



## CLARK FORK FLINT LANDSCAPE

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The rocky peaks of the Flint Creek and Anaconda Mountain Ranges are dominant features of this landscape, towering above the broad Deer Lodge and Flint Creek Valleys. The overall pattern of mountain vegetation is coniferous forests, meadows, and aspen groves. Small stands of western larch and ponderosa pine are indicative of the difference in vegetation and climate on the western side of the Divide. The broad valleys are open grasslands with alfalfa fields and croplands in lower elevations and transitional vegetation including aspen along the foothills and in moist draws. This landscape includes and supports moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, large herds of elk, and other wildlife species as well as rare plants. Tributaries to the Clark Fork Watershed are found here. These waters flow to the Columbia River and Pacific ocean. Many provide habitat for bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout.

Traveling through the valley bottoms, one sees ranch building sites, fences, hay meadows, and haystacks as well as cattle and horses, which add to the picturesque landscape below the forested mountains and rocky peaks. Remnants of the mining culture that once dominated and continues to contribute to the cultural features of the area are still visible and in some cases visually dominate the valleys and hillsides. The Anaconda Smelter Stack, no longer in use, is still visible along the skyline above Anaconda.

Management of watersheds here is directed by decisions made for the protection of anadromous fish in the Columbia River Basin. Even so, the area continues to provide timber for local markets.

Recreation use in this landscape varies from the developed high-density use around Georgetown Lake and Discovery Basin Ski Area to the challenging backcountry uses of the Anaconda Pintler Wilderness. Georgetown Lake is a popular destination and summer home location for the Region. Developed camping, boat docks and commercial businesses cater to destination oriented tourists and local residents. The Flint Range offers a mix of motorized and non-motorized, summer, hunting season and winter use. It is the “backyard” of the communities of Anaconda, Deer Lodge, Drummond, Fairmont, Galen, Gold Creek, Hall, Maxville, Opportunity, Philipsburg, Warm Springs, and West Valley. Communities in Granite and Powell Counties rely on Forest products for nearly a third of their economic industry.



# East Deerlodge Management Area

Forest Boundary

Management Area Boundary

Research Natural Areas (RNA's)

