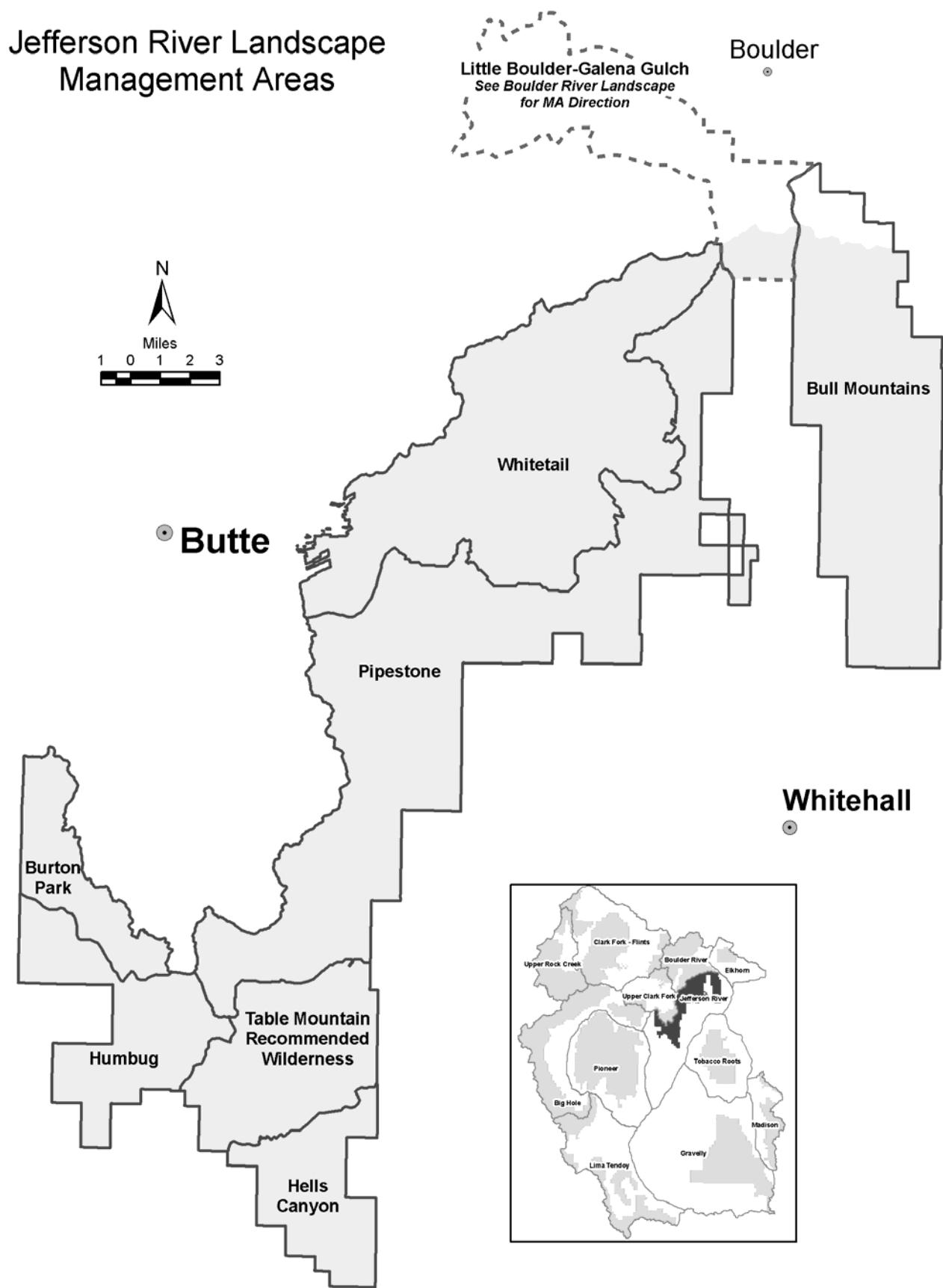


Jefferson River Landscape Management Areas



JEFFERSON RIVER LANDSCAPE

The landscape includes parts of three mountain ranges which drain from the Continental Divide into the head of the Jefferson River. These are the Highlands, the Whitetail Pipestone area, and the Bull Mountains. Much of the area is part of the Boulder Batholith, a unique geologic feature characterized by large granite boulders jutting above the ground, worn smooth by erosion. The best example of these features can be seen from Interstate 90 at Homestake Pass. This landscape is drier than others on the Forest, because of the granitic composition of the soils and its position in the rain shadow of the Continental Divide. Lodgepole pine dominates the upper elevations while at low elevations Douglas-fir is the most common, and is intermingled with open grasslands. Mountain mahogany, an uncommon species on the BDNF, provides important browse for big game. A herd of bighorn sheep live in the Highland Mountains. Elk, moose, and other wildlife inhabit the area.

