

All alternatives demonstrate an increase in structure stage 5 from present conditions. This is due primarily to modeling constraints, and specific analysis unit conditions. In addition, the current levels of structure stage 5 was an added component to the RIS database and has not been entirely updated.

Table 3-201. Acres and percent of habitat structural stages of timber species on suitable lands for end of 1st decade over end of 5th decade.

Size Class	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D DEIS	Alt D FEIS	Alt E	Alt F
1 Grass/ Forb	27,527 (6%)	29,002 (7%)	28,101 (7%)	26,822 (8%)	27,330 (8%)	25,453 (9%)	15,458 (9%)
	39,521 (9%)	44,561 (11%)	39,903 (10%)	38,127 (11%)	32,400 (10%)	31,948 (11%)	0 (0%)
2 Seedling/ Sapling	35,681 (8%)	35,920 (9%)	34,849 (9%)	33,854 (10%)	33,933 (10%)	30,628 (10%)	18,227 (11%)
	23,489 (5%)	26,635 (6%)	24,852 (6%)	23,032 (7%)	22,453 (7%)	21,115 (7%)	376 (.2%)
3 Pole	144,398 (31%)	123,068 (30%)	106,209 (28%)	102,523 (31%)	100,772 (31%)	87,487 (30%)	55,393 (32%)
	124,692 (27%)	113,067 (27%)	105,689 (27%)	104,784 (30%)	102,952 (31%)	95,255 (32%)	52,419 (30%)
4 Mature	227,662 (49%)	202,324 (49%)	181,834 (48%)	147,313 (44%)	139,376 (43%)	127,352 (43%)	73,536 (43%)
	113,059 (34%)	105,316 (25%)	95,207 (25%)	86,807 (25%)	80,912 (25%)	70,201 (24%)	62,380 (36%)
5 Old growth	27,560 (6%)	26,612 (6%)	26,665 (7%)	25,608 (8%)	25,562 (8%)	24,071 (8%)	9,884 (6%)
	157,704 (34%)	134,805 (32%)	119,331 (31%)	91,750 (27%)	91,495 (28%)	78,494 (26%)	58,491 (34%)

Source: SPECTRUM model.

Communities

Introduction – The human environment includes the natural and physical environment and people’s relationship to it. The relationship between the Medicine Bow National Forest and the local lifestyles and economies is interdependent and complex. Year-round, residents and nonresidents utilize Forest resources to make a living, find solace, and experience a good deal of their social life. Each relationship is unique, yet the attachment is always the same. Some communities have a more direct relationship than others. This section will cover all affected and neighboring counties. Affected counties include: Albany, Carbon, Converse, and Jackson (CO). These are included in the economic modeling, and the neighboring counties, Laramie, Natrona, Platte, and Larimer (CO) are included based on their influence on or from Forest uses. The Map (County Locations) shows the counties discussed in this section.

The social and economic assessments for the forest plan are detailed descriptions of the relationships between and among the counties and the Forest. These documents are on file in the Supervisor’s Office of the Medicine Bow National Forest.

This portion of the FEIS is separated into two sections: the first section, **Communities of Place**, includes the subsections *Demographics*, *Economics*, and *Local Governments*. *Demographics* includes such topics as population, environmental justice, and attitudes and values. The last section, **Financial and Economic Efficiency**, examines consequences of alternatives from the perspectives of taxpayers and society as a whole.

Changes between Draft and Final

In response to comments on the Draft EIS, the Communities section has been modified for the Final EIS. Some of the more substantial changes include:

- ◆ Revising the timber supply, mill capacity and resulting impacts
- ◆ Revising estimated snowmobile use and resulting impacts
- ◆ Streamlining the history narratives of communities
- ◆ Dropping the Community of Interest section because of minimal comment or interest
- ◆ Adding a Tribal component throughout the demographics subsection
- ◆ Revision of tax consequences to local governments
- ◆ Adjustment of the key indicators