



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

FINAL

HERMOSA CREEK WATERSHED

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Columbine Ranger District, San Juan National Forest,
La Plata and San Juan Counties, Colorado
Townships 36-40 North, Ranges 9-11 West, N.M.P.M.

January 26, 2018



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Cover Photo: Hermosa Park with historic Harris Ranch in the foreground and Purgatory Ski Area in the background. Photo credit: Cam Hooley

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CHAPTER 1 - Introduction

Background

In 2006, a regional grass-roots group called the River Protection Workgroup was organized to address local water resource issues. The workgroup brought diverse stakeholders together in a collaborative process to determine values needing protection, such as ecological, economic and social; to recommend the types of tools necessary to protect the values; and to make recommendations and take action in the context of striking a balance between the protection of natural values and water development. The River Protection Workgroup formed five sub-groups to focus on five local watersheds: the San Juan River, the Piedra River, the Pine River and Vallecito Creek, the Animas River, and Hermosa Creek.

The Hermosa Creek sub-Workgroup met from 2008-2010. The collaborative, community process, which operated on consensus, involved many citizens and organizations in discussions about the human and natural values in the Hermosa Creek watershed. It was a group represented by many points of view, including water users, recreational users, state agencies, the Southern Ute tribe, conservation organizations, and US Congressional representatives. After almost two years of work, the Hermosa Creek Workgroup arrived at a set of recommendations. Central to their work was recommending that special federal legislation be developed, introduced, and passed. Their final report and recommendations were forwarded to the US Congress in 2010.

After several years of drafts, working through committees, and changes in Congressional representatives, the Hermosa Creek Watershed Protection legislation was finally signed into law on December 19, 2014 as Section 3062 in the *Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (PL 113-291)*. Throughout the remainder of this document, this is referred to as “the legislation.”

The legislation divided the watershed into a Special Management Area (SMA) and a wilderness area. Within the SMA, the legislation also delineates the East Hermosa Roadless Area (which was already a designated Colorado Roadless Area before the legislation), and Parcels A and B, which relate to minerals interests.

A brief summary of the key points of the legislation follows; the legislation is attached in its entirety in Appendix A. The legislation states that:

“The purpose of the Special Management Area is to conserve and protect for the benefit of present and future generations the watershed, geological, cultural, natural, scientific, recreational, wildlife, riparian, historical, educational, and scenic resources of the Special Management Area.”

The legislation states that the following uses *shall* be allowed:

- Motorized and mechanized vehicles, but only on roads and trails designated by the Forest Service.
- Over-snow vehicles, subject to terms and conditions as required by the Forest Service.
- Grazing, if already established before the Act, subject to applicable laws and orders.

The legislation further *prohibits* the following activities:

- Road construction in the East Hermosa Roadless Area, except as allowed by the Colorado Roadless Rule.
- Commercial timber harvest in the East Hermosa Roadless Area, except as allowed by the Colorado Roadless Rule.
- Disposal of land, mining patents, and minerals leases, subject to valid existing rights, except in parcels A&B.

The legislation states that the following activities *may occur*:

- Management of wildland fire and hazardous fuels.
- Management of insects and diseases.

Purpose of this Plan

The purpose of this Hermosa Creek Watershed Management Plan (hereafter referred to as the Hermosa Plan) is to meet the requirement set forth in the legislation to develop a management plan for the Hermosa Creek Special Management Area within three years of the enactment of the legislation. This management plan reflects analysis and decisions made in the associated Hermosa Creek Watershed Management Plan Environmental Assessment (*SJNF 2017a*) and Decision Notice (*SJNF 2017b*).

The purpose of this management plan is to provide strategic direction and guidance for future management of the watershed; it does not attempt to prescribe detailed management direction to cover every possible situation. It provides a framework for informed decision making, while guiding resource management, practices, uses, and projects. This plan does not include specific project and activity decisions. Project-level decisions will be made in separate processes, after additional detailed analysis and further public involvement. This management plan is adaptive in that it can be amended to update management direction based on new knowledge and information.

This management plan has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA), and the 1982 U.S. Forest Service (USFS) planning regulations (36 CFR 219) as allowed by the transition provision of the 2000 regulations (36 CFR 219.35, revised 2004; the 2012 forest planning regulations currently in effect allow use of the previous regulations for plan revisions initiated before the 2012 regulations took effect [36 CFR 219.17 (b) (3), 2012]).

The Forest Service chose to write a management plan that encompasses the entire watershed, including not only the SMA, but also the Hermosa Creek Wilderness. Additionally, the Forest Service also elected to undertake project-level planning for recreation and travel management in the watershed in conjunction with this planning effort, and to complete the establishment record for the previously-recommended Hermosa Research Natural Area (RNA). These additional elements, while not required by the legislation, are required by other regulations and policies, and are appropriately addressed at the same time. They are attached as appendices to this plan.

Planning Area

The planning area encompasses approximately 107,900 acres of federal lands within the Hermosa Creek watershed, which is located north of Durango, within La Plata and San Juan counties, Colorado, Ranges 9-11 West and Townships 36-40 North, N.M.P.M.

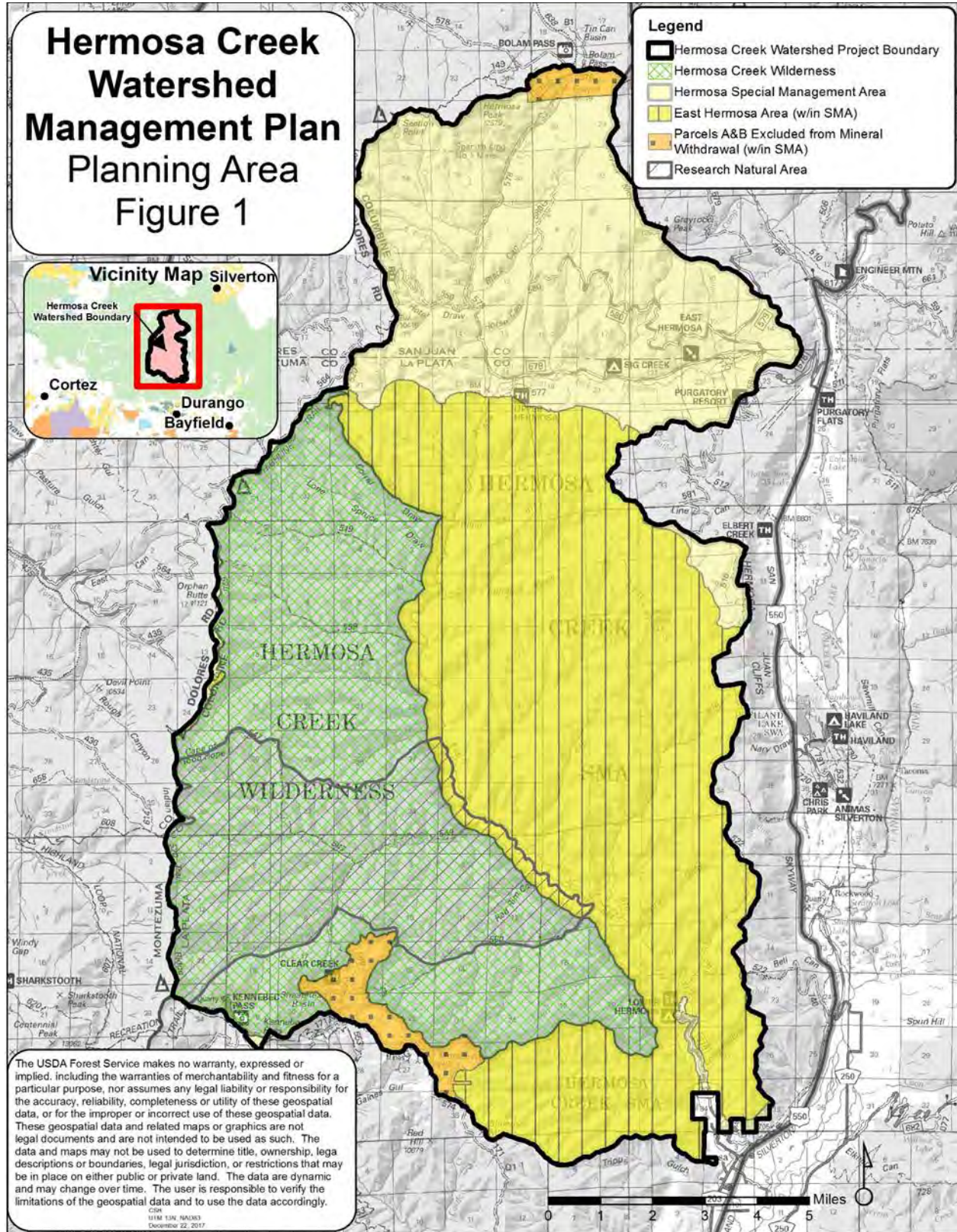
See *Figure 1 – Hermosa Watershed Planning Area*. The planning area is divided into several categories as follows:

Hermosa Creek Watershed planning area – 107,900 acres total

- (1) Hermosa Creek Wilderness – 37,400 acres
 - (a) RNA – 15,500 acres
- (2) Special Management Area – 70,600 acres
 - (a) Parcels A&B – 2,400 acres
 - (b) East Hermosa Roadless Area – 43,200 acres

The enabling legislation required the preparation of maps and legal descriptions of the Hermosa SMA. Slight corrections to SMA and Wilderness boundaries have been made from the map that was used to prepare the legislation, as needed to match topographic and existing features on the ground, while meeting the intent of the legislation. Figure 1 depicts these corrected boundaries, although changes are too slight to be seen at this scale; electronic GIS mapping is available upon request.

FIGURE 1. Planning Area



Management Planning Overview

Scope and Applicability of this Hermosa Plan

The planning area includes all National Forest System lands within the boundaries of the Hermosa Creek watershed. Policy set forth in this Hermosa Plan does not apply to private land or patented mining claims. This Hermosa Plan sets the stage and provides strategic guidance for the Hermosa watershed. It does not propose or approve any specific actions.

Before authorizing any other specific project or land-use activity within the watershed, the Forest Service must complete a site-specific decision, which will require compliance with NEPA and other environmental laws such as the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act. When a specific project or activity is proposed, additional public involvement will occur, site-specific effects will be analyzed, and decisions will be made regarding those specific projects or activities. All applicable laws and regulations, in addition to the Hermosa Creek legislation, will apply.

Relationship of this Plan to the Forest Plan

This Hermosa Plan resulted in an amendment to the San Juan National Forest (SJNF) Land and Resource Management Plan (hereafter called the Forest Plan) (*SJNF 2013*). All Desired Conditions, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines, and other guidance and descriptions given in the Forest Plan are applicable to this Hermosa Plan, unless specifically noted herein as being changed. Certain parts of both Chapters 2 and 3 of the Forest Plan need to be amended as a result of this Hermosa Plan; the amendment will occur as a new Forest Plan section labeled 3.28-*Hermosa Creek Watershed*.

Certain items in the Forest Plan were superseded by the legislation. For example, the designation of the Hermosa Creek Wilderness and the SMA automatically changed Forest Plan categorizations such as management areas, Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, some suitability determinations, and acreage figures. These non-discretionary administrative changes are noted throughout this document and are included as part of the Forest Plan Amendment.

Relationship of this Plan to Wilderness Management Direction

The Forest Plan incorporates the SJNF Wilderness Management Direction, which was written in 1998 for all of the wilderness areas on the Forest at that time. This Hermosa Plan will adopt the same management prescriptions and guidance for the Hermosa Creek Wilderness, unless specifically noted herein as being different; this is part of the Forest Plan Amendment.

Relationship of this Plan to Colorado Roadless Areas

Colorado Roadless Areas were designated in the Hermosa watershed prior to the passage of the Hermosa Creek legislation when the Colorado Roadless Rule was promulgated in 2012 (*36 CFR 294*). There are three Roadless Areas with acreage in the watershed: the Hermosa Roadless Area (also called the East Hermosa Area in the legislation) with about 43,200 acres, the Blackhawk Roadless Area with 4,480 acres and the San Miguel Roadless Area with 1,280 acres. The Hermosa Creek legislation does not change, overturn, contradict, or expand upon the regulations pertaining to Colorado Roadless Areas; however, because a statutory wilderness takes precedence over a regulatory roadless area, a boundary modification to conform to the legislation will be made, using procedures set forth under the Colorado Roadless Rule. Areas in the watershed outside of wilderness that are Roadless Areas will continue to be managed under regulations set forth in the Colorado Roadless Rule, with the legislation as an additional layer of

regulation guiding the management of those areas. Refer to Roadless Rule regulations for further information.

Relationship of this Plan to the RNA Establishment Record

The Forest Plan recommends the Hermosa Research Natural Area (RNA) for designation, and contains an objective to complete establishment records for designated RNAs within four years from the date of the Forest Plan. The Hermosa RNA Establishment Record is considered a stand-alone document and is not a Forest Plan Amendment; it is included as Appendix B for reference purposes.

Relationship of this Plan to Recreation and Travel Management

A Recreation and Travel Management project analysis and decision was prepared in conjunction with this Hermosa Plan. It is considered a stand-alone project-level decision and document. It is not a Forest Plan Amendment, but is an integral part of management in the Hermosa watershed. Excerpts from the EA and decision made for the Recreation and Travel Management Project (*SJNF 2017c*) can be found as an Appendix C.

Relationship of this Plan to Other Authorizations and Decisions

Previous project-level decisions and subsequent authorizations for a variety of actions and activities has occurred. Some of these projects are on-going activities such as livestock grazing (*SJNF 2009*), ski area operation (*SJNF 2008*), outfitter/guide operations, and multi-year recreation events. Other one-time discrete actions may have also been authorized that have not been completed yet, such as some streambank restoration projects and livestock fencing. Unless a specific facet of the activity is identified as not being in compliance with the legislation or with wilderness direction, those previously authorized activities will continue to be implemented. Previous authorizations are governed by their respective supporting documents such as NEPA decisions, design criteria, mitigation measures, special use permits, and annual operating plans.

Management Plan Organization and Terminology

Plan Organization

Resource Direction is found in Chapter 2 of the Forest Plan and is organized by type of natural resource such as wildlife, water, or recreation. *Area Direction* is found in Chapter 3 of the Forest Plan and is organized by geographic area such as Ranger District, wilderness area, or other special area. Certain parts of both Forest Plan Chapters 2 and 3 are amended as a result of this Hermosa Plan; these amendments apply only to the Hermosa watershed. Both *Resource Direction* and *Area Direction* changes to the Forest Plan are covered in this Hermosa Plan **Chapter 2**, below, and can be inserted into the Forest Plan within a new “special area” section in Forest Plan Chapter 3, titled *3.28- Hermosa Watershed*. Sub-headings within Section 3.28 will generally follow chapter sub-headings found in the Forest Plan.

Monitoring is used to determine how well management requirements, such as standards and guidelines, are being applied. The monitoring plan that is part of the Forest Plan will provide information that is applicable for the Hermosa watershed. However, there are a few monitoring items identified that are specific to the Hermosa watershed; these are presented in **Chapter 3** of this Hermosa Plan and will be amended to the Forest-wide monitoring plan.

Chapter 4 of this Hermosa Plan is a list of References and related documents.

Appendices - For ease of management, all major guidance documents related to the management of the Hermosa Watershed are part of this Hermosa Plan; the appendices include the enabling

legislation, an RNA Establishment Record, and excerpts from the project-level Hermosa Recreation and Travel Management EA and decision.

Plan Terminology

Plan direction is divided into several interrelated components: *desired conditions*, which, when taken as a whole, make up the vision and goals for management of the watershed; *objectives*, *suitability*, and *allowable uses*, which comprise the plan strategy that will be used to achieve the vision and goals; and *standards* and *guidelines*, which are the criteria and controls used to execute the strategy. This management direction and guidance (also referred to as plan components) should be followed in future implementation of projects and activities. The purpose of each of these plan components is described in greater detail below. The number of plan components under each resource or area varies due to the varying complexity of the resource, the extent of existing management direction already provided by law, regulation, policy, and the Forest Plan, the need for action, and priorities. Some resources or areas may not include any amendments, or may not include amendments to all the types of Forest Plan components. The direction given in this Hermosa Plan does not apply to other ownerships or jurisdictions.

Desired Conditions encompass the overarching goals of the land and resource management. They are statements of the social, economic, and ecological attributes and values toward which management strives to achieve and characterize or exemplify the desired outcomes of land management. They describe how the area is expected to look and function in the future. Some desired conditions are general, while others are quite specific. Desired conditions are aspirations; they may only be achievable over the long term.