Historic railroad structures, mills, adits, and cabins characterize mining and settlement history. Mining has had an impact on vegetation. Most timber was harvested at some point for lumber or fuel for home heat and smelters. There are numerous Native American historic sites.

Livestock grazing, post and pole harvest, and small timber sales are common resource uses. Interstate 90, which crosses the Continental Divide at Homestake Pass, is a major east-west transportation and utility corridor.

The landscape is fairly open with a mix of gentle and very steep terrain. Motorized trails near Butte are heavily used in both summer and winter. Scenic driving, picnicking, dispersed camping, and trail riding are very popular, along with some of the more unique activities associated with urban areas which create law enforcement challenges.

Bull Mountains 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

46% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed

55% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed

Recreation Allocations

36% Non-FS Inholding

0% Wilderness

0% Recommended Wilderness

Summer

46% Summer Non-motorized

0% Backcountry Recreation

18% Road-based

0% Wilderness Study Area

Winter

55% Winter Non-motorized

10% Winter Motorized Recreation

0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized

0% Wilderness Study Area

Key Watersheds

0% Fisheries Key Watersheds

0% Restoration Key Waterhseds

Communication Sites

Existing

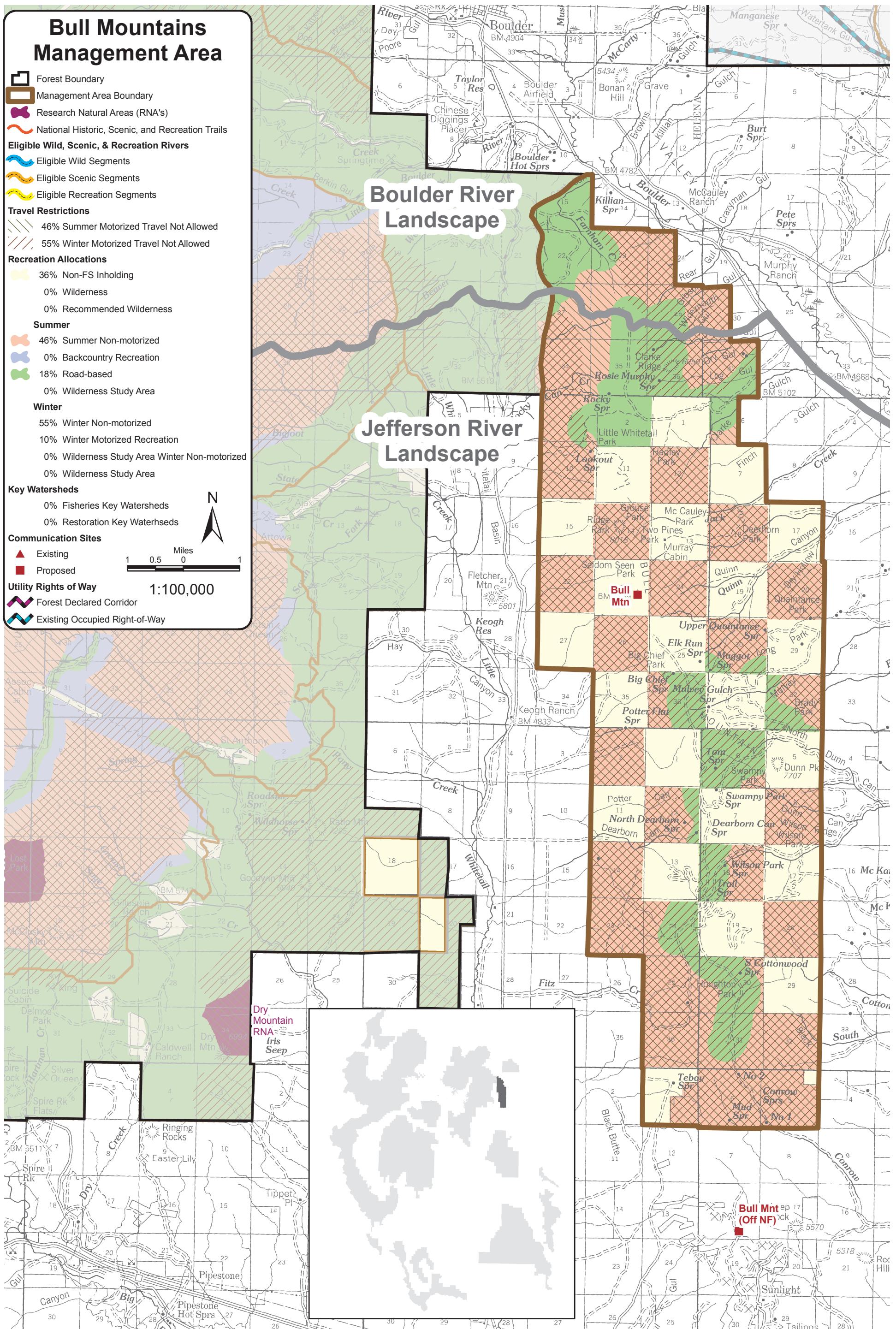
1 0.5 Miles 1

Utility Rights of Way

1:100,000

Forest Declared Corridor

Existing Occupied Right-of-Way



Bull Mountains Management Area

This area is managed for livestock grazing and low density dispersed recreation. Other ecosystem components are regulated by natural processes and events.

Recreation takes place in a roaded and semi-primitive non-motorized setting with natural appearing scenery. The checkerboard mix of private and National Forest System lands constrains management and recreation opportunities. Only two roads provide public access. Recreation use is primarily during hunting season on limited motorized routes. Use in summer is infrequent. The few trails are non-motorized.

Roads and trails are closed to motorized activities in winter to protect wintering elk.

Visitors may encounter

Vegetation changes from prescribed or wild fire

Motor vehicles and hunters in fall

Livestock

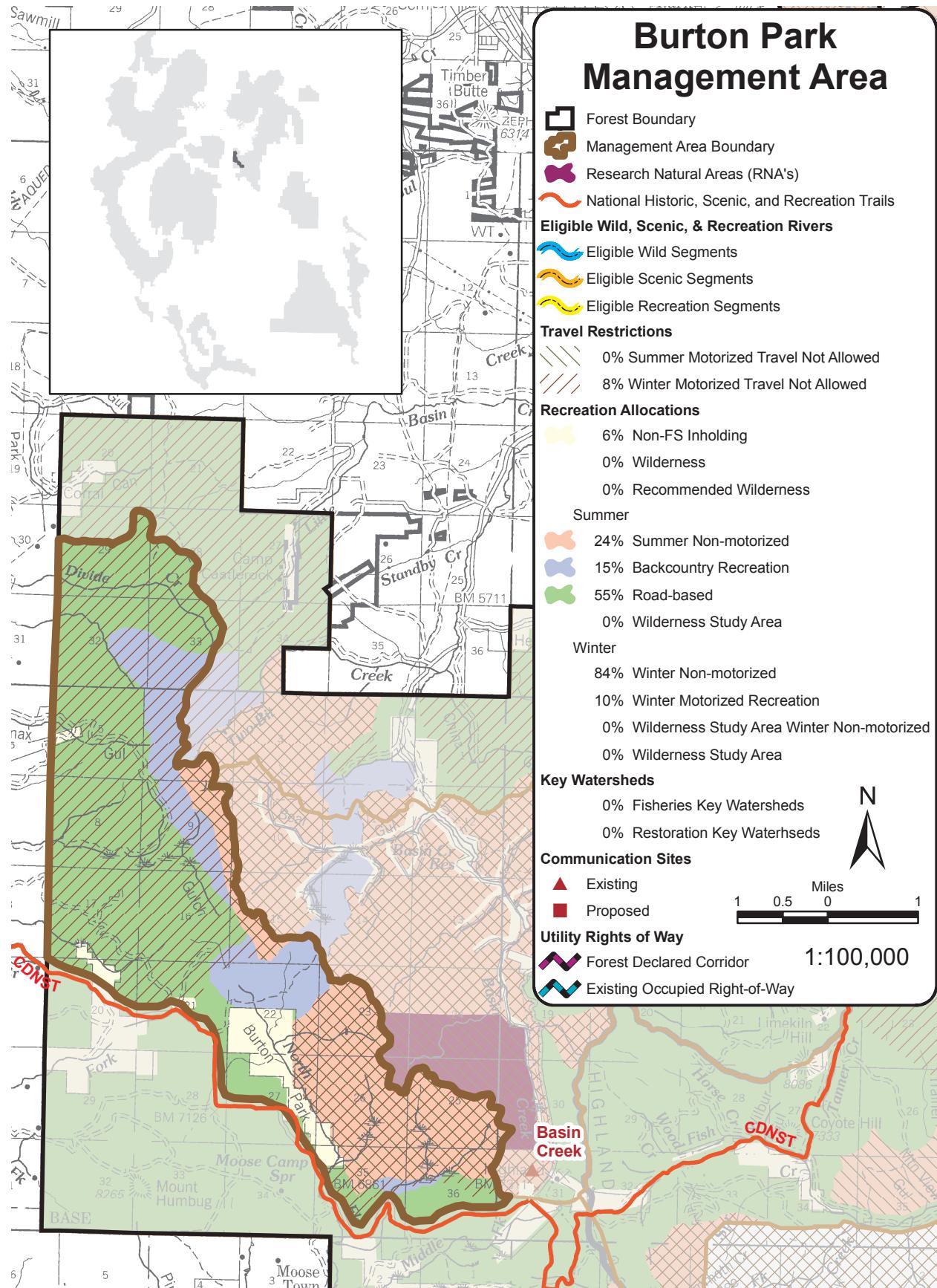
Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives

Coordinate management with owners of private lands inside the Forest boundary

Improve rangeland conditions by reducing widespread Douglas-fir colonization of grasslands

Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards

Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective - Moderate



Burton Park Management Area

This area is managed for a variety of dispersed recreation opportunities easily accessible from Butte, and for secure winter wildlife habitat.

Recreation takes place in a range of roaded to semi-primitive non-motorized settings. In the middle lies Burton Park; a large privately owned open area. The area southeast of Burton Park provides a unique opportunity for quiet recreation experiences in all seasons within a short distance of Butte and amongst the granitic outcrops of the Boulder Batholith. North of Burton Park visitors find a summer roaded setting with motorized opportunities.

Winter closures provide secure habitat for wildlife and accessible winter recreation activities.

Visitors may encounter

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Motor vehicles on roads and trails in summer and fall

Skiers

Livestock

Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives

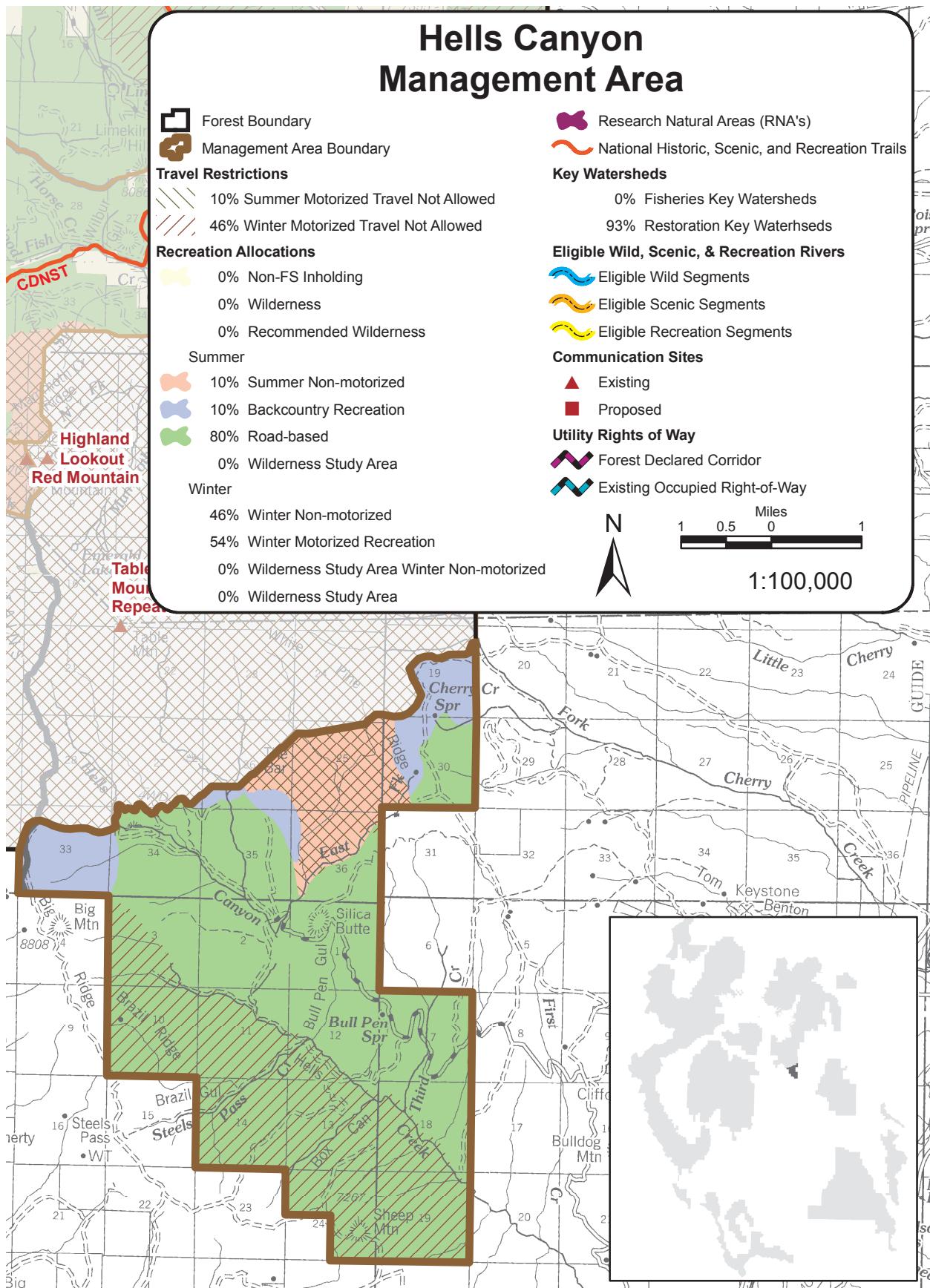
Construct a trailhead at Burton Park at the terminus of Trail #106 and a trailhead and day use area where the Continental Divide crosses Highlands Road

Acquire public access to the area north of Climax Gulch for non-motorized recreation

Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards

Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective - Moderate

Hells Canyon Management Area



Hells Canyon Management Area

This area is managed for a mix of forest uses including livestock grazing, firewood gathering, and backcountry recreation.

The recreation setting is mostly roaded with low density motorized access in a mostly natural appearing setting. Visitors are mostly local residents who use Hells Canyon for firewood cutting, camping, hunting and recreational driving. Motorized use is allowed on roads and trails in much of the area. Winter recreation use is light with some cross-country skiing, mostly to Hells Canyon Rental Cabin. The lack of precipitation rarely leaves enough snow for snowmobiling on the east side of the management area.

Hells Canyon is managed to restore desirable watershed conditions. This an important rainbow trout spawning stream for the Jefferson River

Visitors may encounter

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Motor vehicle riders on roads and trails in summer, fall, and winter

