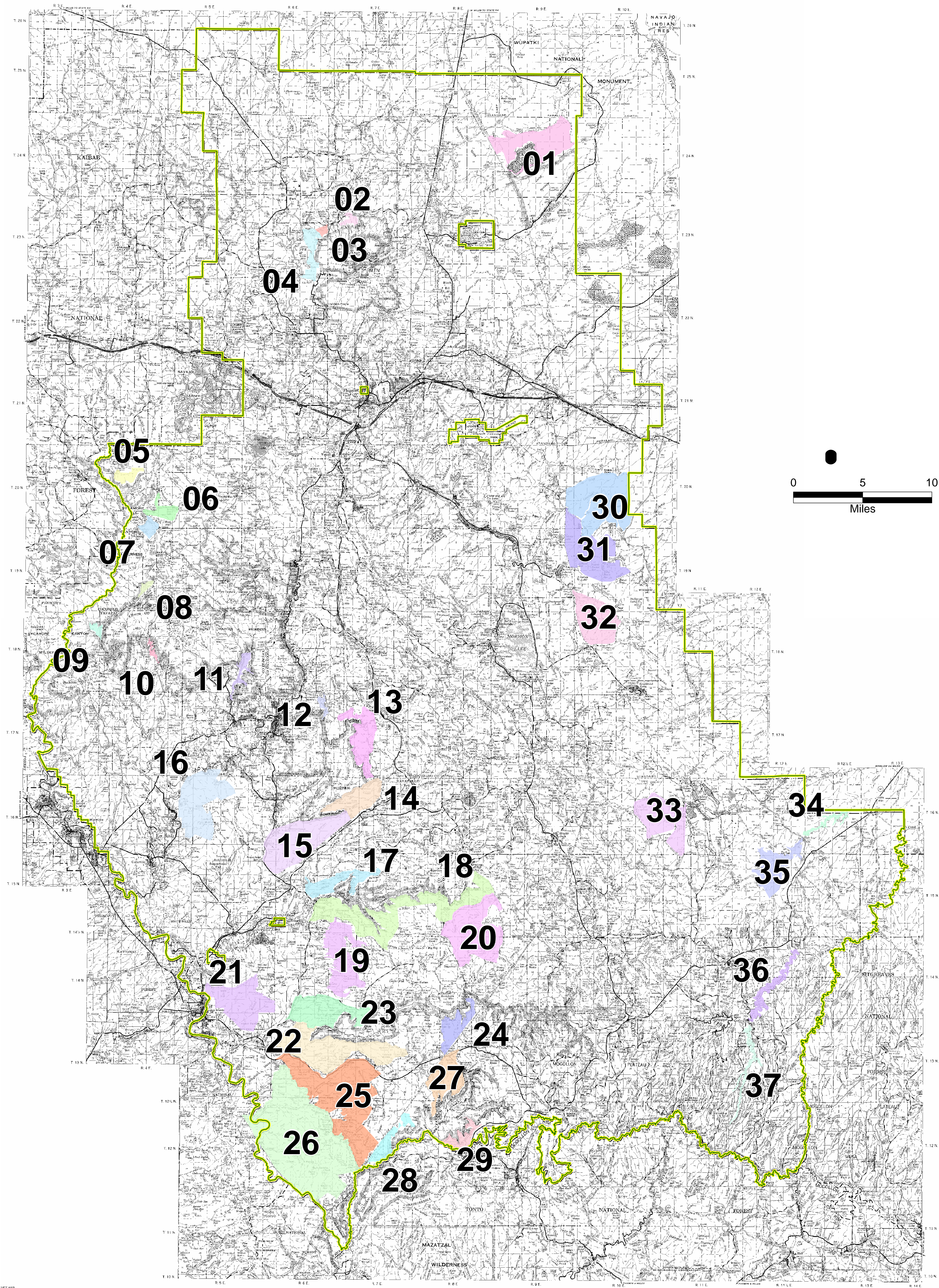


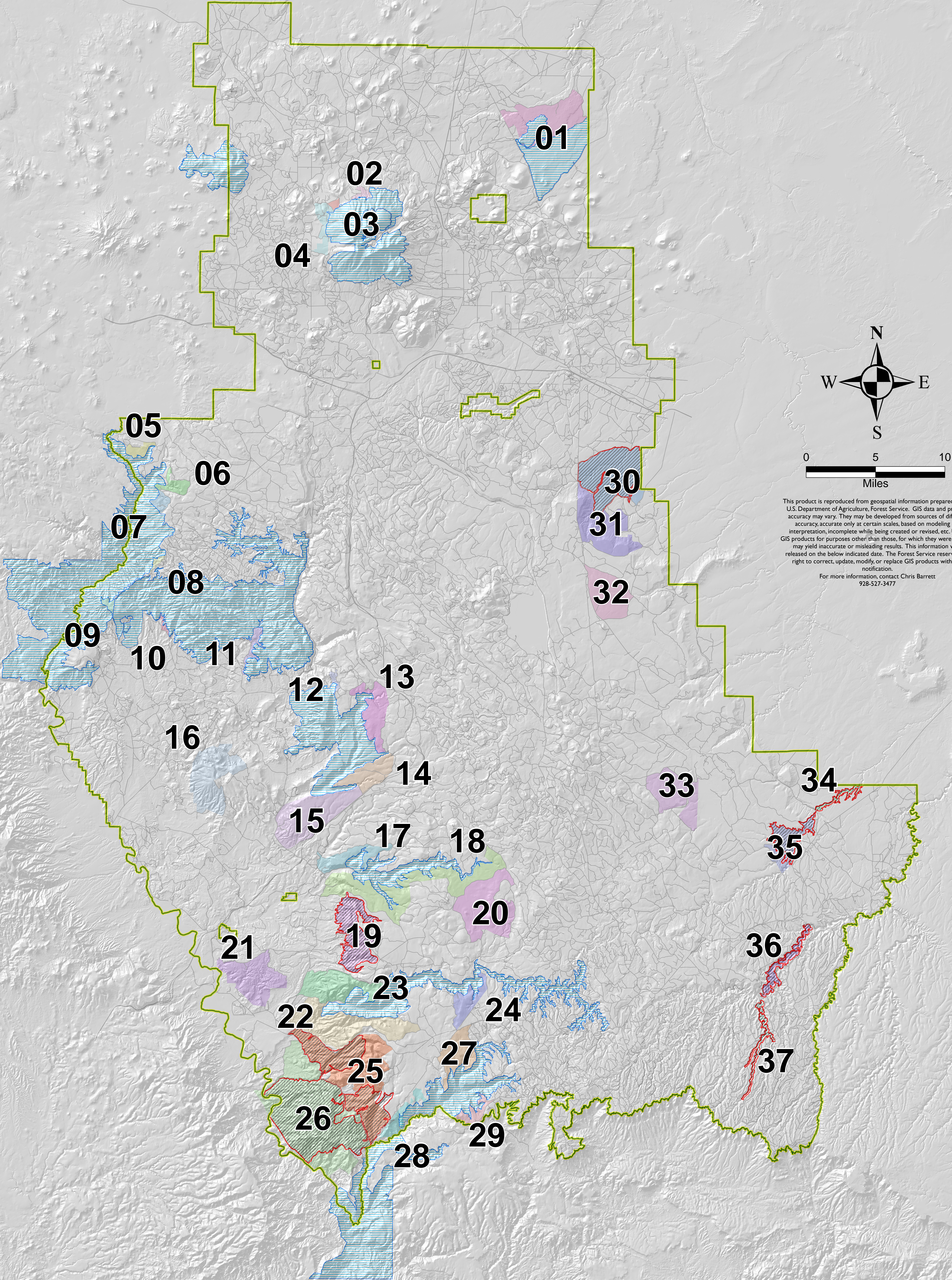
Coconino National Forest

Potential Wilderness Evaluation Index



Coconino National Forest

Potential Wilderness Evaluation



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For more information, contact Chris Barrett
928-527-3477