Objectives are concise projections of measurable, time-specific intended outcomes. Objectives are a means of progressing toward maintaining and/or achieving desired conditions. As with desired conditions, they are aspirations, not commitments or final project decisions. Implementation and achievement would rely upon sufficient funding and staffing levels.

Standards are approaches or conditions that are determined to be necessary to meet desired conditions and objectives, and/or to ensure the long-term viability of resources. A standard (worded as “must” or “shall”) describes a course of action that must be followed or a level of attainment that must be reached. Deviations from standards would require analysis and documentation through a subsequent land management plan amendment.

Guidelines (worded as “should”) are presumptively requirements to meet desired future conditions and objectives, and/or to ensure the long-term viability of resources. Guidelines allow some flexibility in approach as conditions change and new information is obtained. Deviations from guidelines require documentation of the reasons for deviation as part of the project decision, and explanation of how the intent of the guideline is being met through alternative means.

Suitability and Allowable Uses is defined by the capability if an area to accommodate specific uses and activities in a sustainable manner based on the area’s inherent biophysical characteristics, public input, and the balancing of desired conditions for multiple resources. Suitability determinations are general determinations at the landscape level that can be refined as necessary at the project level. The allowable use table at the end of Chapter 2 shows the suitability of these uses in the Hermosa watershed and also identifies other activities that are allowed, restricted, or prohibited.

CHAPTER 2 - Forest Plan Amendment – 3.28 Hermosa Creek Watershed

This chapter contains an amendment to the Forest Plan which will be inserted into the Forest Plan within a new “special area” section in Forest Plan Chapter 3, titled 3.28- *Hermosa Creek Watershed*. Sub-headings within Section 3.28 will generally follow the order of chapter and sub-headings found in the Forest Plan. This amendment applies to the Hermosa Creek watershed only. New components will apply to the Hermosa watershed in addition to all existing Forest Plan components, other guidance and descriptions given in the Forest Plan, unless specifically noted herein as being changed. This Forest Plan amendment will apply to all future projects and management actions within the Hermosa watershed.

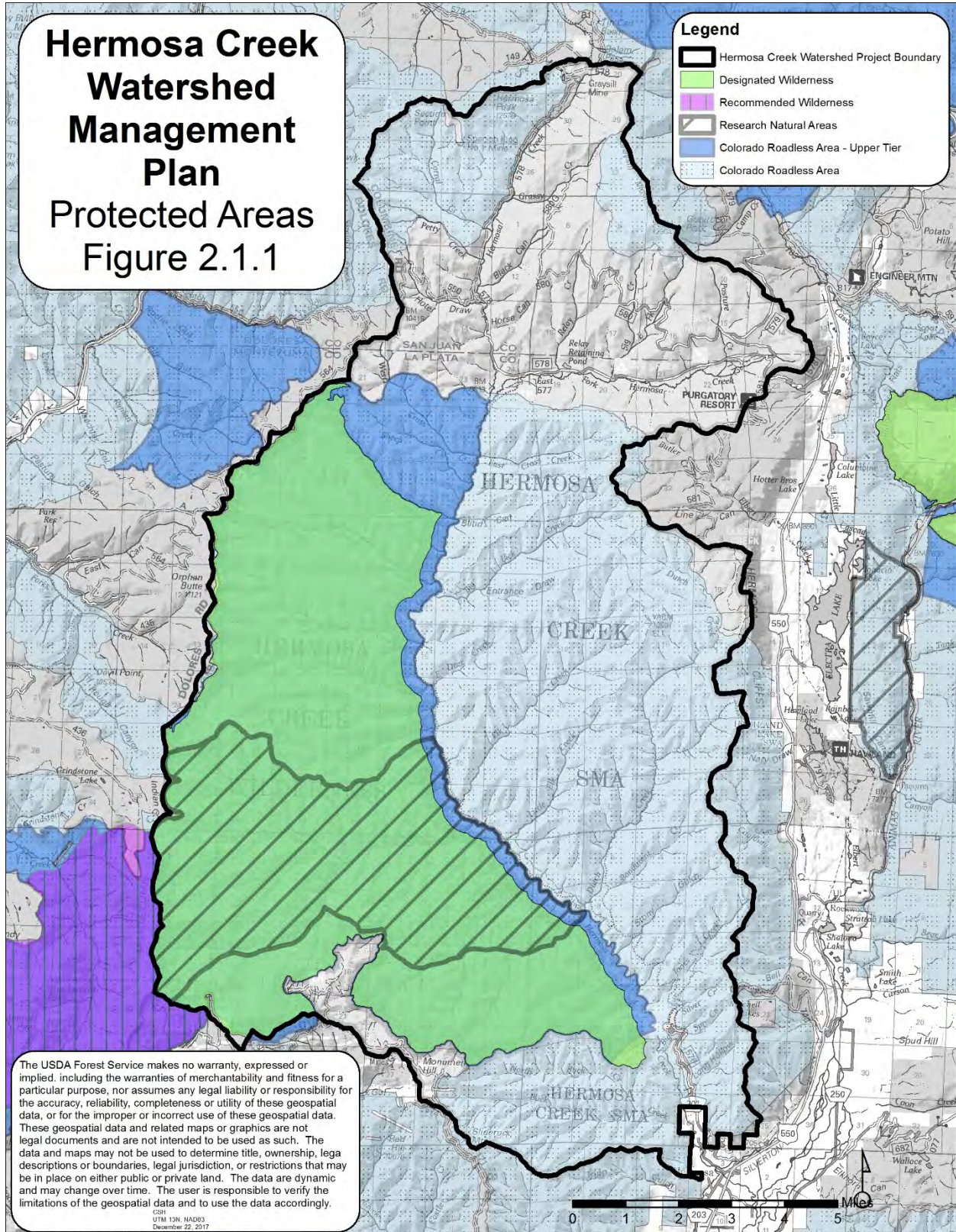
Because management actions are generally restricted in wilderness, the following direction is applicable primarily to the SMA portion of the watershed, unless it is stated that it applies to the entire watershed or specifically to the wilderness.

Resource Direction for Hermosa Creek Watershed

Ecological Framework & Conservation of Species

Figure 2.1.1 Protected Areas in the Forest Plan is amended to add the Hermosa Creek Wilderness as a protected area. This is a non-discretionary administrative change necessary to comply with the legislation. Additionally, the figure is amended so that all of the previously-recommended wilderness in the Hermosa watershed is removed from protected area status.

FIGURE 2.1.1 Protected Areas



Terrestrial Ecosystems and Plant Species

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.1 Native species diversity across the watershed is high, and migration of species is not inhibited so that species may move into new sites and take advantage of changing bioclimatic envelopes and growing conditions while maintaining proper ecological function.
- 3.28.2 Alpine and subalpine flowers continue to propagate, are pollinated, and maintain viable populations within the watershed.
- 3.28.3 In areas where non-native lodgepole pine exists, spruce and fir are the dominant understory species and the forest is converting to a spruce-fir forest.
- 3.28.4 Rare plants ranked highly or extremely vulnerable to climate change as identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program are protected from non-climate stressors within the watershed. See current list below, subject to change.

Table 3.28.1. Rare Plants

Habitat	Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Status	State Status	Agency Sensitive
Alpine	Alsinanthe macrantha	house’s sandwort	G3	S2S3	
Alpine	Castilleja puberula	downy indian paintbrush	G2G3	S2S3	
Alpine	Descurainia kenheilli	hell’s tansy mustard	G1	S1	
Fens	Cryptogramma stelleri	slender rock brake	G5	S2	BLM
Fens	Erigeron kachinensis	kachina daisy	G2	S1	BLM
Fens	Mimulus eastwoodiae	Eastwood monkeyflower	G3G4	S2	BLM
Fens	Puccinella parishii	Parish’s alkali grass	G2G3	S1	
Spruce-fir	Draba malphiacea	Whitlow-grass	G1	S1	

- 3.28.5 The landscape is a diverse mosaic of cover types with a diversity of habitat structural stages spread across the watershed. Mountain grasslands, mountain shrublands, and wetlands are widely distributed across the watershed providing a diversity of species. All development stages of forested ecosystems are well represented across the SMA and occur within the ranges identified in the following table. Within the SMA, this table replaces the Desired Conditions found in the Forest Plan Table 2.2.1