Dispersed camping along forest roads

Livestock

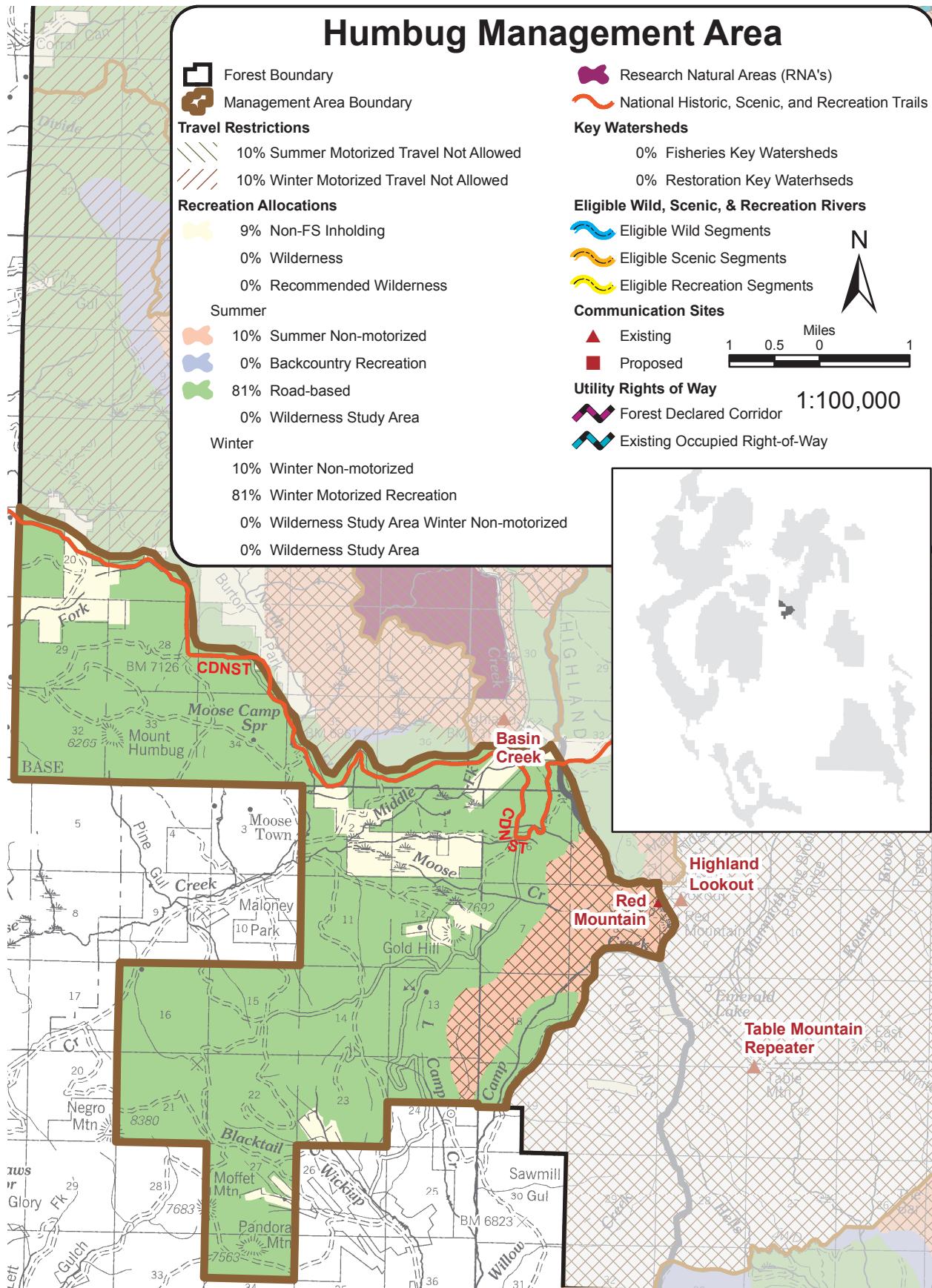
Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives

None

Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards

Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective - Moderate

Humbug Management Area



1:100,000

Miles

1 0.5 0 1

Humbug Management Area

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

Recreation takes place in a roaded setting with a mix of modified and natural appearing scenery. The area has a history of use for timber production and mining. Evidence of historic mining is common, private in-holdings established as mining claims are scattered throughout. The historic privately owned Moosetown is surrounded by National Forest. Roads through this area connect Humbug Spires Wilderness Study Area, Upper Basin Creek to Roosevelt Drive and Fish Creek, and the top of the Continental Divide. Driving for pleasure is a common activity. Recreation use is heavy during fall hunting season. The area is used by snowmobiles in winter.

A non-motorized summer and winter area on the east edge of the unit below Red Mountain provides year around wildlife security for species including bighorn sheep.

Visitors may encounter

Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Roads for timber harvest

Motor vehicle riders on roads and trails in summer, fall, and winter

Remnants of historic mining and present day mining activity or reclamation

Livestock

Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives

Segregate opportunities for full size highway vehicles and ATVs

Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards

Minimum Scenic Integrity Level (viewed from Humbug Spires WSA) - Moderate

Pipestone Management Area

- Forest Boundary
- Management Area Boundary
- Non-FS Inholding
- Research Natural Areas (RNAs)
- National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails

Travel Restrictions

- 10% Summer Motorized Travel Not Allowed
- 26% Winter Motorized Travel Not Allowed