National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails

### Travel Restrictions

21% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed

8% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed

### Recreation Allocations

16% Non-FS Inholding

0% Wilderness

0% Recommended Wilderness

### Summer

21% Summer Non-motorized

1% Backcountry Recreation

62% Road-based

0% Wilderness Study Area

### Winter

8% Winter Non-motorized

76% Winter Motorized Recreation

0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized

0% Wilderness Study Area

### Key Watersheds

40% Fisheries Key Watersheds

12% Restoration Key Watersheds

### Eligible Wild, Scenic, & Recreation Rivers

Eligible Wild Segments

Eligible Scenic Segments

Eligible Recreation Segments

### Communication Sites

Existing

Proposed

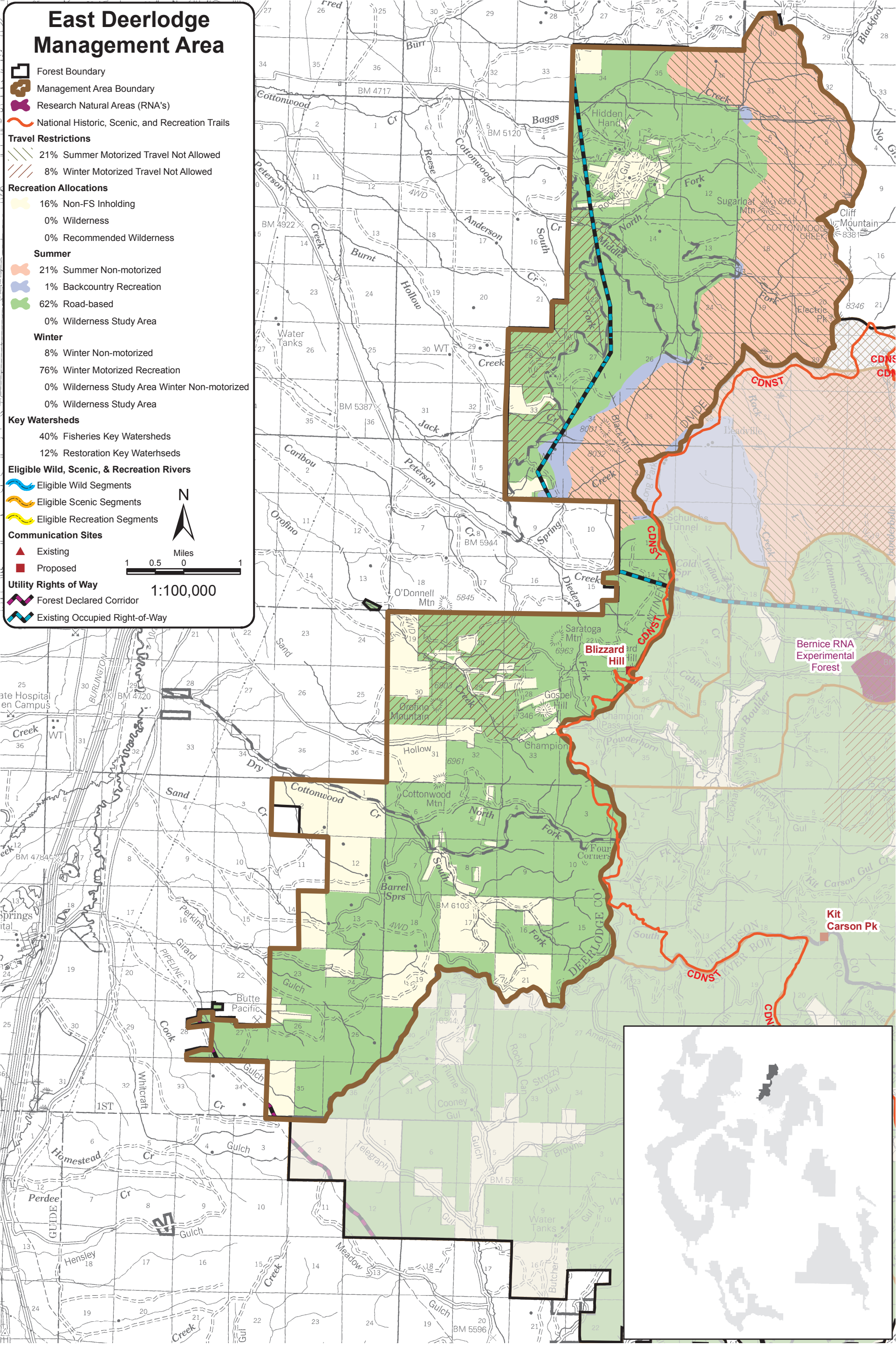
### Utility Rights of Way

Forest Declared Corridor

Existing Occupied Right-of-Way

Miles  
1 0.5 0 1

1:100,000





### *East Deerlodge Management Area*

This area is managed for timber production, livestock grazing, mining, and dispersed recreation.

The recreation setting is mostly roaded, and provides an abundance of varied motorized opportunities. The history of commodity production in the area is reflected in the developed road systems. Recreation activities are mostly road oriented and dispersed. There are many opportunities to engage in recreational pursuits such as firewood cutting, weekend camping, fishing or hunting. The road links the Boulder River area to the Deerlodge Valley over Champion Pass. Recreation opportunities include Orofino Campground and Picnic Area, and the Orofino Snowmobile Shelter along the Deerlodge Snowmobile Trail System.

The semi-primitive summer non-motorized area on the north end is an exception to the setting which compliments the non-motorized opportunities in the adjacent Electric Peak and Blackfoot Meadows undeveloped areas.

Big game winter range at low elevations north of Orofino is protected by motorized closures in winter. The north end contributes wildlife security to the Electric Peak and Blackfoot Meadow areas. Fred Creek (Cottonwood Creek) watershed is managed to conserve native fish populations. Girard Gulch is managed to restore beneficial watershed conditions.

#### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Roads for timber harvest