Table 3.28.2. Vegetation Desired Conditions

Vegetation Local Type	% Habitat Structural Stage Desired Condition in the SMA		
	1 and 2, 3	4A	4B, 4C
Aspen - TAA	20-40%	10-20%	40-70%
Aspen with mixed conifer - TAA_SW	20-40%	10-20%	40-70%
Spruce-Fir - TSF	10-20%	10-20%	60-80%
Cool-moist Mixed Conifer - TMC_CM	10-20%	10-20%	60-80%
Warm-dry Mixed Conifer - TMC_WD	10-20%	30-50%	30-60%
Ponderosa Pine - PP	10-20%	35-55%	25-45%

Objectives

- 3.28.6 To maintain a diverse and resilient forest within the aspen vegetation type, increase the amount of young and mature open stands by 20% of the vegetation type (approx. 2,000-3,000 acres) through prescribed burning and timber harvest over the next 15 years.
- 3.28.7 Monitor and map the changes occurring in the spruce-fir forest within the next three years and practice adaptive management to work toward the desired condition. Management tactics may include timber harvest, fire, or mechanical or chemical treatments to enhance forest resiliency.
- 3.28.8 To maintain a diverse and resilient cool-moist mixed conifer forest, using a combination of fire and timber harvest, create regeneration areas across approximately 10% of the cool-moist forest (approx. 600-800 acres).
- 3.28.9 To maintain a diverse and resilient warm-dry mixed conifer forest, using a combination of fire and timber harvest, thin approximately 35% (approx. 1,300 acres) of the warm-dry forest to favor drought tolerant species such as Douglas fir and ponderosa pine.
- 3.28.10 To maintain a diverse and resilient ponderosa pine forest, using a combination of fire and timber harvest, create opportunities for natural regeneration across approximately 5% of the ponderosa pine forest (approx. 100-200 acres).
- 3.28.11 Under-plant approximately 100-200 acres of lodgepole pine plantations with native Engelmann spruce, Douglas fir, or other endemic tree species.
- 3.28.12 Inventory alpine and fen ecosystems, evaluate ecosystem health and diversity and identify rare and vulnerable plants for seed collection.
- 3.28.13 Within five years, create and maintain a seed bank of native tree, shrub and plant seed specific to the Hermosa watershed to be used in restoration and reforestation.
- 3.28.14 Within five years, collect seed within the watershed from rare plants moderately to extremely vulnerable to climate change.

Guidelines

- 3.28.15 During any agency actions, consider whether the bioclimatic niche for pre-existing species has changed, and practice active adaptive management to plant species suitable for a new and changing climate.
- 3.28.16 In the stands that are dying from insect, disease and fire, healthy young trees should be maintained for a future stocked forest.
- 3.28.17 Roads identified for decommissioning or restoration should be restored to improve soil condition. Improvements could include increasing soil organic material, carbon, and nutrients (e.g. bio-char or revegetation).

Riparian Area and Wetland Ecosystems

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.18 The East Fork of the Hermosa and the reach of Hermosa Creek just above the East Fork confluence, and their riparian corridors, are in a 'Robust' stream health category, as defined in the Watershed Conservation Practices Handbook.
- 3.28.19 Cool summer stream temperatures are maintained by shade from native riparian hydrophytic species of trees and shrubs and by maintenance of stream channel morphology (pools, riffles, small width to depth ratio, etc.).

Objectives

- 3.28.20 Every ten years, restore at least five degraded riparian sites, five wetland acres, or five acres contributing sediment to the creek system.
- 3.28.21 Move the watershed condition classification in the East Fork Hermosa to “good” through the completion of essential projects identified in the Watershed Restoration Action Plan (*SJNF 2012*) within 10 years.

Guidelines

- 3.28.22 Over-snow activities authorized under permit should not cause compaction in fens to the extent that soil temperatures and depth of frost penetration are altered in these fragile ecosystems.
- 3.28.23 (intentionally blank)

Aquatic Ecosystems and Fisheries

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.24 Natural and manmade barriers to upstream fish migration adequately protect Colorado River cutthroat trout (CRCT) populations while allowing for stream reaches large enough to support long term population viability.
- 3.28.25 Manmade barriers to upstream fish migration within CRCT habitat are maintained to ensure effectiveness.
- 3.28.26 Free migration of aquatic organisms is not limited by roads, trails, or other infrastructure across the watershed, except under circumstances where non-native fish species are excluded to the benefit of native fish species.

Objectives

- 3.28.27 Replace two road culverts identified as fish migration barriers in Forest Road 578 to reconnect fragmented habitat in Sig and Relay Creeks, within ten years.
- 3.28.28 Construct a barrier to upstream fish migration below the confluence of Hermosa Creek and East Fork Hermosa Creek to fully establish the CRCT meta-population within five years.
- 3.28.29 Implement four stream habitat improvement projects to improve over-wintering habitat and limit sedimentation to streams within ten years.
- 3.28.30 Install interpretive signage where appropriate to educate fishermen of the CRCT re-introduction program, within five years. Include wording about concerns and risks to CRCT populations and proper pathogen risk preventative measures.

Guidelines

- 3.28.31 Road and trail stream crossings across the watershed should be designed to allow for fish passage during all flow regimes.

Invasive Species

Desired Conditions

3.28.32 The Forest Service is an active participant in a Hermosa Cooperative Weed Management Partnership.

Objectives

3.28.33 Annually treat 10% of known invasive weed populations in the watershed.

Timber & Other Forest Products

Legislative Requirements

3.28.34 Projects undertaken for the purpose of harvesting commercial timber are prohibited, other than activities relating to the harvest of merchantable products that are byproducts of activities conducted for ecological restoration or to further the purposes of the legislation.

Desired Conditions

3.28.35 Opportunities for personal use collection of forest products (such as firewood, stays, mushrooms and medicinal plants) are provided in such a manner that collection does not interfere with ecosystem function or resiliency.

Objectives

3.28.36 Within 10 years after any large-scale mortality event, conduct a post disturbance assessment to evaluate areas of severe mortality and to identify and reforest portions that are accessible, have severe mortality and are not regenerating naturally within the SMA.

3.28.37 Within five years, reforest 90% of identified old timber sales to achieve full stocking.

Guidelines

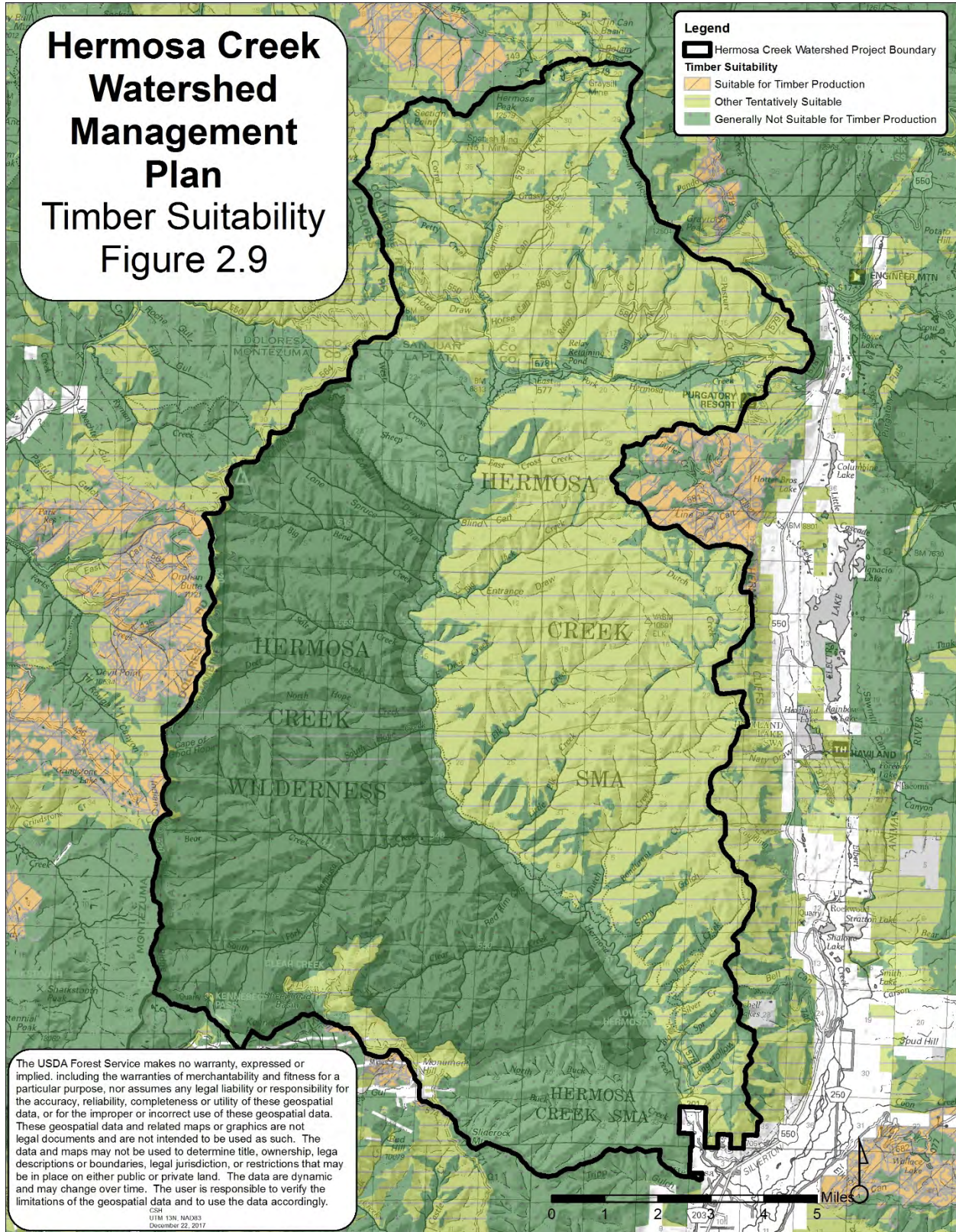
3.28.38 In the event of a large-scale disturbance, timber salvage may occur subject to all applicable laws and regulations, and in a manner consistent with the purposes if the legislation.