Recreation Allocations

- 5% Inholding
- 0% Wilderness
- 0% Recommended Wilderness

Summer

- 10% Summer Non-motorized
- 2% Backcountry Recreation
- 83% Road-based
- 0% Wilderness Study Area

Winter

- 26% Winter Non-motorized
- 69% Winter Motorized Recreation
- 0% Wilderness Study Area Winter Non-motorized
- 0% Wilderness Study Area

Key Watersheds

- 6% Fisheries Key Watersheds
- 0% Restoration Key Waterheds

Eligible Wild, Scenic, & Recreation Rivers

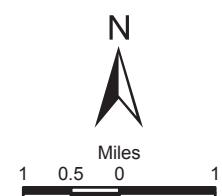
- Eligible Wild Segments
- Eligible Scenic Segments
- Eligible Recreation Segments

Communication Sites

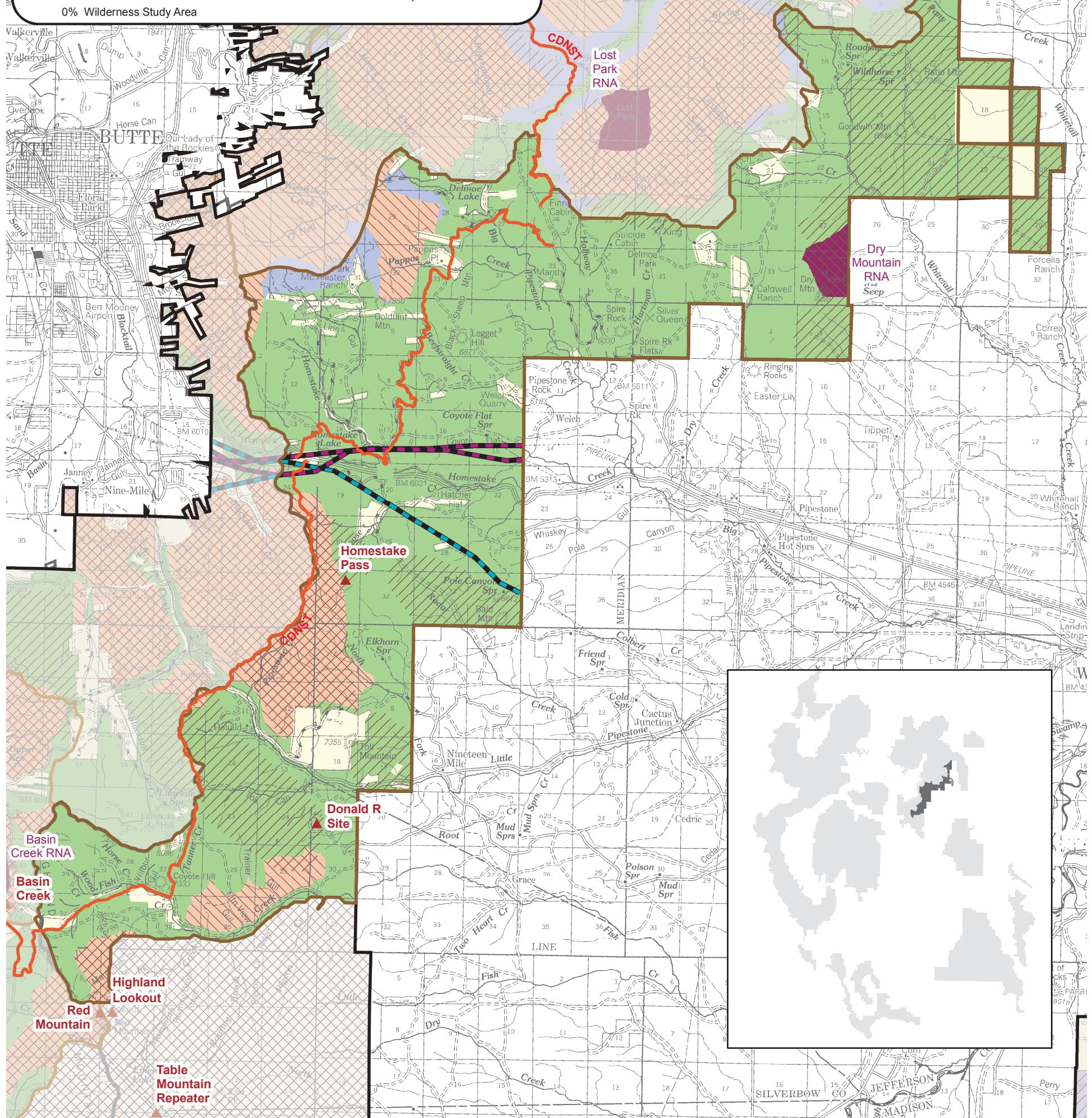
- Existing
- Proposed

Utility Rights of Way

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



1:126,720



Pipestone Management Area

This area is managed for a mix of uses, including timber production and concentrated motorized recreation opportunities.