Area Name: Abineau

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 436 acres. Landforms include mountains, hills, and alluvial fans,

Vegetation:

Mixed conifer forest dominates the area, with ponderosa pine in the northern portions, and patches of aspen.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

This area is adjacent to the existing Kachina Peaks Wilderness, with some small private land holdings to the west.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is from the existing trailhead. Boundaries are formed by Forest Service road 418 to the north, and the Kachina Peaks Wilderness to the south.

Current Uses:

Current uses include: hiking, limited dispersed camping, some grazing, hunting, winter recreation, looking at fall foliage, and driving.

Key Attractions:

Attractions to the area include: aspen habitat, scenery, and hiking.

Area Name: Abineau

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: There is a high diversity of tree species and wildlife habitats, including a range of vegetation such as mixed conifer, ponderosa pine, and aspen. A variety of unique wildlife species can be found in the vicinity. Non-native species are evident in isolated spots. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: This area has several minor improvements and is mostly free from human disturbance. It contains multiple trails and abuts private land.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Most of the area provides challenging recreation opportunities. Finding solitude and achieving the feeling of being alone is possible but signs of civilization are likely due to the private land nearby. Primitive recreation opportunities include backpacking and hunting. The ROS classification of the area is Roaded Natural.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area offers panoramic views of Humphrey's peak and has aspen groves. Potential for research and environmental education is moderate. A large avalanche path in the area has been studied. Area contains a few rare species, such as the Mexican Spotted Owl and Goshawks.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: Managability in this area is challenged by the private land nearby and the small size of the area. However, the terrain makes it easier to manage. The majority of the boundary is easily found on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and the area will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Anderson Draw

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 5,540 acres. Landforms are generally elevated plains and lowland valley plains.

Vegetation:

Dominant vegetation is grasslands, and piñon juniper woodlands, though the area also includes wetlands.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is entirely surrounded by National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is entirely bounded by roads. Primary access would be through Forest Service road 125 on the south, Forest Service 9485 on the east, and Forest Service 9483 on the west side.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; grazing, dispersed recreation, hunting, scenic driving on the periphery of the area.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions include; water features, associated wildlife viewing opportunities, and unique grassland habitat.

Area Name: Barbershop

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 1,310 acres. Landforms are escarpments and canyons, valley plains.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is mixed conifer on northern aspects, ponderosa pine on southern aspects, and a riparian vegetation type within the northern valley plains.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is entirely surrounded by National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is bounded by topography. Access would be possible via Forest Service roads 321 and 145.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; dispersed day use, hiking, and dispersed camping.

Key Attractions:

The key attraction is the scenery and water features.

Area Name: Barbershop

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are common and scattered throughout the area. The stream in the area is considered free flowing and there are no known water quality issues. The night sky is clear and there is little interference from light pollution. The area has critical and unique habitats, diverse ecological conditions, and diverse natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: High

Comments: The area has only minor improvements and appears free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some parts of the area have the potential for challenging recreation opportunities and solitude is easily found. Some opportunities for primitive recreation are present. The ROS classification in the area is semi-primitive non motorized and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has panoramic views and the potential for scientific research. There are several unique and rare plants and animals present.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity with adequate access opportunities. About half of the boundary follows features that can easily be found and identified on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability of the area is high, and the area will be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Anderson Draw

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are not evident in the area. The night sky is clear with no interference from light pollution. The area has critical and unique habitats and ecological conditions. Mixed amounts of natural resources are present in the area.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities. Finding solitude is possible but signs of civilization are likely. Some opportunities for engaging in primitve recreation are present. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area offers panoramic vies and has the potential for scientific research. There are a few unique and rare plant and animal species.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity has adequate access oportunities and some resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability rating for the area is medium. The area will not move forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Bias Hog

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 8,859 acres. Landforms in the area are comprised of elevated plains, hills, escarpments, valley plains, and numerous ephemeral stream courses and drains.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is predominantly piñon juniper and evergreen oak, with juniper semi-desert grasslands transition,

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Surrounding lands are managed by the Forest Service, and abuts Munds Mountain Wilderness.

Access and Boundaries:

Accessibility is gained from Highway 179. Boundaries are Interstate 17, Highway 179, and Munds Mountain Wilderness.

Current Uses:

Current uses include hunting, livestock grazing, and fuelwood gathering.

Key Attractions:

The key attraction to the area is Dry Beaver Creek.

Area Name: Bais Hog

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species such as Dalmatian toadflax are evident in isolated spots. The river in the area is considered free flowing and there are no water quality issues. The quality of night sky is moderately affected by light pollution. The area has a critical or unique habitats and diverse ecological conditions. There is potential habitat for willow flycatchers and Agave delamateri and beardtongue in the area. The area contains a diverse amount of natural resources and vegetation types.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Most of the area provides challenging recreation opportunities. Opportunity to experience solitude is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are some opportunities for engaging in primitve recreation such as hiking and backpacking. The ROS classification is semi-primitive non motorized and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area offers scenic views and has good potential for scientific research, enviornmental education, and historic/cultural opportunities. The area has a few unique or rare plant and/or animal species like the willow flycatcher.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The ability to manage the area for wilderness character is moderate. The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity, has adequate access opportunites, and has some resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary follows features that can be easily found on the identifiable ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Bismark

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 1,776 acres. Landforms are comprised of alluvial fans, elevated plains, and cinder cones.

Vegetation:

Mixed conifer forest dominates the area, with ponderosa pine and aspen patches in the northern portion. The area also contains Bebb's willow, sub alpine grasslands, and riparian areas.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Several areas of private land adjacent to the west are developed. Other surrounding lands include; The Nature Conservancy, Kachina Peaks Wilderness, which contains portions of the Fern Mountain Botanical Area, and National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

Forest Service road 151 provides access to the area. Private lands border the area on the western side, and the Kachina Peaks Wilderness borders to the east.

Current Uses:

Current uses include: hiking, limited dispersed camping, some grazing, hunting, winter recreation, viewing fall foliage, and driving.

Key Attractions:

Attractions to the area include: aspen habitat, scenery, hiking, and connectivity to Kachina Peaks Wilderness.

Area Name: Bismark

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Dalmatian toadflax is evident in isolated spots. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. Area has critical /unique habitats and diverse ecological conditions. The area contains part of the Fern Mountain Botanical Area.