3.28.39 Over-snow activities authorized under permit should not cause tree-top damage in plantations to the extent that reforestation success is impaired.

Suitability

Figure 2.9 Timber Suitability in the Forest Plan is amended to reflect that all “lands suitable for timber production” within the watershed are changed to “other tentatively suitable lands where timber harvest may occur.” This is a non-discretionary administrative change necessary to comply with the legislation.

FIGURE 2.9 Timber Suitability



Insects and Disease

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.40 Insects and diseases are endemic across the watershed, adding to the diversity of the landscape. In areas of mature forest mortality, natural regeneration is healthy and abundant.
- 3.28.41 Indices for beetle epidemics are low to moderate across the watershed in at least 50% of the mature conifer forest.

Guidelines

- 3.28.42 Insect and disease treatments may include the use of biotic controls, pheromones, chemicals, microbial organisms, mycorrhizal fungi, fire, trap trees, slash treatment or other vegetation manipulation, as long as the activity maintains or restores forest health and desired conditions.

Fire and Fuels Management

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.43 Managed natural fire is encouraged within the entire watershed, except in identified Wildland-Urban Interface.
- 3.28.44 Prescribed fire is used as a management tool throughout the SMA.

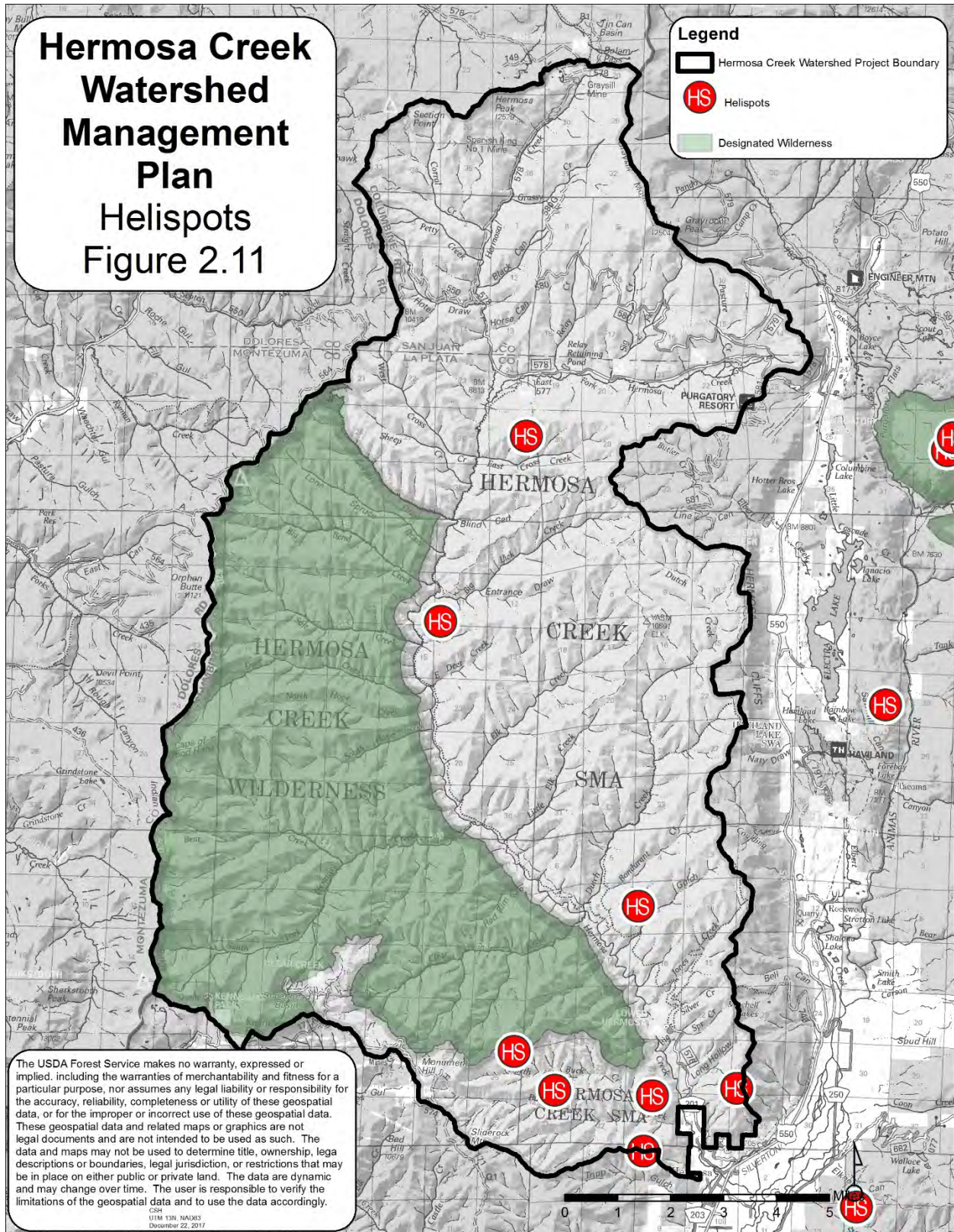
Objectives

- 3.28.45 Maintain the helispots in the southern SMA by keeping them cleared every 5-10 years. See Figure 2.11.

Guidelines

- 3.28.46 Managed natural fire and prescribed fire should be managed to maintain identified plantations at minimum stocking levels, when possible.
- 3.28.47 Minimize physical control line construction within the watershed.

FIGURE 2.11. Helispots



Access and Travel Management

Legislative Requirements

- 3.28.48 The use of motorized or mechanized vehicles in the SMA shall be permitted only on roads and trails designated by the Forest Service for use by those vehicles.
- 3.28.49 Forest Service shall authorize the use of snowmobiles and other over-snow vehicles within the SMA when there is adequate snow coverage, and subject to terms and conditions the Forest Service may require.
- 3.28.50 New permanent or temporary road construction or the renovation of existing non-system roads are prohibited in the East Hermosa Area, except as allowed by the Colorado Roadless Rule.

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.51 Hermosa Creek Trail is managed to accommodate multiple user types and minimize conflicts.
- 3.28.52 Motorized trail use is provided for within the SMA.
- 3.28.53 Mechanized trail use is provided for within the SMA.
- 3.28.54 Under agreement and supervision of the Forest Service, trails are maintained in cooperation with partners, such as user groups, special use permit holders, and volunteers.

Objectives

- 3.28.55 Install educational signage where appropriate to inform users of site-specific trail designations for vehicle usage and seasonal closure dates; and to educate users about share-the-trail, leave no trace, tread lightly, and similar behaviors, within three years and as needed thereafter.