Motor vehicle and mountain bike riders on roads and trails year long

Snowmobiles on groomed trails

Historic mining remnants and current mining activity or reclamation

Livestock



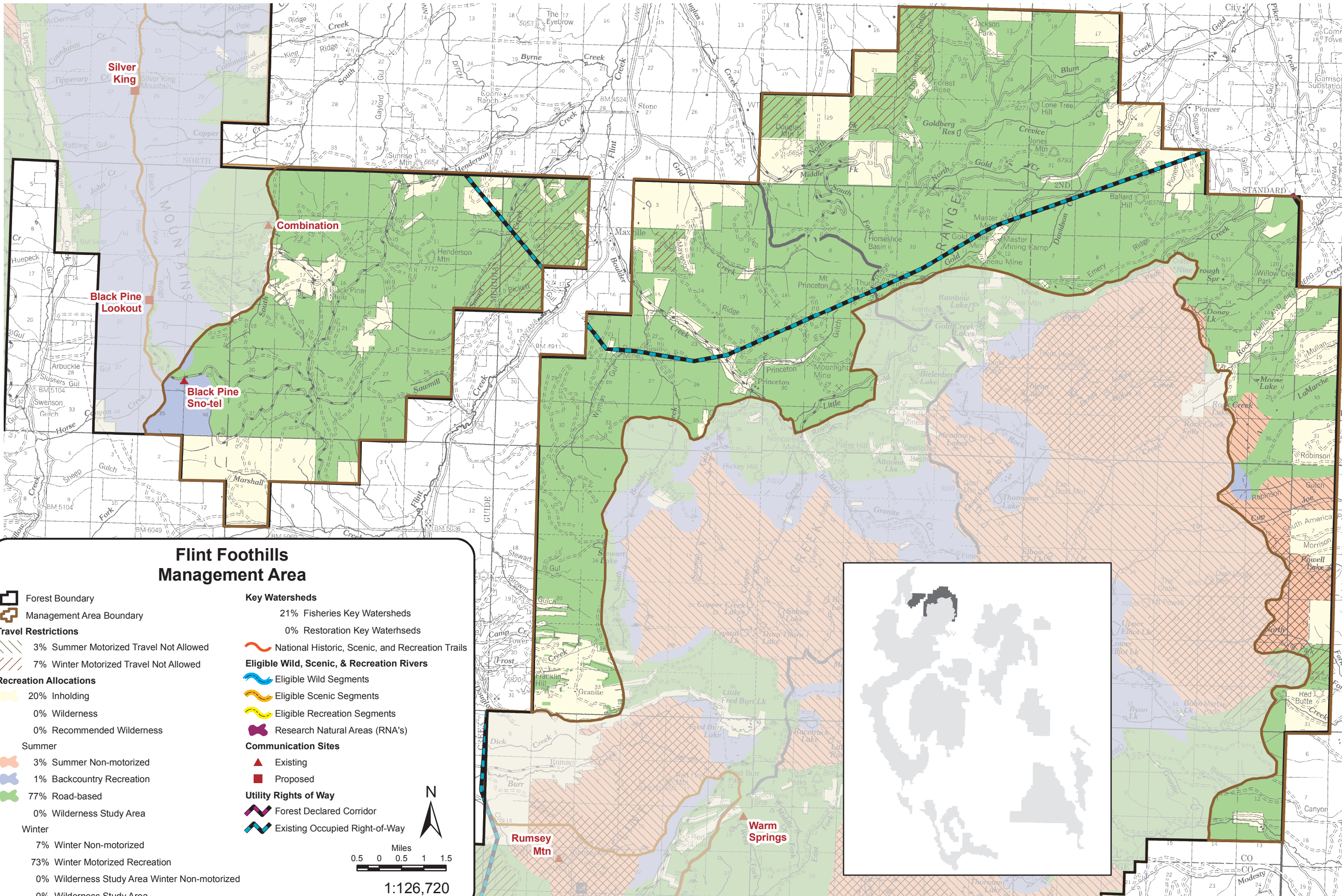
#### **Objectives in Addition to Forestwide Objectives**

None

#### **Standards in Addition to Forestwide Standards**

None







### ***Flint Foothills Management Area***

This area is managed for timber production, livestock grazing, and dispersed recreation.

The management area provides a roaded setting for recreation in a mix of altered and natural appearing scenery. The Flint Foothills form a scenic backdrop for Interstate 90 between Drummond and Butte and the Pintler Scenic Route from Drummond south of Philipsburg. The history of use and management is reflected in the developed road systems, historic mining sites, and scenery. Recreation activities are mostly dispersed, and most common on or near roads. Local and Regional visitors participate in firewood gathering, weekend camping, fishing and hunting.

The semi-primitive non-motorized area between Long Park and Tin Cup Joe Creek is an exception to the management area setting. Here hikers can access quiet areas in the higher elevations of the Flint Range. Winter non-motorized closures at low elevations along Flint Creek protect big game winter range.

Historic mining sites are scattered throughout the area on patented inholdings and mining activity continues in some locations. Recreation residence tracts are authorized near Princeton.

Bielenberg, Lower Boulder, and South Boulder watersheds are managed to conserve native fish populations. .