Undeveloped

Rank: Low

Comments: Area has two stock tanks and a water line through out. There are roads still in existence for administrative use.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Most of the area provides challenging recreation opportunities. Opportunities for solitude are moderately possible, as the area is a popular hiking area and the effects of the surrounding private land. Primitive recreation opportunities include backpacking, cross-country skiing, and hunting. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: The area provides scenic views of the cinder cones and the north rim. The area has good potential for Nature Conservancy Research. Bebbs willow and Cinquefoil are present in the area.

Manageability

Rank: Low

Comments: The manageability of the area for wilderness character is low due to the high use of the area and the private land and encroachments. About half of the boundary follows features that can be easily found on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Black Mt.

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness area is 9,850 acres. Landforms found in the area are escarpments, elevated plains, valley plains, and hills.

Vegetation:

Vegetation varies through out the area and includes; piñon juniper and alligator juniper in the eastern portion, juniper semi-desert grassland transition and juniper semi-desert shrubland in the western portion, and riparian vegetation.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is surrounded mostly by National Forest, although some of the area is bordered by private land.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is accessible from Forest Service road 215, Arizona State Route 260, and other Forest Service roads off of 260, as well as trails in the area. The area is bounded by Arizona State Routs 260, West Clear Creek Wilderness, and a small segment of Forest Service road 215.

Current Uses:

Current uses in the area include; livestock grazing, fuelwood collecting and gathering, hunting, dispersed recreation, hiking, and OHV (off highway vehicle) use.

Key Attractions:

The key attraction to the area is the historic General Crook Trail.

Area Name: Black Mt.

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. Rivers within the area are considered free flowing and have no water quality issues. Some stars are visible in the area and there is moderate light pollution from nearby Camp Verde. The area has critical and unique habitats, diverse ecological conditions, and a diverse amount of natural resources. There are Chiricahua leopard frogs, bald eagles, and Southwest willow flycatchers in the area.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area provides challenging recreation opportunities. The feeling of being alone is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are many opportunities to engage in primitive recreation. The ROS class for the area is semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural, and semi-primitive non-motorized.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: The area has many distinct features like rock formations and panoramic views. There are opportunities for research in the area as well as cultural opportunities. The area contains unique and rare species of plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: High

Comments: The area is isolated from areas of activity and has limited access and limited resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary is identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability rating is high and this area will be carried forward for further evaluation.

Area Name: Bunker Ridge

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 328 acres and contains hills, scarps or plains, and elevated plains.

Vegetation:

Vegetation in the area is ponderosa pine with gambel oak.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

National Forest lands lie to the west, Sycamore Canyon Wilderness to the west, and Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness lies to the south.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is possible from Forest Service road 538 and 536. Boundaries are formed from the powerline and Sycamore Canyon Wilderness.

Current Uses:

Current uses include: fuelwood cutting, limited dispersed camping, hiking, and livestock grazing.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions to the area are the cabin and area scenery.

Area Name: Bunker Ridge

Capability

Natural

Rank: Low

Comments: Bull thistle was recorded near the area. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. Area has a limited amount of natural resource diversity, ecological conditions and habitats.

Undeveloped

Rank: Low

Comments: There is a cabin in the area and a large powerline is visible.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation activities. Finding solitude is possible but signs of civilization are likely. Primitive recreation opportunities include back packing and hunting. The ROS classification for the area is roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: The area provides views of the red rock area. Historical opportunities include the cabin in the area. There is no unique or rare plants or animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: Manageability is moderate and the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Low

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is low and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Casner Mt.

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 367 acres, and contains elevated plains, scarp slopes of plains, and hills.

Vegetation:

Vegetation in the area is a combination of piñon and alligator juniper.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

All surrounding land is National Forest.

Access and Boundaries:

Area is bound by the powerline, Sycamore Canyon Wilderness to the west and Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness to the east.

Area is accessible from Forest Service road 525 and powerline corridor.

Current Uses:

Current uses include livestock grazing and motorized access along the boundary.

Key Attractions:

Scenery is the key attraction to this area.

Area Name: Casner Mt.

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Scotch thistle was recorded near the area. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The area has limited amount of natural resources and ecological conditions and habitats.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: Area is mostly free from human disturbance, but a major powerline can be seen in some of the area.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Most of the area provides challenging recreation opportunities. Opportunity for solitude is moderate due to traffic from nearby roads. Opportunities for primitive recreation include back packing and hunting. The ROS classification for the area is roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: The area provides panoramic views of canyons and the red rock area. There is little opportunity for research or environmental education. The area has no unique or rare plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The manageability of the area is moderate. It is somewhat isolated from areas of activity and there are adequate access options. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Cedar Bench

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 5,867 acres. Landforms are comprised of hills, elevated plains, and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation varies from juniper semi-desert grassland transition to piñon juniper woodlands in the extreme eastern portion. Creosote desert vegetation is found in the extreme southwest portion of the potential wilderness.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

All surrounding lands are National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is accessible from Forest Service roads 215 and 214. The area is bounded by Forest Service roads and the West Clear Creek Wilderness.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; fuelwood collecting and gathering, hunting, dispersed recreation, livestock grazing, and hiking.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions to the area are wildlife viewing and scenery.

Area Name: Cedar Bench

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots. The rivers in the area are in free flowing condition and there is no water quality issues. Some stars are visible in the area and there is moderate light degradation from nearby Camp Verde. The area has critical and unique habitats and diverse ecological conditions. The area contains heath-leaf wild buckwheat, Verde valley sage, golden and bald eagles, and southwestern willow flycatcher. The area contains a diverse amount of natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some of the area has the potential for challenging recreation and opportunities for solitude. Some of the primitive recreation opportunities are backpacking, hiking, and hunting. The ROS class of the area is roaded natural and semi-primitive nonmotorized.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: The area has panoramic views and the potential for cultural opportunities and research on the springs in the area. The area has several unique or rare species of plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: High

Comments: The area is isolated from areas of activity and has limited access and resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary can be easily found on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability of this area is high. The area will be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Cimmaron-boulder

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 15,590 acres. Landforms include hills, elevated plains, mountains, and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of converted piñon juniper woodlands, converted piñon alligator woodlands, and juniper semi-desert grassland transition.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is entirely surrounded by National Forest, including both the Cimarron and Boulder Inventoried Roadless Areas.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is accessible from Forest Service road 708, and Arizona State Route 260. The area is bounded by roads and the powerline.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; livestock grazing, OHV (off highway vehicle) use, dispersed recreation, hunting, and hiking.

Key Attractions:

The key attractions to the area are the geologic features and cultural resources.

Area Name: Cimmaron-boulder

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The area has a mix of habitats, ecological conditions, and natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements in the area and is mostly free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: High

Comments: Some parts of the area have the potential for challenging recreation. There is a significant feeling of being alone and away from civilization. There are some opportunities for engaging in primitive recreation. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive motorized, semi-primitive nonmotorized, and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: The area has many distinct features such as geology and panoramic views. There is the potential for cultural opportunities in the area. Several unique and rare plant and animal species occupy the area.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity and has adequate access opportunities with some resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary can be easily identified on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: This area has a high rating of capability and will be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Davey's

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 1,901 acres. Landforms include elevated plains, hills, and scarp slopes of plains.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of piñon juniper and evergreen shrub, juniper semi-desert grassland transition, and ponderosa pine stringers.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Area is adjacent to Fossil Creek , utility line, and surround by National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

Accessibility is from powerline road and Forest Service road 708. The area is bounded by Fossil Springs Wilderness and a utility line.

