%	0.00	11.71	11.71
Copleys	14,843.28	554.63	4%	0.00	6.30	6.30
Delano	39,552.25	434.45	1%	0.00	0.48	0.48
Dog Valley	45,385.90	1,238.92	3%	0.00	17.11	17.11
Ferguson	5,769.90	133.28	2%	0.00	0.09	0.09
Fishlake Hightop	29,278.39	682.11	2%	0.00	9.41	9.41
Geiser Peak	6,010.91	159.44	3%	0.00	0.31	0.31
Gooseberry Reservoir	6,874.22	354.29	5%	0.00	6.42	6.42
Hilgard	24,630.36	720.11	3%	1.15	6.71	7.86
Joe Lott	24,357.87	821.19	3%	0.00	8.79	8.79
Johns Peak	13,497.40	364.22	3%	0.52	5.45	5.97
Joseph	8,100.82	91.41	1%	0.00	0.72	0.72
Langdon Mountain	18,183.54	847.83	5%	0.00	14.13	14.13
Little Creek	9,529.27	301.11	3%	0.00	4.32	4.32
Lookout Peak	11,221.28	313.85	3%	0.00	5.30	5.30
Marysvale Peak	27,167.64	839.34	3%	0.00	12.67	12.67
Moroni Peak	10,899.54	682.58	6%	0.00	14.25	14.25
Mount Terrill	29,954.74	907.16	3%	1.19	16.45	17.64
Musina Peak	7,811.07	5.08	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mytoge	14,884.16	437.38	3%	0.00	0.09	0.09
North Pavant	64,180.08	1,422.96	2%	0.00	16.05	16.05
Oak Creek	78,296.22	1,282.60	2%	0.00	19.30	19.30
Oak Ridge	12,478.65	508.29	4%	0.00	14.19	14.19
Pavant	55,481.71	1,484.33	3%	0.00	15.80	15.80
Red Creek	6,864.00	135.04	2%	0.00	0.23	0.23
Sargent Mountain	5,524.62	77.54	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Signal Peak	29,899.84	323.34	1%	0.00	2.61	2.61
Solomon Basin	18,008.11	207.80	1%	0.00	2.23	2.23
Steves Mountain	16,451.03	510.54	3%	0.00	9.14	9.14
The Rocks	6,232.25	358.86	6%	3.73	3.54	7.27
Thousand Lake Mountain	29,257.02	889.25	3%	0.00	22.36	22.36
Tibadore	8,074.03	119.24	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tushar Mountain	82,093.70	1,090.85	1%	0.00	5.77	5.77
Wayne Wonderland	15,049.54	74.54	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00

White Mountain	29,136.47	248.58	1%	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>933,315.48</b>	<b>21,705.79</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>6.59</b>	<b>290.47</b>	<b>297.06</b>

Effects for Alternative 5 are the same as Alternative 3 with the following exception:

### Beehive Peak

In this 60,872 acre undeveloped area, the 1.94 miles of road (U0861) that would be newly authorized in Alternative 3 would be designated as motorized trail in Alternative 5. This trail located above the town of Aurora would be allowed under present rules as discussed earlier in this report. The area would receive some marginal benefit, primarily in natural appearance, by maintaining a route width/prism appropriate for ATVs instead of full-sized vehicles.

## **CUMULATIVE EFFECTS**

Past and present non-motorized recreation activities in or adjacent to undeveloped areas are relatively non-impactive, such as hunting on foot or by horse, and backpacking. Motorized use, past or present has greater and more lasting effect. In the last decade, the use of OHVs has greatly increased throughout this area of Utah including the project area, as related earlier. This overall increase generally affects to a corresponding degree ones sense of remoteness and naturalness within undeveloped areas.

Existing development including user-developed roads and trails associated with past harvest, mining, etc. located in or near undeveloped areas contribute to reducing undeveloped character. Generally, with the exception of cross-country motorized travel allowed in Alternative 1, the types of activities, facilities, recreational experiences, and scenery available in the greater area will remain the same for all alternatives.

Some management activities or projects near undeveloped areas may indirectly affect the area's undeveloped character especially in terms of apparent naturalness, solitude or remoteness due to noise or presence in distant views. This could also be true for associated reasonably foreseeable actions or activities as detailed in Appendix C of this FEIS.

Alternative 4 would have the least amount of cumulative effects to undeveloped character as it newly authorizes only a half-mile of road in one undeveloped area and eliminates many existing motorized routes in many other areas. Alternative 1 would have the greatest effect. Alternatives 2, 3 and 5 are would have similar cumulative effect. All action alternatives would eliminate non-system routes, which would generally improve undeveloped character over time.

## **SHORT-TERM USES AND LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY**

In ecological time, the short-term use associated with any of the alternatives would eventually be unnoticeable, or at minimum blend with the existing condition. However,

undeveloped areas impacted by this project could be dropped, in part or whole, for future consideration as undeveloped area that could be potentially suitable for wilderness.

### **UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Implementation of any of the alternatives cannot avoid affecting undeveloped character to some degree. Undeveloped areas impacted by this project could be dropped, in part or whole, for future consideration as undeveloped area that eventually could be recommended or considered for wilderness.

### **IRREVERSIBLE OR IRRETRIEVABLE EFFECT**

Undeveloped character and associated wilderness potential are essentially a non-renewable resource. Most development is an irretrievable and irreversible commitment of the resource to a less natural condition for the long-term because the processes of ecological recovery and succession move relatively slowly compared to human life span.

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