#### **Visitors may encounter**

- Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire
- Roads for timber harvest
- Motor vehicles on roads and trails year long
- Historic mining remnants and current mining activity or reclamation
- Livestock



#### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**


- Reduce fire risk near private residences in the Boulder Creek drainage through vegetation treatments


#### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**


- None




# Flint Uplands Management Area


 Forest Boundary


 Management Area Boundary


 Research Natural Areas (RNA's)

 National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails


**Eligible Wild, Scenic, & Recreation Rivers**


 Eligible Wild Segments

 Eligible Scenic Segments


 Eligible Recreation Segments


**Travel Restrictions**


 50% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed

 21% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed


**Recreation Allocations**


 5% Inholding


 0% Wilderness


 0% Recommended Wilderness

**Summer**


 50% Summer Non-motorized


 15% Backcountry Recreation


 30% Road-based


 0% Wilderness Study Area

**Winter**


 20% Winter Non-motorized


 75% Winter Motorized Recreation

 0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized


 0% Wilderness Study Area


**Key Watersheds**

 54% Fisheries Key Watersheds


 0% Restoration Key Watersheds


**Communication Sites**


 Existing

 Proposed

**Utility Rights of Way**

 Forest Declared Corridor

 Existing Occupied Right-of-Way



0.5

0

0.5

1

1.5

Miles

1:126,720

The main map displays the Flint Uplands Management Area with various management zones and geographical features. Key locations labeled include Racetrack Peak, Warm Springs, Rumsey Mtn, and various lakes and creeks. The map is overlaid with a grid and color-coded management zones.

The inset map shows the location of the Flint Uplands Management Area within the state of Montana. The area is highlighted in a darker shade of gray, indicating its position relative to the rest of the state.



### ***Flint Uplands Management Area***

This area is managed for a mix of semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized recreation and secure high elevation wildlife habitat.

The recreation setting is a mix of semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized areas with natural appearing scenery. The high mountain lakes, scenic vistas, and backcountry opportunities are key attractions supported by the mix of motorized and non-motorized low standard road and trail opportunities. Access in this unit is primarily by historic roads built for mining and dam maintenance. Lost Creek, acquired through land exchange, provides a non-motorized experience year round in a unique geologic setting adjacent to Lost Creek State Park.

Vegetation is managed primarily through prescribed and natural fire with exceptions in roaded settings where some harvest may take place. Any active watershed restoration takes place mostly in the lower reaches of key watersheds in the Flint Foothills or Warm Springs Management Areas. Motorized closure of selected high elevation habitats protects summer wildlife security and winter habitat, primarily for mountain goats and forest carnivores.

Boulder, Copper-Boulder, South Boulder, Racetrack, Warm Springs and Foster Creek are managed to conserve native fish populations.

#### **Visitors may encounter**

- Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire
- Motor vehicles on some roads and trails
- People on foot, stock, mountain bikes, or skis
- Livestock