Current Uses:

Current uses include grazing, motorized recreation, and hunting.

Key Attractions:

Fossil Creek in the southern portion is the key attraction to the area.

Area Name: Davey's

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The quality of night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The river in the area is considered to be free flowing and there are no known water quality issues. The area has critical and unique habitats, diverse ecological conditions, and a diverse amount of natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some parts of the area have the potential for challenging recreation opportunities and opportunities for solitude. There are some opportunities to engage in primitive recreation. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: There are panaoramic views and geological features in the area. There is potential for scientific research and cultural opportunities. The area has a few unique and rare plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity with adequate access opportunites and some resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary is easily identifable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The capability rating for this area is high and it will go forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Deadwood Draw

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 11,939 acres. Landforms include hills and elevated plains.

Vegetation:

A variety of vegetation is found within this area, including piñon juniper woodlands, piñon juniper semi-desert grassland transition, and semi-desert grasslands/shrubland. Ponderosa pine and alligator juniper is found in the extreme eastern portion.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is predominantly surrounded by National Forest, including part of Wet Beaver Wilderness, and a small amount of private land.

Access and Boundaries:

Accessibility is gained by existing trails, Forest Service road 618 on the west and Forest Service road 214 on the east, and Long Canyon jeep trails. Area bounded by Wet Beaver Wilderness and forest roads.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; hiking, jeep trail recreation, livestock grazing, dispersed recreation, and fuelwood cutting and gathering.

Key Attractions:

The key attractions are heritage sites, scenery, and the connection to the Wet Beaver trail system.

Area Name: Deadwood Draw

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The quality of night sky is moderately affected by light pollution. The area has a mix of habitats and ecological conditions. The area contains populations of *Agave delamateri*, Flagstaff beardtongue, parsons, and falcons. The area has a diverse amount of natural resources and vegetation diversity.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities. Opportunities to experience solitude is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are some opportunities for engaging in primitive recreation such as hiking, backpacking, and hunting. The ROS classification is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area offers panoramic views of the surrounding area. There is good potential for scientific research and historical/cultural opportunities. The area has a few unique or rare plant species such as agave.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The ability to manage for wilderness character is moderate. There is a lot of OHV use in the area and the flat terrain makes it conducive to intrusions. About half of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: This overall capability of this area is medium. It will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Dorsey Spring

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 814 acres. Landforms include elevated plains, hills, and scarp slopes of plains.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of ponderosa pine, gambel oak, and alligator juniper.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Surrounding lands are national forest and wilderness.

Access and Boundaries:

Forest Service road 527 and 538 provide access to the area. Area boundaries are National Forest roads and Sycamore Canyon Wilderness.

Current Uses:

Current uses include: limited dispersed camping, livestock grazing, hunting, and hiking.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions are the Dorsey Kelsey Trail system and cabins.

Area Name: Dorsey Spring

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Past timber sales, grazing, and adjacent wildfires make the area vulnerable to weed infestation. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. Area has a mix of habitats, ecological conditions, and natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Low

Comments: Area has old skid roads and signs of logging are still evident. There is a cherry stem road in the area and a trail.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some parts of the area have potential for challenging recreation opportunities. Solitude is easily found in the area. Primitive recreation opportunities include back packing and hunting. The ROS classification for the area is roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: The area has no distinct features although there is a panoramic view of the canyon. There is little opportunity for research or environmental education. The area contains no unique or rare plants or animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: Manageability is moderate due to cherry stem; boundaries are recognizable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: East Clear Creek

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 2,033 acres. Landforms include escarpments, canyons, and valley plains.

Vegetation:

Main vegetation in the area is ponderosa pine on the southern aspects, and douglas fir on the northern aspects, piñon juniper, and a riparian vegetation type.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The proposed area contains large private parcels, that the Coconino National Forest is in the process of acquiring. Area is surrounded by National Forest System land and private land.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is bounded by the canyon topography. It is accessible from Forest Service road 137 on the east, and 513 on the west.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; dispersed day use, fishing, hiking, and dispersed camping.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions include trails, water, riparian areas, and scenic features of East Clear Creek..

Area Name: East Clear Creek

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are common and scattered throughout the area. Rivers in the area are in free flowing condition and there are no water quality issues. The night sky is clear with little interference from light pollution. The area has critical and unique habitats, diverse ecological conditions, and a diverse amount of natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: High

Comments: The area has only minor improvements and appears free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: High

Comments: Most of the area provides challenging recreation opportunities and solitude. Some opportunities for primitive recreation are present. The ROS classification for the area is semi-primitive non motorized.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: The area offers scenic views and unique geology. There is potential scientific research opportunities and the area has several unique and rare plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity with adequate access opportunities with some resource conflicts. About half of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability of this area is high. This area will move forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Gary David

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 6,114 acres. Ashurst, Tremain and Hay lake are to the west. Landforms are primarily elevated plains, and a minor extent of hills, scarp slopes, and pluralize swales.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is comprised of grasslands, ponderosa pine piñon juniper transition, and to a minor extent of montane meadows.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is entirely surround by National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

The eastern boundary is a combination of private and Tremain Lake. The south, north and west sides are bounded by roads. Access would be possible from boundary Forest Service roads 704 to the south, 135 to the north, and 93A on the west.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; hunting, dispersed recreation, OHV (off-highway vehicle) use, and grazing.

Key Attractions:

There are no unique key attractions to the area.

Area Name: Gary David

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The night sky is clear with little interference from light pollution. The area has critical and unique habitats, diverse ecological conditions, and natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some parts of the area have the potential for challenging recreation opportunities. The feeling of being alone is possible but signs of civilization are likely. Some opportunities for engaging in primitive recreation are present. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: The area has a few unique and rare animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity with adequate access opportunities and some resource conflicts. About half of the boundary is easily recognizable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium. This area will not be brought forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Hackberry

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 26,223 acres. Primary landforms include escarpments, hills, mountains, and some elevated plains.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of piñon juniper woodlands, piñon juniper evergreen shrub, juniper/semi-desert grassland transitions, and semi-desert shrubland. There are isolated seeps and springs, with intermittent riparian areas that contain riparian vegetation.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is entirely surrounded by National Forest, part of the area crosses Verde River, and extends onto the Prescott National Forest.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is possible from Forest Service roads 708 and 500. Boundaries include a powerline to the west and south, Forest Service roads, and segments of the Verde River.

Current Uses:

Current uses include grazing, dispersed recreation, hunting, and hiking.

Key Attractions:

Attractions to the area include unique geological formations, bat roosts, winter wildlife viewing opportunities, and Towel Creek trail.

