

Hyalite Porcupine Buffalo Horn Wilderness Study Area

The area accessed by this trail lies within the **Hyalite Porcupine Buffalo Horn (HPBH) Wilderness Study Area**

WHAT IS A WILDERNESS STUDY AREA?

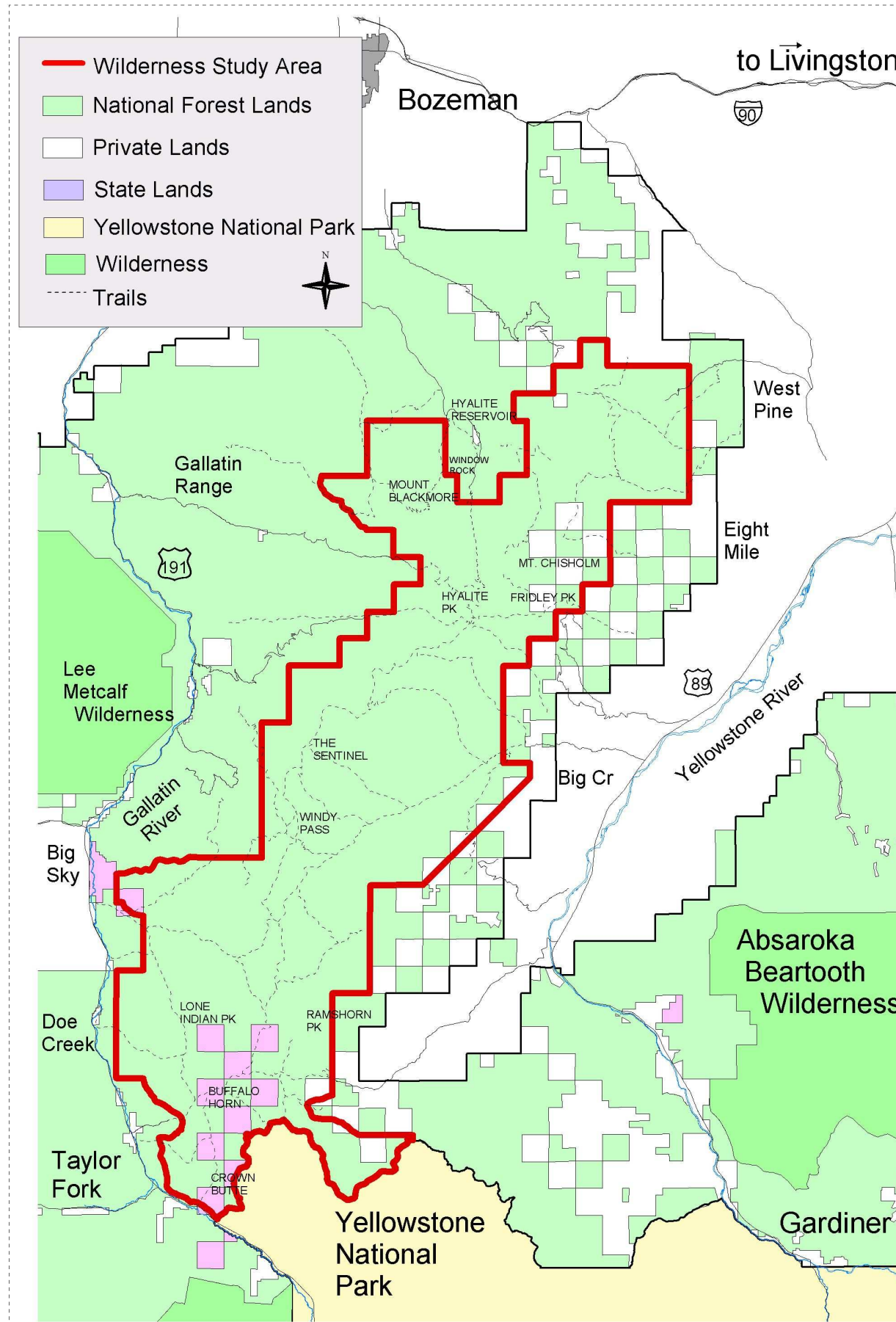
In 1977 Congress passed a law, S393, protecting the HPBH and eight other Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) in Montana. The Forest Service then studied each of these areas and made recommendations back to Congress on their suitability for inclusion in the Wilderness Preservation System.

WHAT IS DIFFERENT ABOUT WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS THAN DESIGNATED WILDERNESS?

- Congress has not designated these areas as Wilderness.
- Some activities not permissible in designated Wilderness areas are allowed to continue in WSAs until Congress takes action.
- The legislation was designed as an interim step to protect these areas until Congress decides whether or not to designate them as Wilderness.



**GALLATIN
National Forest**
United States Department of Agriculture



HOW ARE WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS MANAGED DIFFERENTLY FROM OTHER NATIONAL FOREST LANDS?

- They are managed to protect their potential as Wilderness as it existed in 1977.
- They are managed to protect wilderness characteristics like opportunities for solitude, remoteness, and natural integrity that existed in 1977.

“...the wilderness study areas designated by this act shall, until Congress determines otherwise be administered so as to maintain their presently- existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.” – Montana Wilderness Study Act of 1977, P.L. 95-150)

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT THIS SPECIAL PLACE?

Practice “Leave No Trace” backcountry etiquette:

- Pack it in, pack it out!
- Ride or hike only on system trails.
- Use a cook stove or existing fire ring only. Don’t build new rings. Keep fires small.
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
- Bury all human waste using the “cathole” method at least 200’ away from water.