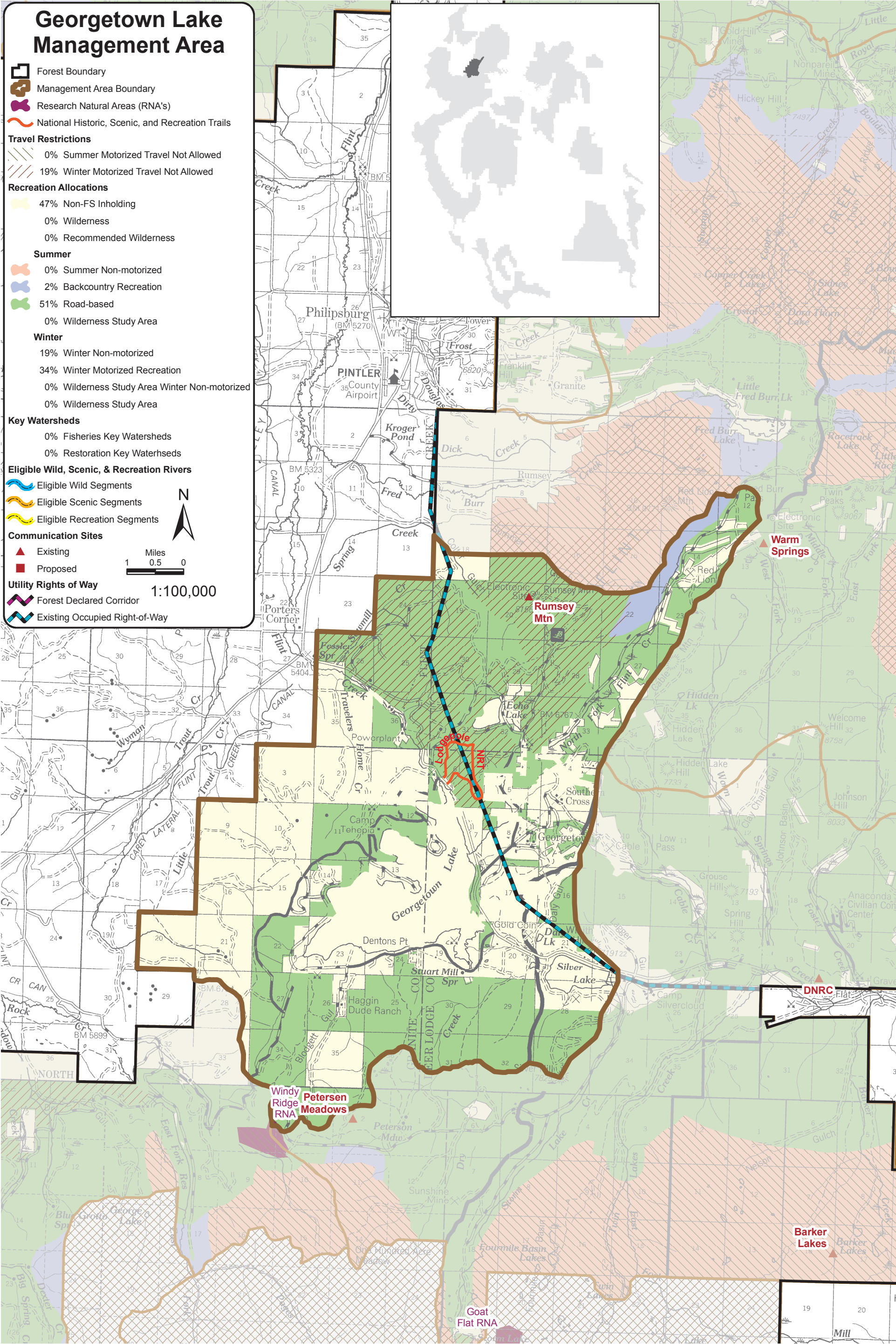
#### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**

- Classify some low standard roads as motorized trails
- Maintain historic motorized access to irrigation lakes and dams

#### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**

- Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective - Moderate







## *Georgetown Lake Management Area*

This area is managed for developed water based recreation, trail opportunities, and winter sports.

The recreation setting is a mix of rural and roaded natural with a natural appearing backdrop. Recreation use is concentrated and heavy. This is a popular recreation destination because of Georgetown Lake, Echo Lake and Discovery Basin Ski Area. This area has the highest concentration of recreation development on the Forest with an alpine ski area, developed campgrounds, fishing, picnic areas, boat launches, interpretive sites, cross-country skiing and snowmobile trails. Ownership is mixed private and public land. Recreation residences under Forest Service permits line parts of the Georgetown and Echo Lake shorelines and adjacent subdivisions are growing. Winter non-motorized allocations provide quiet recreation opportunities near the ski area.

Vegetation management, including timber harvest, around Georgetown Lake and Echo Lake is for fuel reduction and to sustain developed recreation sites and keep them safe or for other resource objectives. Unique rough fescue grassland is protected at Windy Ridge Research Natural Area. Noxious weed control is a priority. Mature forests provide secure habitat for wildlife movement between the Flint and Pintler mountain ranges.

### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Numerous visitors particularly at Georgetown Lake and Discovery Basin

Motor vehicles on roads and trails in summer and fall

Snowmobilers and skiers

Livestock



### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**

Connect Georgetown and Red Lion snowmobile trail systems to create a loop

Offer hiking trail opportunities

Reduce risk of fire near private lands in mixed ownership areas and around developments on Forest Service land through vegetation treatments

Manage nutrient input into Georgetown Lake from Forest Service recreation activities and facilities

### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**

Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective - Moderate



# Harvey Creek Foothills Management Area

- Forest Boundary
- Management Area Boundary
- Research Natural Areas (RNA's)
- National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails

Travel Restrictions

- 32% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed
- 0% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed

Recreation Allocations

- 11% Non-FS Inholding
- 0% Wilderness
- 0% Recommended Wilderness

Summer

- 32% Summer Non-motorized
- 24% Backcountry Recreation
- 33% Road-based
- 0% Wilderness Study Area