Area Name: Hackberry

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The area has critical and unique habitats, diverse ecological conditions, and a diverse amount of natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: High

Comments: Tthe area provides challenging recreation opportunities and a high degree of solitude. There are some opportunities for primitive recreation. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitve nonmotorized, semi-primitive motorized, and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: The area has many distinct features such as panoramic views and unique rock formations. The area has potential for scientific research and cultural opportunities. Several unique and rare species occupy the area.

Manageability

Rank: High

Comments: The area is isolated from areas of activity and has limited access. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability of this area is high. The area will be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Horse Knoll

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 9,027 acres and contains elevated plains and hills.

Vegetation:

Vegetation in the area is converted piñon juniper (seral grassland), alligator juniper and ponderosa pine- piñon juniper transition.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Area is entirely surrounded by National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

Access and boundaries are Forest Service roads 214, 9696h, and FS81a.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; livestock grazing, fuelwood collection and gathering, hunting, and general dispersed recreation.

Key Attractions:

A key attraction to the area is its unique old growth alligator juniper

Area Name: Horse Knoll

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are not evident in the area. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The area has a mix of habitats and ecological conditions and a diverse variety of natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Only a few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities. The feeling of being alone is possible but signs of civilization are likely. Primitive opportunities such as hunting and backpacking are available.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has some distinct features such as panoramic views and stands of old alligator junipers. There is potential for research on the stands of old growth alligator juniper. The area has several unique and rare plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity and has adequate access opportunities. The majority of the boundary follows features that can be easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: House Mt.

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 7,856 acres. Landforms include elevated plains, hills, and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of juniper semi-desert grassland transition and piñon juniper woodlands.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Private lands lie to the west, north, and east, and to the south is Forest Service System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is possible from State Route 134, Forest Service road 9952, private land, and a trail. Boundaries are private land, roads, and a trail to the southeast.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; outfitter and guide access, hiking, livestock grazing, and dispersed recreation.

Key Attractions:

The area is scenic.

Area Name: House Mt.

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots. A small segment of Oak Creek is within the area and is considered free flowing. Oak Creek is listed on the State Impaired Waters List (303d). The quality of night sky is moderately affected by light pollution. The area has critical or unique habitats and diverse ecological conditions. The area contains Ripley's buckwheat and Verde valley sage and habitat for spring snails, cuckoos and garter snakes. The area has a mixed amount of natural resources and vegetation diversity.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some parts of the area have the potential for challenging recreation opportunities. The opportunity to experience solitude is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are some opportunities for primitive recreation such as; hiking, hunting, and backpacking. The ROS classification is semi-primitive non motorized and semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: The area offers scenic views and contains a portion of Oak creek. There is good potential for scientific research, environmental education, or historic/cultural opportunities. The area has several unique or rare species.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The ability to manage for wilderness character is moderate. The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity, has adequate access opportunities, and some resource conflicts. About half of the boundary is recognizable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Jacks Canyon

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 3,932 acres. The area is predominantly elevated plains and escarpments and hills, but also includes canyons.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is piñon juniper woodlands, ponderosa pine piñon juniper transition, and grasslands.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

All surrounding lands are National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is accessible from Forest Service road 868 and 9718 E, as well as other roads to the north and east. The area is bounded by canyons, and Forest Service roads 868 and 9718E.

Current Uses:

Current uses include fuelwood collection, hunting, and grazing.

Key Attractions:

The scenic canyon is the key attraction.

Area Name: Jacks Canyon

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The night sky is clear with little interference from light pollution. The area has critical and unique habitats, diverse ecological conditions, and diverse natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some parts of the area have the potential for challenging recreation opportunities and finding solitude. Some opportunities for engaging in primitive recreation are present. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive non motorized and semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: There is potential for cultural opportunities. A few unique and rare plants and animals are present.

Manageability

Rank: Low

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas activity with adequate access opportunities and some resource conflicts. The boundary is not easily identified and can rarely be located without equipment.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium. This area will not be brought forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Lower Jacks Canyon

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 776 acres. Landforms are a combination of canyons and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is piñon juniper woodland.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Surrounding lands are all National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

Area boundary is defined by canyon rim and existing IRA. Access would be from Forest Service road 69, off Arizona Highway 67.

Current Uses:

Current primary use is rock climbing.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions would be the canyon itself, scenic viewing opportunities, and rock climbing.

Area Name: Lower Jacks Canyon

Capability

Natural

Rank: Low

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The night sky is clear with little interference from light pollution. There is a limited amount of ecological conditions, habitats, and natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: High

Comments: The area has only minor improvements and appears free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: High

Comments: Most of the area provides challenging recreation opportunities and solitude is easily found. Opportunities for engaging in primitive recreation are present. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive non motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has panoramic views and rock formations and there is opportunity for scientific research

Manageability

Rank: High

Comments: The ability to manage for wilderness character is high. The area is isolated from areas of activity with limited access and no resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium. This area will not be brought forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Loy

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 281 acres, with landforms containing elevated plains and hills.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is piñon juniper and evergreen oak.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Private land lies to the west and east, and the remainder of surrounding lands are managed by the Forest Service.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is possible on Forest Service road 525. Area is bound by Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness to the north, and private land to the east and west.

Current Uses:

Current uses include recreation, outfitter and guide use, hiking, and livestock grazing.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions to the area are the heritage resources and scenery.

Area Name: Loy

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are not evident in the area. Some stars are visible here and there is moderate degradation from light pollution. The area contains a mixed amount of natural resources, habitats, and ecological conditions.

Undeveloped

Rank: Low

Comments: The area contains fences, a trail, and telephone lines.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities. There is little opportunity to find solitude in the area. Primitive recreation opportunities are few. The ROS classification is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area contains many heritage resources with potential for environmental education or research. There are no unique or rare plants and/or animals in the area.

Manageability

Rank: Low

Comments: The manageability of the area is low due to the many cherry stems and private land surrounding the area. The majority of the boundary is easily recognizable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Low

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is low and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Meadow

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness area is 2,484 acres and contains elevated plains and hills.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is comprised of piñon juniper converted (seral grasslands), true alligator juniper, and ponderosa pine-piñon juniper transition.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is entirely surrounded by National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

Accessibility is available from Forest Service road 677 and 142. The area is bounded by the West Clear Creek Wilderness, powerlines, and Forest Service roads.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; livestock grazing, limited fuelwood gathering and collection, dispersed recreation, OHV (off highway vehicle) use, and hunting.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions to the area are heritage resources and scenery.

Area Name: Meadow

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The night sky is clear with little to no light interference from light pollution. The area has a mix of habitats, ecological conditions, and natural resources. The area contains Mexican spotted owls, and habitat for the Chiricahua leopard frog and Flagstaff beardtongue.

Undeveloped

Rank: Low

Comments: The area shows signs of disturbance and has major improvements.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities. The feeling of being alone is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are some opportunities for engaging in primitve recreation. The ROS classification for the area is semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: The area offers panoramic views and there are cultural opportunities. The area has a few unique and rare plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity and has some resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Low

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is low and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Nash

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 1,504 acres. Landforms include elevated plains and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of alligator juniper savanna and ponderosa pine.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

South side is surrounded by Coconino and Tonto National Forests. The area is in close proximity to private land in Strawberry, Arizona.