The recreation setting is roaded with a mix of modified and natural appearing scenery. North of the Interstate, heavily used roads and trails are dense. Motorcycles, ATVs, full size vehicles as well as mountain bikers and rock climbers frequent the Spire Rock area and adjacent trail system. Snow is light most winters, allowing access for hikers and ATVs. Delmoe Lake is the closest large reservoir to Butte. The campground and day use areas host visitors with motorized watercraft. South of the interstate, Toll Mountain Campground, near Highway 2, provides camping and day use among the giant boulder strewn conifer forest.

A water transmission line, a natural gas and four electrical transmission lines, and a communication site are located in this management area. There are several special use recreation residences and private subdivisions in the Toll Mountain area.

Halfway Creek is managed to conserve native fish populations.

Winter closures on the north end protect the Bull Mountain game range. On the south end they provide quiet recreation opportunities accessible from Pipestone Highway

Noxious weed infestations along Highway 2 and adjacent private lands are a priority for treatment and demand consistent management attention.

Visitors may encounter

- Vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire
- Roads for timber harvest
- Motor vehicles on roads and trails year around
- Remnants of historic and current mining or reclamation
- Travel restrictions near elk winter ranges
- Livestock

Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives

- Accommodate recreational demand for a mostly motorized trails network in this area
- Reduce risk of wildfire near private property through vegetation treatments
- Develop information and interpretive signs at Homestake Pass to highlight recreation opportunities in the area

Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards

- Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective - Moderate

Table Mountain Recommended Wilderness Management Area

This area is managed to protect wilderness characteristics and to provide yearlong non-motorized recreation with high levels of challenge and solitude.

The recreation setting is semi-primitive non-motorized. This area offers a unique opportunity for quiet and solitude. Trail access is limited but off trail day hiking opportunities are good. Hunting is one of the predominant activities in the area. Entry into a portion of the area is prohibited yearlong by a closure order for the protection of public health and safety.

Vegetation is managed primarily through natural or prescribed fire. Active restoration of Hells Canyon watershed takes place in the lower reaches of the watershed, outside of this management area.

Visitors may encounter

Quiet natural landscapes

Native vegetation changes from fire and other natural events

Many wildlife species, including mountain goats and bighorn sheep

Livestock

Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives

Develop an access point and trailhead on the eastern edge of the Forest Boundary

Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards

Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective – Very High

Management changes if released from wilderness designation

Semi-primitive non-motorized summer and winter

Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective – High

Mountain bikes are allowed

Whitetail Management Area

This area is managed for semi-primitive recreation and secure wildlife habitat.

The recreation setting is semi-primitive with natural appearing scenery. Most of the Whitetail area is unroaded. The road developed for the Whitetail Water User's Association is the only road to the reservoir and is open to the public. The area contains a low density of motorized trails in a mostly undeveloped backcountry setting. Recreation use is mix of dispersed motorized and non-motorized in summer and fall hunting season Snowmobile use is light, on roads, trails, and the open area around Whitetail Reservoir. Winter motorized closures provide secure wildlife habitat.

Whitetail Reservoir is a 1000 acre wetland system in the middle of the area. Elk calve in the meadows and parks north of Whitetail Reservoir. Halfway and Whitetail Creeks are fisheries key watersheds, managed to conserve native fish populations.

Livestock grazing is a valued traditional use of the area, managed to protect soils and riparian vegetation in wet meadow areas.

Recreation residences are authorized in the Halfway Creek area.

Visitors may encounter

Slight vegetation changes from timber harvest or fire

Motor vehicles on the road and on trails in summer and fall

Livestock

Objectives in addition to Forestwide Objectives

Improve stream bank vegetation conditions and reduce sediment sources on Halfway Creek and Whitetail Creek

Standards in addition to Forestwide Standards

Minimum Scenic Integrity Objective - High