Winter

- 0% Winter Non-motorized
- 89% Winter Motorized Recreation
- 0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized
- 0% Wilderness Study Area

Key Watersheds

- 98% Fisheries Key Watersheds
- 0% Restoration Key Watersheds

Eligible Wild, Scenic, & Recreation Rivers

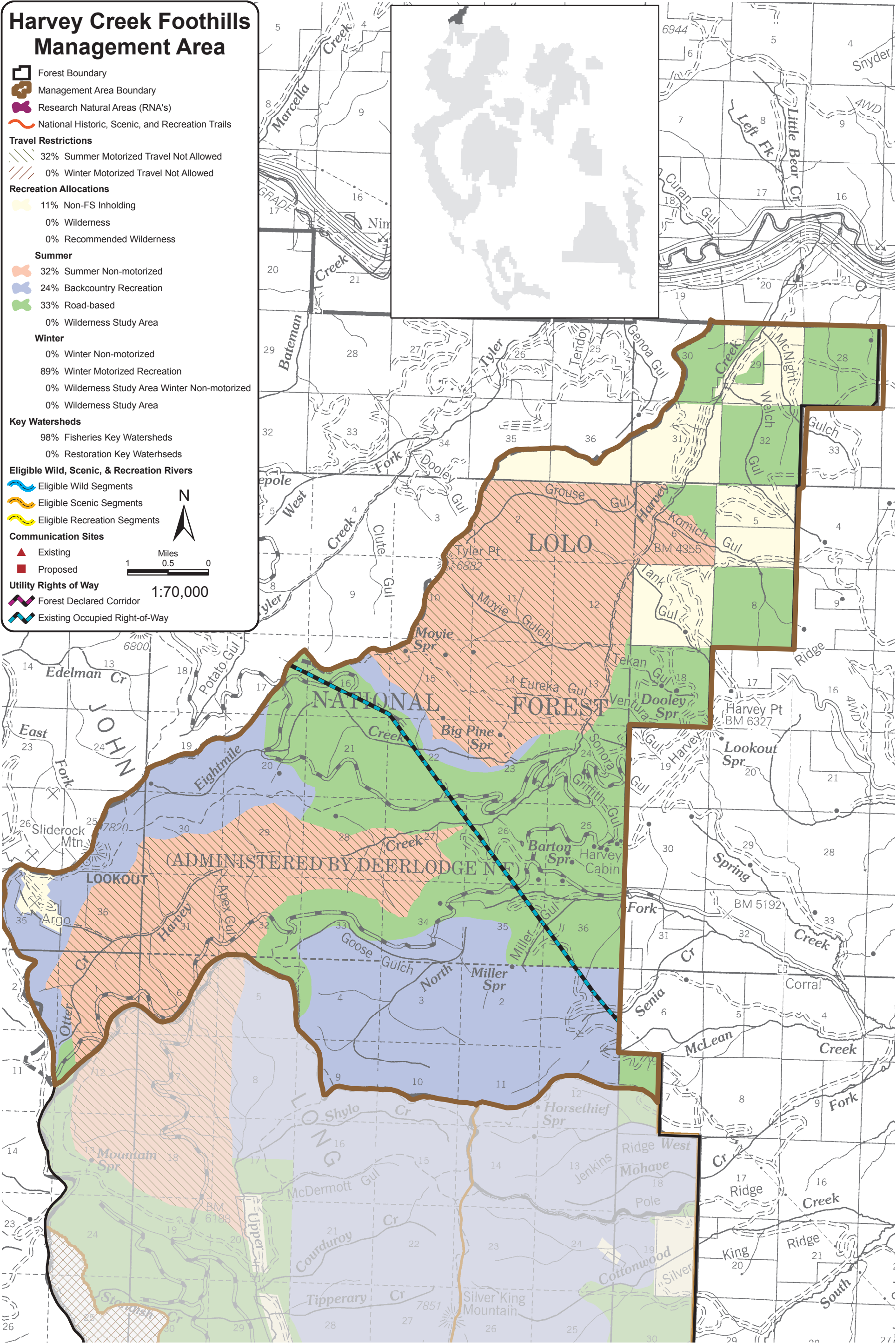
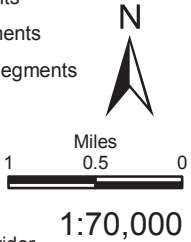
- Eligible Wild Segments
- Eligible Scenic Segments
- Eligible Recreation Segments

Communication Sites

- Existing
- Proposed

Utility Rights of Way

- Forest Declared Corridor
- Existing Occupied Right-of-Way





### *Harvey Creek Foothills Management Area*

This area is managed for native fish conservation and dispersed low density recreation.