Access and Boundaries:

Access and boundaries are provided by Highway 87, the Forest boundary south part of Fossil Springs Wilderness.

Current Uses:

Current uses include hunting and dispersed recreation.

Key Attractions:

Scenic attributes can be found along the southern boundary on the Mogollon Rim.

Area Name: Nash

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are not evident in the area. The night sky is moderately affected by light pollution. Area has a mixed amount of habitats, ecological conditions, and natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: High

Comments: The area has only minor improvements and appears free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities. The feeling of being alone is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are some opportunities for engaging in primitive recreation. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: The area offers panoramic views and rock formations. There is little opportunities for scientific research, environmental education, or cultural opportunities. The area has no unique or rare plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity with adequate access opportunities and some resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Low

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is low and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: North Volunteer

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 881 acres. The majority of the landforms are elevated plains, but it also contains stream terraces.

Vegetation:

Vegetation in this area is a transition area from ponderosa pine to piñon juniper. Also found in the area are gambel oak, alligator juniper, and riparian vegetation.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Private land lies to the north, a boy scout camp is adjacent, and the remaining surrounding lands are National Forest.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is possible through Sycamore Canyon Wilderness and existing Forest Service roads. Boundaries include Forest Service road 527, south of the Garland Prairie Road, Sycamore Canyon Wilderness, private land, and Forest Service Roads.

Current Uses:

Current uses include: limited dispersed camping, livestock grazing, hunting, and boy scout use.

Key Attractions:

Attractions to the area include viewing pond lilies, and scenic views near the canyon edges.

Area Name: North Volunteer

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: There are no recorded weed occurrences, but the entire area has not been surveyed. The area has potential for non-native species due to past timber sales and grazing in the area. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The area has a moderate amount of biological diversity and naturalness.

Undeveloped

Rank: High

Comments: The area is relatively undeveloped. However, there is a boy scout camp adjacent to it.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some of the area has potential to provide challenging recreation opportunities. Opportunities for solitude are high except for times that the boy scout camp is in use. Primitive recreation opportunities include back packing and hunting. The ROS classification of the area is roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has scenic panoramic views and the boy scout camp near by uses the area for environmental education. The area contains bald eagles and Penstemon Nudiflorus.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: Manageability is moderate due to the flat terrain, thus increasing the ease of access. The majority of the boundary follows features that can be easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Padre Canyon

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 9,924 acres. Topography includes elevated plains, valley plains, canyons, and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of piñon juniper woodlands, and montane meadows in valley plains.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is surrounded by state and private land, and adjacent to forest boundary.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is bounded by the Forest boundary, the powerline on the west side. Access is gained through numerous Forest Service roads in the south and east, including FS 233.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; grazing, fuelwood cutting and gathering, hunting, and dispersed recreation.

Key Attractions:

There are no unique key attractions to the area.

Area Name: Padre Canyon

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are common and scattered through out the area. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The area has critical and unique habitats and diverse ecological conditions. There is a limited amount of resource diversity.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities but solitude can easily be found. There are some opporunities for engaging in primitve recreation. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitve motorized and semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: There is opportunity for scientific research and a few unique and rare plants and animals in the area.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is isolated from areas of activity and has little resource conflicts. About half of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is medium. This area will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Railroad Draw

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 1,280 acres. Landforms are elevated plains, hills, and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of ponderosa pine, gambel oak, and alligator juniper.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

State land lies adjacent to the east.

Access and Boundaries:

Trailhead forms the south boundary. The rest of the area is bound by state lands, Forest Service roads, existing Wilderness. Access is possible through 527 road network.

Current Uses:

Current uses include: limited dispersed camping, livestock grazing, and hunting.

Key Attractions:

The key attraction to the area is the heritage resources,

Area Name: Railroad Draw

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Past timber sales, grazing, and adjacent wildfires in the area make it vulnerable to weed invasion. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The area has critical habitats for Mexican Spotted Owl, Bald Eagles, and riparian species. The area contains a diverse amount of natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: High

Comments: The area appears free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: High

Comments: Most of the area provides challenging recreation opportunities. Solitude can easily be found in this area. Primitive recreation opportunities include hunting and back packing. The ROS classification of the area is Roaded Natural.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: The area provides scenic panoramic views. The historic railroad in the area could provide an opportunity for research. The area has Goshawks, Bald Eagles, and Mexican Spotted Owls.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: Manageability is moderate due to the flat terrain and state land adjacent to the area. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability of the area is high and the area will be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Rattlesnake

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 3,622 acres and the landforms include elevated plains and hills.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is piñon juniper woodland and evergreen oak.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Area is entirely surrounded by National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is gained via interstate 17. Forest Service roads boundary the east, and Interstate 17 to the west, and is adjacent to Munds Mountain Wilderness.

Current Uses:

Current uses include hunting, piñon juniper fuelwood collection, and livestock grazing.

Key Attractions:

Scenery is the key attraction to the area.

Area Name: Rattlesnake

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: No non-native species have been recorded, but non-native species are likely evident in isolated spots in the area because the area borders I-17. The quality of night sky is moderately depredated by light pollution. The area has a mix of habitats and ecological conditions. There is a moderate mixture amount of natural resources in the area.

Undeveloped

Rank: Low

Comments: The area has major improvements and shows signs of human disturbance. There are stock tanks, road intrusions, and the freeway nearby.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities. There is little opportunity to experience solitude and isolation from human activities. There are some opportunities for engaging in primitive recreation such as hunting and back packing. The ROS classification is semi-primitive motorized and semi-primitive non-motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: The area has scenic views. There is little to no potential for scientific research, environmental education, or historical/cultural opportunities. The area has a few unique or rare plants like sneezeweed.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has a moderate ability to manage the area for wilderness character. It is somewhat isolated from areas of activity, has adequate access opportunities, and some resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary is recognizable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Low

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is low and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Schnebly

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 366 acres, and the landforms are comprised of escarpments and elevated plains.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of piñon, alligator juniper, and chaparral.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

All surrounding lands are managed by the Forest Service.

Access and Boundaries:

Area is accessible via the Schnebly Hill Road. Boundaries include Munds Mountain Wilderness to the south and roads to the north.

Current Uses:

Current uses include recreation, outfitter and guides access, hiking, livestock grazing, and OHV (off highway vehicle) use.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions include scenic vistas, vortices, and hiking.

Area Name: Schnebly

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: There is documented occurrence of non-native Dalmatian toadflax within the boundary. The quality of night sky is moderately degraded from light pollution. The area has critical or unique habitats and diverse ecological conditions. Casner Canyon RNA adjoins the area on the northeast corner and has diverse plant communities and the area is habitat for Mexican Spotted Owl. The area has a diverse amount of natural resources and vegetation diversity.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements but is mostly free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: Some of the area has the potential for challenging recreation opportunities. The opportunity to experience solitude and isolation from human activities is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are some opportunities for engaging in primitive recreation such as; hiking, back packing, hunting, and wildlife watching. The ROS class of the area is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: From the area there is a scenic view of the canyon. There is little to no opportunity for scientific research, environmental education, or historic/cultural opportunities. The area has several unique or rare plants/animals such as; Mexican Spotted Owls and Bugbane.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The ability to manage for wilderness character is moderate. The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity and has adequate access opportunities. The area is long in shape at the south end with less than a half mile between roads. The majority of the boundary is recognizable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Sterling Canyon

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 940 acres. Landforms include elevated plains, hills, and minor areas of escarpment on the south finger.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is piñon juniper and evergreen oak.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Surrounding lands include private ownership to the south and the west.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is possible via Forest Service road 152 and access to Sterling Canyon trail. Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness borders the area.