Standards

- 3.28.56 Over-ground motorized and mechanized travel shall be limited to designated Forest system roads and trails; no cross-county travel is allowed. (Vehicles on user-created, unauthorized non-system, or closed routes will be considered cross-country travel.)
- 3.28.57 Over-ground motorized and mechanized travel shall have seasonal closures to protect resources. A travel management decision will determine the type and applicability of closures.
- 3.28.58 Over-snow motorized and mechanized travel shall be limited to designated Forest system roads, trails, or areas.

Guidelines

- 3.28.59 Accomplish a 1:1 no net gain of over-ground trail miles within the watershed when adding new trails to the system. This does not apply to trails within the ski area permit boundary.
- 3.28.60 After use of Maintenance Level 1 roads for administrative use, they should be effectively revegetated and closed to prevent unauthorized travel.

Suitability

Figure 2.13.1 Over-Ground Motorized Travel Suitability in the Forest Plan is amended in the vicinity of Corral Draw to change from unsuitable to suitable for over-ground motorized travel.

Figure 2.13.2 Over-Snow Motorized Travel Suitability in the Forest Plan is amended to expand the area of suitability. Criteria that were used to determine over-snow suitability include: critical or severe big game winter range, access for non-motorized users that could lead to user-group conflicts, sufficient snow cover in most years, and historical use patterns. Boundary mapping was made to follow topographic features on the ground that are apparent in the wintertime, such as drainage bottoms or ridgelines. Smaller-scale topography within larger suitable areas (slope, cliffs, etc.) was not used as a criteria because it is impossible to delineate or enforce on the ground. Recognition was given that vehicle technology is evolving and areas once considered inaccessible are becoming accessible. Over-snow use and grooming that are regulated under permit may have restrictions within the suitable area. Additionally, there are currently-existing special use permits allowing motorized use in these areas.

FIGURE 2.13.1 Over-Ground Motorized Travel Suitability

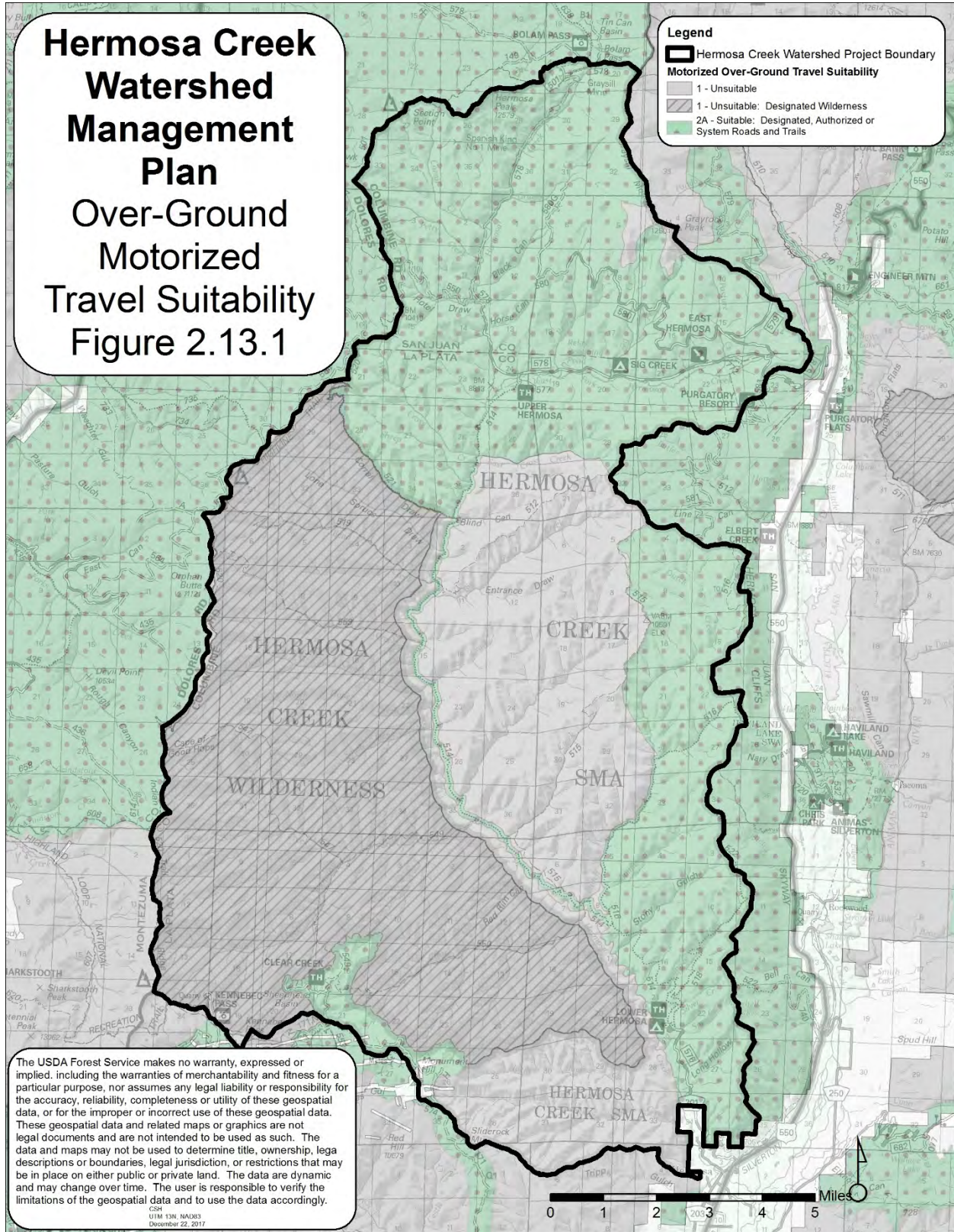
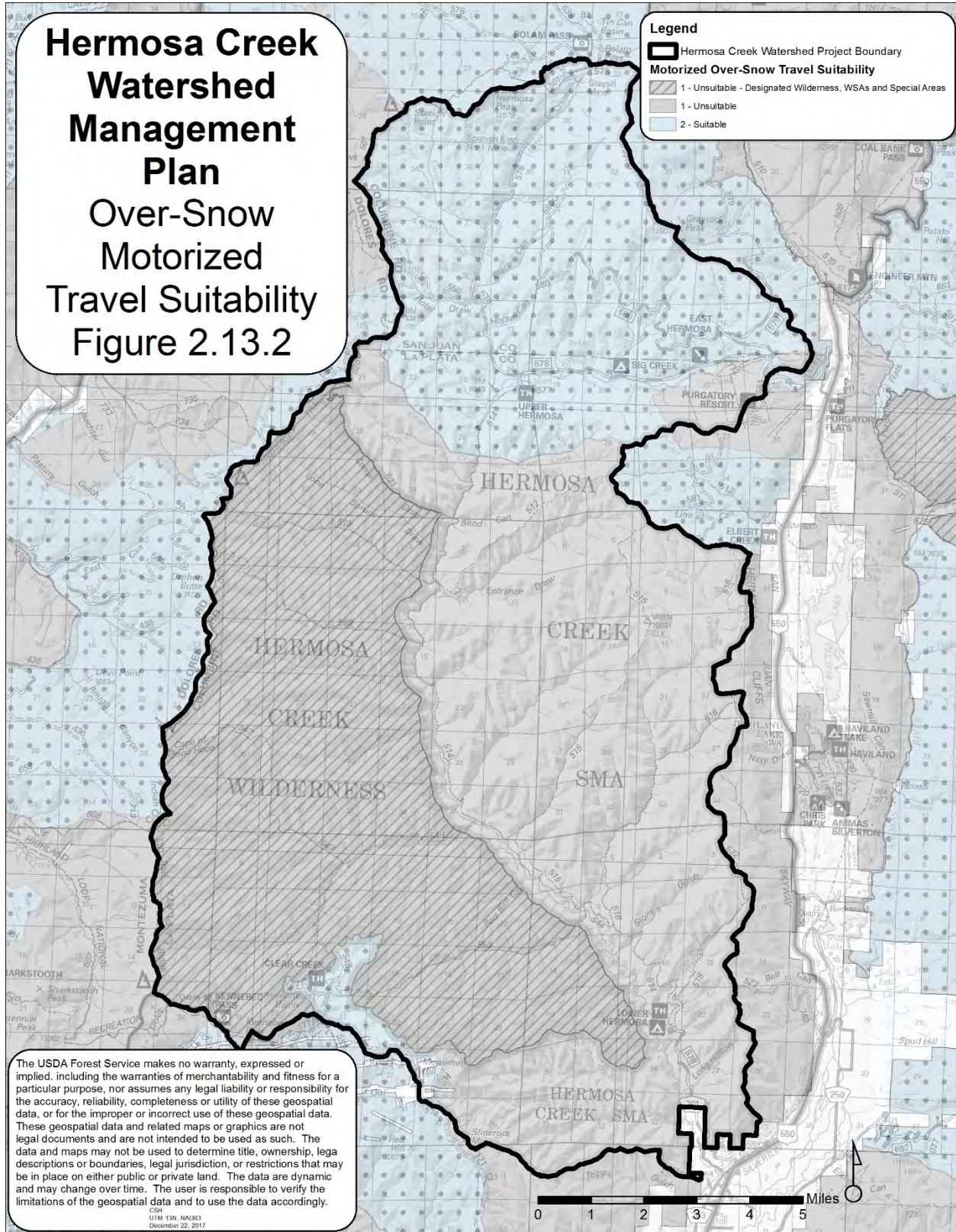


FIGURE 2.13.2 Over-Snow Motorized Travel Suitability



Livestock and Rangeland Management

Legislative Requirements

- 3.28.61 Permit grazing within the SMA, if established before the date of the legislation, subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and Executive Orders.