Most of the area is on the Lolo National Forest but administered by the BDNF. The recreation setting is a mix of roaded and semi-primitive. A variety of motorized and non-motorized opportunities are available year around. Access to the area is limited and road densities low except on the periphery. Much of the non-motorized area is not accessed by trails. Most recreation use takes place in the fall. Hunters who prefer Harvey Creek are seeking rugged terrain and isolation for an opportunity to harvest trophy big game.

Vegetation is managed by timber harvest and fire. Additional land uses include livestock grazing, firewood gathering and mining.

Harvey Creek and Eightmile Creek are managed to conserve native fish populations.

#### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Light motor vehicle use on some roads and trails in summer, fall and winter

Visitors on foot or horseback especially in the fall

Livestock



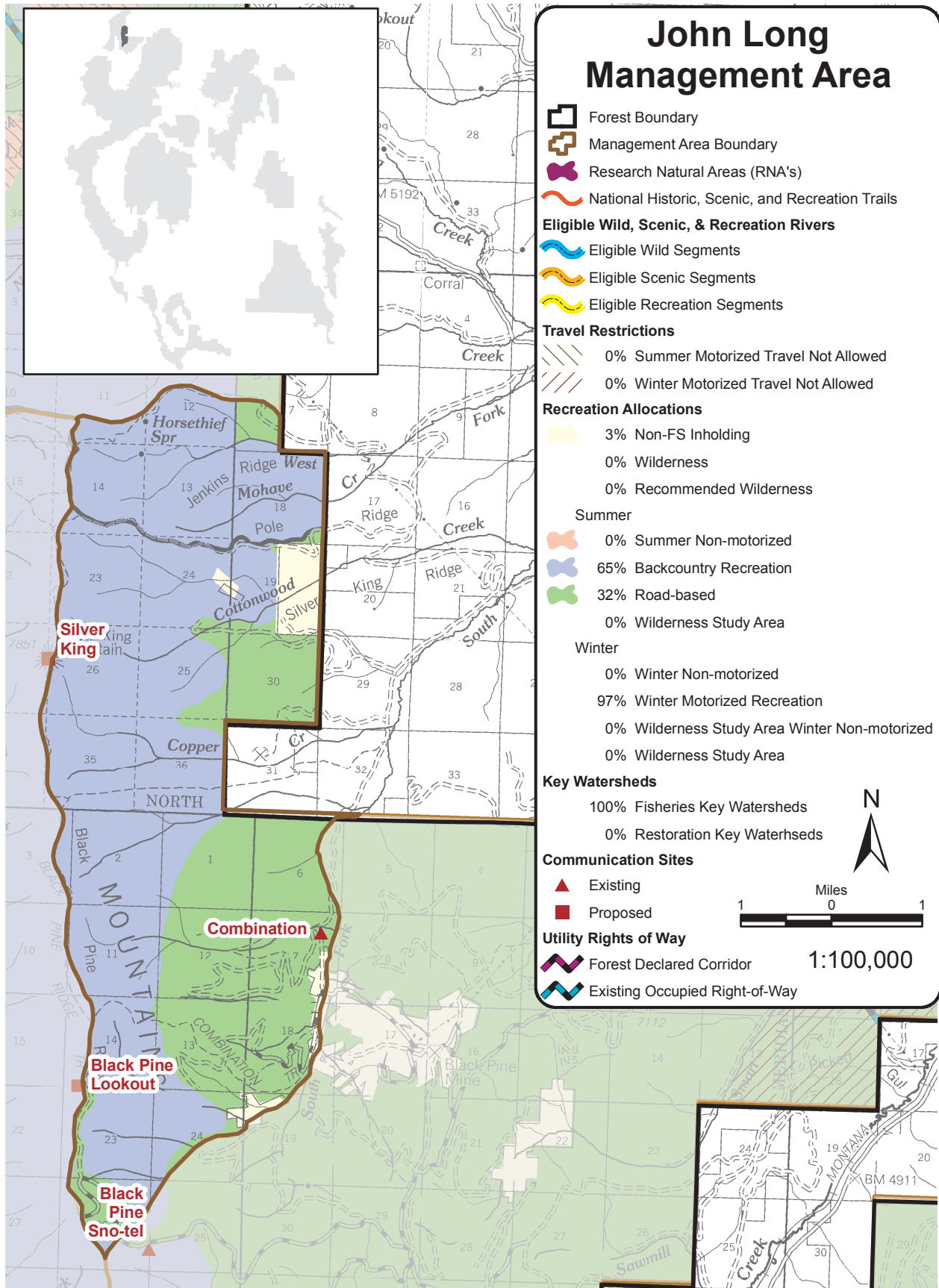
#### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**