Current Uses:

Current uses include recreation, outfitter and guides access, hiking, livestock grazing, and mountain biking.

Key Attractions:

Key attractions are heritage resources, interpretation, and scenery.

Area Name: Sterling Canyon

Capability

Natural

Rank: Low

Comments: Non-native species are not evident. Some stars are visible and there is moderate degradation to the night sky from light pollution. The area has limited ecological conditions and habitats.

Undeveloped

Rank: Low

Comments: Area shows signs of human disturbance, with more disturbance in the northern section than in the south.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Some parts of the area have the potential for challenging recreation opportunities. There is very little opportunity to experience solitude and isolation from human activities while recreating in the area. There are few to no opportunities to engage in primitive recreation. The area is used for front country hiking and no camping is allowed in the area, as it is within an area that is designated as day use only. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Low

Comments: The area has unique rock formations and scenic views. There is little to no potential for scientific research, environmental education, or historical/cultural opportunities. The area has no unique or rare plants or animals.

Manageability

Rank: Low

Comments: The ability to manage the area for wilderness character is low due to areas of activity nearby and many access opportunities. The majority of the boundary is recognizable.

Capability

Rank: Low

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is low and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Strawberry Crater

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 6,704 acres. It would be an expansion of the Strawberry Crater Wilderness that is now 10,141 acres, bringing the overall acres to 16,845 if recommended. It's overall terrain is relatively flat, but contains areas of hills, elevated plains, cinder cones, plains, scarp slopes of plains, lava flows, and is dissected by key drainages to the north, including Deadman's Wash.

Vegetation:

piñon juniper comprises the majority of the vegetation in the lava flows, with apache plume found in drainages. Ponderosa pine is found in some of the drainages.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

National Park Service land lies to the north, with state and private to the east. Alpine Ranchos lies to the east, and the area is adjacent to the existing Strawberry Crater Wilderness.

Access and Boundaries:

Access would be from the Sunset Wupatki Loop road (FR 545), existing forest roads, and FR 779 that leads to the existing Strawberry trailhead. Boundaries are established with the power line, topography, and the existing Strawberry Crater Wilderness boundary.

Current Uses:

Current uses include: livestock grazing, piñon juniper fuelwood collection, hunting, hiking, some user created OHV (off highway vehicle) trails, and limited dispersed recreation.

Key Attractions:

Attractions to the area include heritage resources, winter wildlife habitat, birds, volcanic geology, and scenic beauty.

Area Name: Strawberry Crater

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Area has a limited amount of natural resource diversity and non-native species are not evident. Area has a mix of habitats and ecological conditions. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has a stock tank on the edge, a major powerline on part of the western edge, a pasture fence, and user created roads due to OHV (off highway vehicle) use.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: There are some land-based opportunities for primitive recreation. Some of the area provides physically and mentally challenging recreation opportunities. There is a high potential for a significant feeling of being alone or remote from civilization. Current ROS class is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: Special features include views of San Francisco Peaks, cinder cones, and the Painted Desert. The area contains a high concentration of heritage resources and sites, a few unique or rare plants/animals, and unique geologic features.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area's proximity to numerous travel corridors, topography, and vegetation limit the ability to manage for wilderness character. The majority of boundary is well defined, by both current wilderness and roads.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability of the area is high and the area will be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Tin Can

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 4,010 acres. Landforms include elevated plains, hill, and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is piñon juniper evergreen shrub, alligator juniper, and isolated grasslands within piñon juniper interspaces, and ponderosa pine stringers.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is entirely surrounded by National Forest, including Fossil Springs Wilderness.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is bounded by Fossil Springs Wilderness, a series of Forest Service roads, and a utility line. Access is possible from Forest Service roads, and the Mail Trail.

Current Uses:

Grazing is the primary use in the area. Camping, hunting and fuelwood gathering also occur.

Key Attractions:

The area is attractive for its scenery, view of Fossil Creek, and unique alligator juniper savannas.

Area Name: Tin Can

Capability

Natural

Rank: High

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. The area has a mixed amount of habitats and ecological conditions. There is a diverse amount of natural resources in the area.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreaion. The feeling of being alone is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are a few opportunitis to engage in primitive recreation. The ROS classification for the area is semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has panoramic views and unique rock formations. There is potential for cultural opportunities. The area has a few unique and rare plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity, has adequate access opportunities, and some resource conflicts. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is medium, and it will not be taken into further analysis.

Area Name: Walker Mt.

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness area is 6,378 acres. landforms include hills, mountains, and escarpments.

Vegetation:

Vegetation includes piñon juniper woodlands, chaparral, and a minor portion of semi-desert grassland and shrubland.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Area is surrounded by National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

Accessibility is gained by hiking trails, Forest Service roads 214 and 618. Boundaries of the area are the same as the Walker Mountain Inventoried Roadless Area.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; livestock grazing, fuelwood cutting and gathering, OHV (off highway vehicle) use, hunting, hiking, and dispersed recreation.

Key Attractions:

A key attraction to the area is the Walker Basin trail.

Area Name: Walker Mt.

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species such as cheatgrass are evident in isolated spots. The creek in the area is considered free flowing and there are no known water quality issues within the area but the creek hasn't been sampled. The quality of night sky is moderately affected by light pollution. The area has a mix of habitats, natural resources, and ecological conditions. There is a mixed amount of vegetation diversity.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: Area contains several minor improvements and is mostly free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: High

Comments: The area's rough terrain and large size provide challenging recreation opportunities. Hiking, hunting, and fishing are possible. There is a significant feeling of being alone and remote from civilization. The ROS classification is semi-primitive non motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: This area has unique terrain, but no outstanding or distinct features. There are research opportunities for beetle kill, fish, and historic features. Gila chub is found within this area.

Manageability

Rank: High

Comments: The ability to manage the area for wilderness character is moderate. The majority of the boundary is recognizable due to natural features.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability of this area is high and the area will be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: White Mesa

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 2,935 acres. Landforms include elevated plains and hills.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of juniper semi-desert grassland transition and piñon juniper woodlands.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Surrounding lands are private, National Forest System, and Southwestern Private Academy.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is available from Forest Service road 644h, and the hiking trail along Beaver Creek. Area is bound by Forest Service roads, the Wet Beaver Wilderness, and private land.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; livestock grazing, fuelwood cutting and gathering, dispersed recreation, and hunting.

Key Attractions:

The key attraction to the area is heritage resources.

Area Name: White Mesa

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are not evident in the area. The quality of night sky is moderately affected by light pollution. The area has limited ecological conditions and habitats and a mixed amount of natural resources.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free from human disturbance.