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.62 Conflicts with livestock in developed recreation sites are minimized.

Guidelines

- 3.28.63 Adaptive management strategies for grazing (such as herding, temporary avoidance areas, or temporary fencing) should be implemented when the stream health category is either “at risk” or “diminished” (WCPH) and where streambank and riparian restoration is occurring.
- 3.28.64 Fencing should blend with the natural and cultural setting and be wildlife friendly.

Recreation

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.65 Residential use (taking possession of, occupying, or otherwise using National Forest System lands for residential purposes without a permit or as otherwise authorized by Federal law or regulations) does not occur within the watershed.
- 3.28.66 All major developed campground facilities are managed by a Forest Service permitted concessionaire.
- 3.28.67 Dispersed camping does not impact meadows, wetlands, or streambanks within the watershed.
- 3.28.68 Developed recreation sites are provided to the extent possible to meet demand, considering available Forest Service resources.

Standards

- 3.28.69 New developed recreation sites must not be planned or developed in the 100-year flood plain.

Guidelines

- 3.28.70 Control unacceptable or expanding impacts from dispersed camping through education and engineering features first. Restrict dispersed camping to designated sites if impacts cannot be controlled by engineering features.
- 3.28.71 Fence newly developed recreation sites as part of new construction where grazing is permitted.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

Figure 2.14.2 Summer ROS in the Forest Plan is amended to align the new wilderness with the “wilderness primitive” class. This is a non-discretionary administrative change to match the legislative designation of wilderness.

Figure 2.14.3 Winter ROS in the Forest Plan is amended to align the new wilderness with the “wilderness primitive” class. This is a non-discretionary administrative change to match the

legislative designation of wilderness. Additionally, the figure is amended to change the class to “semi-primitive motorized” in the Elbert Creek drainage and near Greyrock Peak to match the motorized over-snow suitability.

Scenery and Visual Resources

Figure 2.15 Scenic Integrity Objective in the Forest Plan is amended to remove the Very High objective from all but the designated wilderness.