None

#### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**

None







### *John Long Management Area*

This area is managed for native fish conservation and low density backcountry recreation. The recreation setting ranges from roaded in the southeast corner to semi-primitive in the remainder of the area. Mostly motorized trail opportunities are available. The road to Black Pine Ridge provides a scenic view of the valley, the rugged Quigg Peak area, and the Pintler Range. While there are no non-motorized allocations, much of the backcountry is non-motorized because it lacks access. The large blocks of undeveloped land with limited public access provide secure wildlife habitat year around.

Additional land uses include livestock grazing, firewood gathering and mining.

Cottonwood and South Fork Willow are fisheries key watersheds.

#### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Motor vehicles on some roads and trails in summer, fall, and winter

Hikers or mountain bikers

Livestock



#### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**


None


#### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**


None




# Warm Springs Management Area


 Forest Boundary


 Management Area Boundary


 Research Natural Areas (RNA's)

 National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails


**Eligible Wild, Scenic, & Recreation Rivers**


 Eligible Wild Segments

 Eligible Scenic Segments


 Eligible Recreation Segments


**Travel Restrictions**


 26% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed

 13% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed


**Recreation Allocations**


 7% Inholding


 0% Wilderness


 0% Recommended Wilderness

**Summer**


 25% Summer Non-motorized


 1% Backcountry Recreation


 67% Road-based


 0% Wilderness Study Area

**Winter**


 13% Winter Non-motorized


 80% Winter Motorized Recreation

 0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized


 0% Wilderness Study Area


**Key Watersheds**

 46% Fisheries Key Watersheds


 0% Restoration Key Watersheds


**Communication Sites**

 Existing

 Proposed

**Utility Rights of Way**

 Forest Declared Corridor

 Existing Occupied Right-of-Way

N

0.5

0

0.5

1

Miles

1:100,000

The main map displays the Warm Springs Management Area with a grid system. Key features include: Rumsey Mtn, Warm Springs, Windy Ridge RNA, Petersen Meadows, Barker Lakes, and various lakes and creeks. The map uses different colors and patterns to represent various management zones and travel restrictions. A scale bar and north arrow are provided for reference.

This inset map shows the location of the Warm Springs Management Area within a larger regional context, highlighting its proximity to surrounding areas.

This detailed inset map shows the town of Anaconda, the town of West Valley, and the town of Stumptown, providing a closer look at the management area's location relative to these communities.



## *Warm Springs Management Area*

This area is managed for recreation, wildlife, and native fish conservation.

The recreation setting is mostly roaded with a mix of managed and natural appearing scenery. The Pintler Scenic Route takes travelers to the Georgetown Lake area. Scenery is important as the backdrop for both travel and destination recreation. Motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities are available.

Recently acquired lands south of the highway have high densities of roads constructed for timber management. The higher elevations approaching the Continental Divide are semi-primitive non-motorized. South facing slopes at lower elevations are closed to winter motorized use for bighorn sheep winter range. Secure habitat for wildlife movement is available between the Pintler and Flint mountain ranges and for wintering bighorn sheep.

Additional land uses and activities include timber production and harvest, livestock grazing and road restoration, and recreation residence tracts. Noxious weed management is a priority along the scenic Highway 1 corridor.

Warm Springs, Foster Creek and Twin Lakes are fisheries key watersheds.

### **Visitors may encounter**

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Many visitors particularly along the Pintler Scenic Route

Motor vehicles on roads and trails in summer and fall

Snowmobilers

Livestock



### **Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives**

Identify road and trail systems needed on lands in watershed acquisition and add them to the forest inventory. Schedule others for removal, decommissioning, or conversion to trails.

Reduce noxious weeds in bighorn sheep range to assure continued forage for wildlife.

Establish an access route and wilderness trailhead below Storm Lake.

### **Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards**

Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective - Moderate