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: A few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities. The opportunity to experience solitude is possible but signs of civilization are likely. There are few opportunities to engage in primitive recreation like hiking. The ROS classification for the area is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area offers scenic views into the canyon. There is potential for historical/cultural education opportunities. The area has potential habitat for rare plant species.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The ability to manage the area for wilderness character is moderate. The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity and has adequate access opportunities. The flat terrain of the area makes it conducive to intrusions. About half of the boundary is easily locateable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium and it will not be taken further into analysis.

Area Name: Whitehorse

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 278 acres. Landforms include alluvial fans, elevated plains, and cinder cones.

Vegetation:

Mixed conifer forest dominates the area, with ponderosa pine to the north, and patches of aspen.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Private land is adjacent to the east of this area, and White Horse Hills is fully developed. Kachina Peaks Wilderness and the Coconino National Forest surround the remainder of the area.

Access and Boundaries:

Private lands border some of the area, with access possible from Forest Service road 418 and the Kachina Peaks Wilderness.

Current Uses:

Current uses include: hiking, limited dispersed camping, some grazing, hunting, winter recreation, viewing fall foliage, and driving,

Key Attractions:

Attractions to the area include: aspen habitat, scenery, hiking, and connectivity to Kachina Peaks Wilderness.

Area Name: Whitehorse

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: The proposed area is on the edge of a recent wildfire, resulting in non-native species in isolated spots. The night sky is clear with little to no interference from light pollution. Area has critical habitats for the Mexican Spotted Owl and Goshawks, as well as aspen. There is a moderate amount of natural resources in the area.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: Area has several minor improvements and private land nearby. It is mostly free from human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has limited potential for challenging recreation opportunities and solitude due to the private land surrounding the area. Primitive recreation opportunities include back packing, cross country skiing, and hunting. The ROS classification for the area is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: There is a view of the San Fransico Peaks and volcanic features to the north. The area has limited potential for research or environmental educaiton opportunities. The area contains Mexican Spotted Owl and Goshawk habitat.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has a moderate degree of manageability due to the surrounding private lands. The majority of the boundaries are easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of this area is medium and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Wikiup

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 6,740 acres. Landforms include hills, escarpments, arroyos, and elevated plains.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of creosote desert, juniper, and crucifixion thorn.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

A gypsum mine is nearby, and some private land, the remaining surrounding land is National Forest System lands.

Access and Boundaries:

The area is accessible from Forest Service roads 618 and 260. The area is bounded by private land and Forest Service roads.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; livestock grazing, OHV (off highway vehicle) use, day use recreation, and hiking.

Key Attractions:

Heritage sites are the key attraction to this area.

Area Name: Wikiup

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are evident in isolated spots in the area. Some stars are visible in the area and there is moderate light pollution from nearby Camp Verde. The area has a mix of habitats. There are areas of "white soil" which are potential for several sensitive plant species. There is a limited amount of natural resource diversity in the area.

Undeveloped

Rank: Low

Comments: The area has several improvements such as stock tanks, fencing, trash dumps, and CCC check dams and shows signs of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: There is little opportunity to find challenging recreation opportunities and solitude. There are a few opportunities to engage in primitive recreation. The ROS class of the area is semi-primitive motorized and semi-primitive non-motorized.

Special Features

Rank: High

Comments: There is only one distinct feature in the area, gypsum outcroppings. There is potential for historical and cultural opportunities in the area. The area contains several unique or rare species of plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Low

Comments: The ability to manage for wilderness character is low, there is lots of activity nearby and many resource conflicts. About half of the boundary is identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Low

Comments: The overall capability rating for this area is low and it will not be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Woods

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 4,247 acres. Landforms are elevated plains, hills, scarp slopes of plains, and valley plains in minor portions.

Vegetation:

Vegetation is a combination of piñon, alligator juniper, with a transition between ponderosa pine and piñon juniper types.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

Munds Mountain Wilderness lies to the west, with National Forest to the east.

Access and Boundaries:

Access is via Forest Service road 80 and 800 . The area is bounded by Munds Mountain Wilderness and a road to the east.

Current Uses:

Current uses include; livestock grazing, hunting, dispersed recreation, and OHV (off highway vehicle) use.

Key Attractions:

The area is very remote and offers opportunities for solitude.

Area Name: Woods

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area contains reported locations of the non-native species Dalmatian toadflax. Rivers within the area are in free flowing condition. The river within the area is listed on the State Impaired Waters List (303d) for pollutants that degrade water quality. The quality of night sky is moderately affected by light pollution. The area has a mix of habitats and ecological conditions for species such as Bald Eagles, Leopard Frog, and bear. There are a diverse amount of natural resources and diverse vegetation types.

Undeveloped

Rank: High

Comments: The area has no improvements and appears free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: High

Comments: Most of the area provides challenging recreation opportunities. There is opportunity to experience solitude and isolation from human activities while recreating in the area. There are many opportunities for primitive recreation such as; hiking, back packing, hunting, and wildlife viewing. The ROS classification of the area is semi-primitive motorized.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area offers scenic views and water play opportunities. There is little to no opportunity for scientific research, environmental education, or historical/cultural opportunities. The area has several unique or rare plants and/or animals such as Bald Eagles, Leopard Frogs, and gartersnakes.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The ability to manage the area for wilderness character is moderate. It is somewhat isolated from areas of activity, has adequate access opportunities, and some resource conflicts. About half of the boundary is easily recognizable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: High

Comments: The overall capability of this area is high. The area will be taken forward for further analysis.

Area Name: Yellow Jacket

Description

Acres, Location, Landforms:

This potential wilderness is 7,671 acres. Landforms are predominantly hills, but also includes elevated plains, escarpments, canyons, and valley plains.

Vegetation:

The area is mainly piñon juniper woodlands, with some ponderosa pine, piñon juniper transition, grasslands, and several riparian springs.

Surroundings and Land Ownership:

The area is predominantly surrounded by National Forest with some private land on the eastern side.

Access and Boundaries:

The southern boundary is Forest Service road 9118F. Western boundary is the powerline and on the east, it is private land. Access would be by way of the following Forest Service roads 233, 9118H, and 126 .

Current Uses:

Current uses include; grazing, fuelwood cutting, hunting, motorized recreation, and dispersed recreation.

Key Attractions:

There are no unique key attractions to the area.

Area Name: Yellow Jacket

Capability

Natural

Rank: Medium

Comments: Non-native species are common and scattered throughout the area. The quality of night sky is clear with no affect from light pollution. The area has critical and unique habitats and diverse ecological conditions. There is a mix of natural resources present in the area.

Undeveloped

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has several minor improvements and is mostly free of human disturbance.

Opportunity for Solice or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Rank: Low

Comments: Few parts of the area can provide challenging recreation opportunities but solitude is easily found. There are a few oportunites to engage in primitive recreation. The ROS classificaiton for the area is semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural.

Special Features

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area has potential for scientific research and there are a few unique and rare plants and animals.

Manageability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The area is somewhat isolated from areas of activity with adequate access opportunities and some resource conflicst. The majority of the boundary is easily identifiable on the ground.

Capability

Rank: Medium

Comments: The overall capability of the area is medium. The area will not be taken forward for further analysis.