FIGURE 2.14.2 Summer ROS

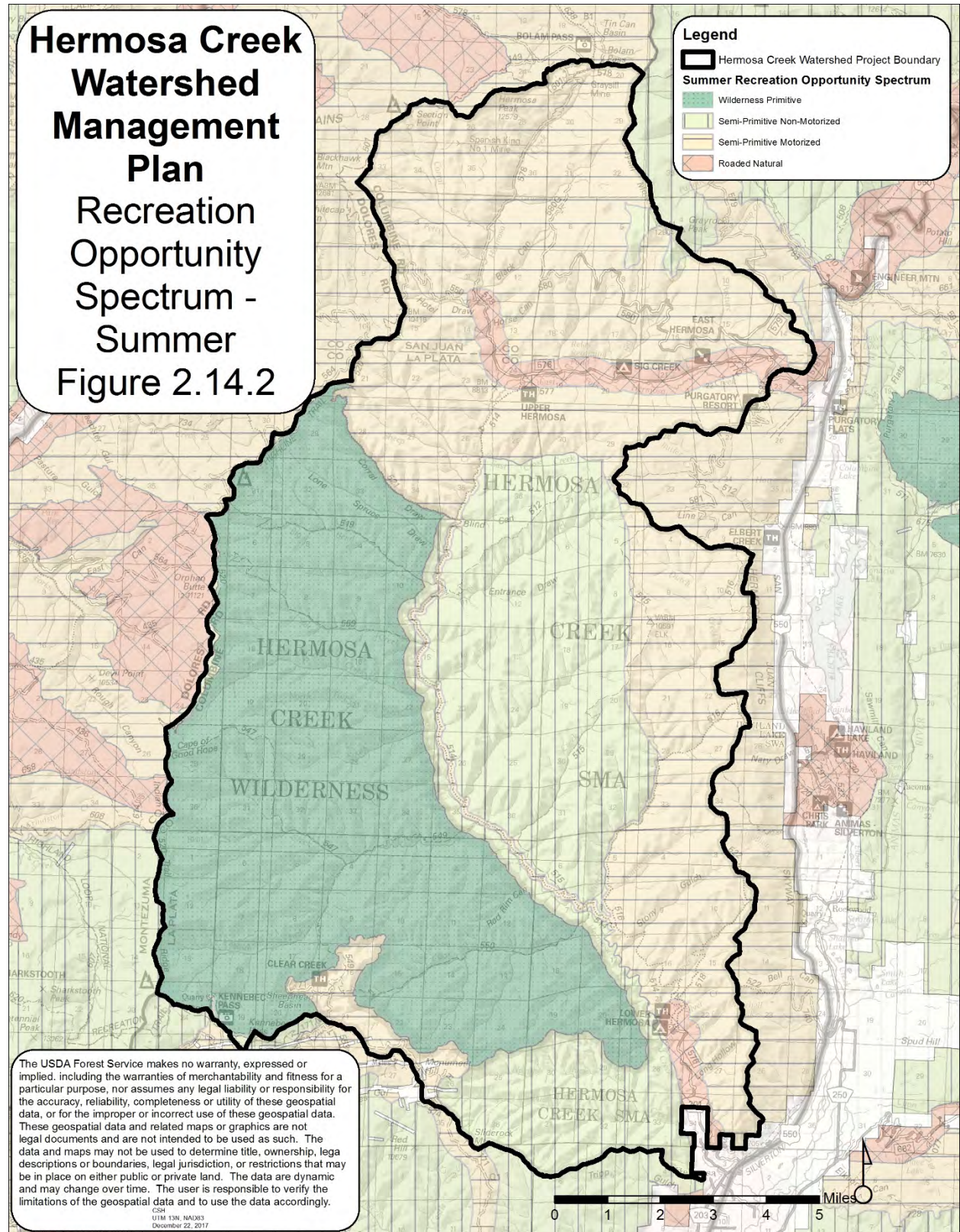


FIGURE 2.14.3 Winter ROS

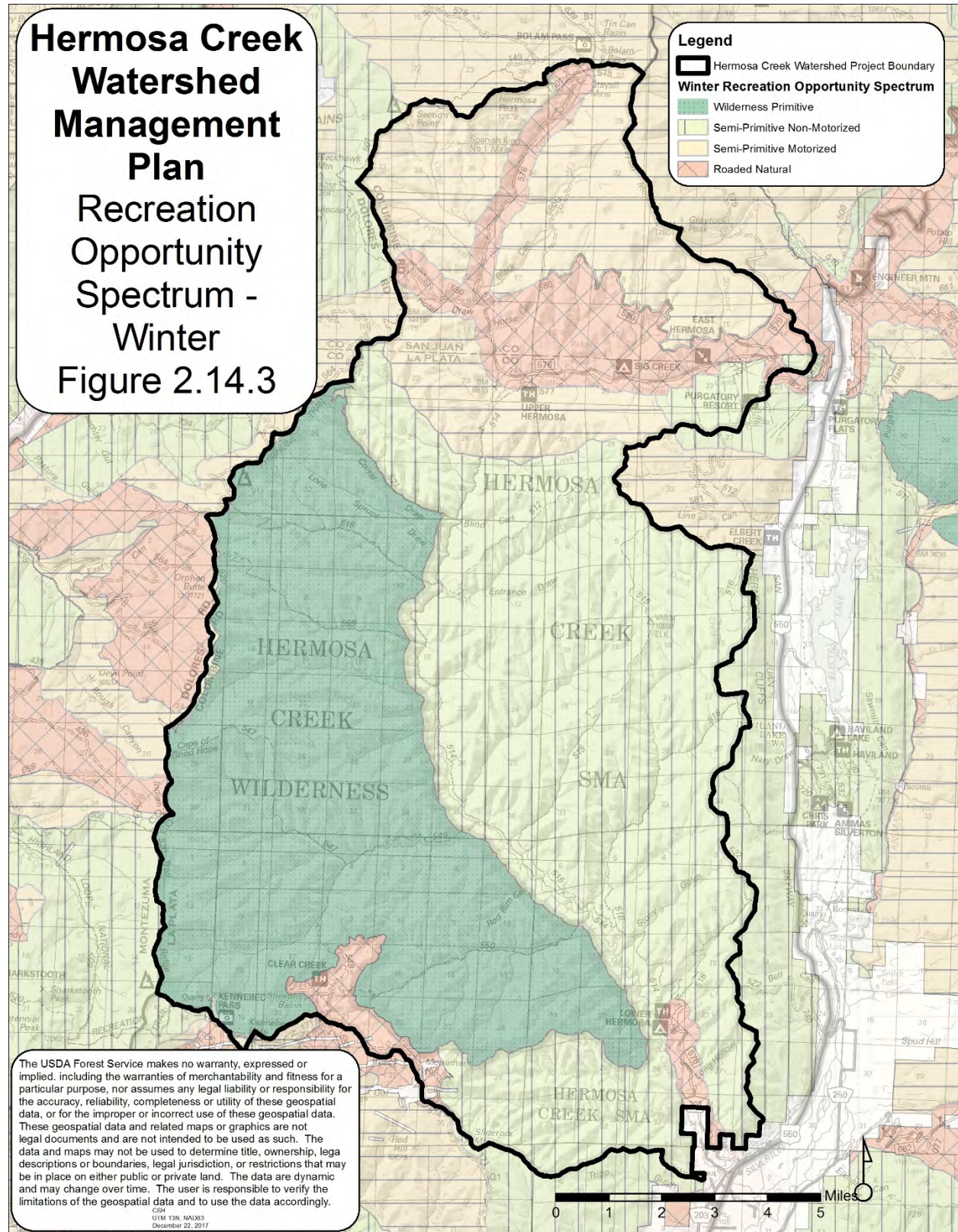
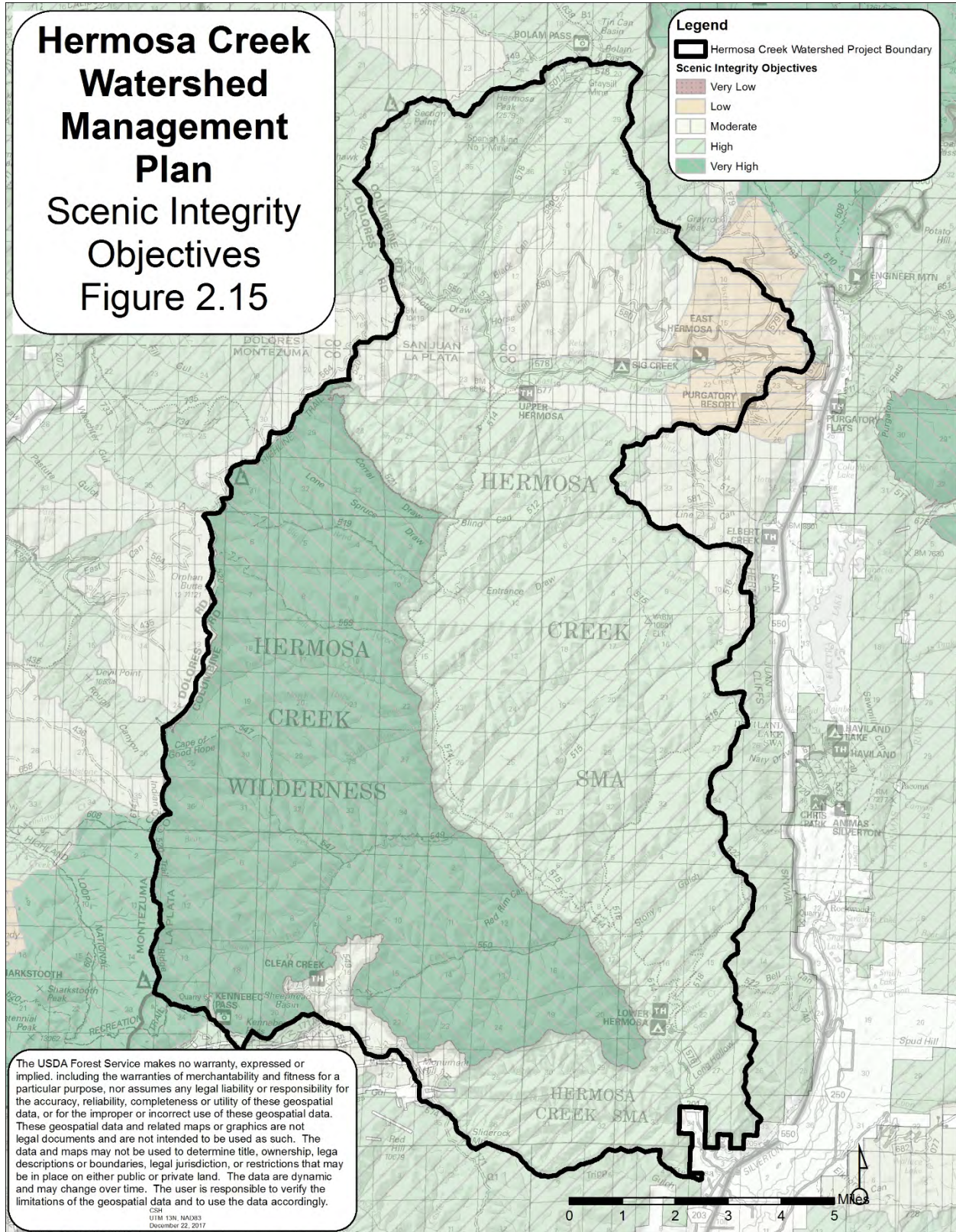


FIGURE 2.15 Scenic Integrity Objectives



Heritage and Cultural Resources

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.72 Significant heritage and cultural resources associated with the historic road and trail network within the watershed are preserved, and may be available for interpretation and research.
- 3.28.73 Significant cultural sites within the watershed are protected from physical damage and excessive wear and tear resulting from visitor use.
- 3.28.74 The Harris Cabin is protected and properly maintained as a Priority Heritage Asset.

Guidelines

- 3.28.75 Site-specific management plans for historic and cultural resources should be developed as protection and interpretation needs are identified.

Lands & Special Uses

Legislative Requirements

- 3.28.76 Federal land (and interest in lands) within the SMA is withdrawn from all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws, subject to valid existing rights, except for parcels A and B.

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.77 SMA and wilderness boundaries are clearly marked at trail, road, and other major points of entry.
- 3.28.78 Non-recreation special use authorizations are issued only if consistent with the SMA legislation and wilderness management guidelines.
- 3.28.79 Land ownership within the watershed is consolidated in order to facilitate effective land management.

Guidelines

- 3.28.80 When offered by a willing seller, the Forest Service should acquire lands or interest in lands within the watershed boundary, dependent upon availability of funding.

Minerals & Energy

Legislative Requirements

- 3.28.81 Except for Parcels A and B, and subject to valid existing rights, federal land (and interest in lands) within the SMA is withdrawn from:
 - all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;
 - location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and
 - operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

Desired Conditions

- 3.28.82 Mineral activities in Parcels A and B, and any valid existing rights in the Hermosa watershed, are managed to conserve and protect resources designated in the enabling legislation.
- 3.28.83 All minerals within the Hermosa watershed are federally owned or subject to non-surface disturbing agreements, except for within Parcels A and B.

Objectives

- 3.28.84 Within five years, develop a strategy to move valid existing federal and private mineral rights within the Hermosa watershed into non-surface disturbing status, except for Parcels A and B. This includes pursuing opportunities to acquire private mineral rights from willing sellers.

Standards

- 3.28.85 No surface use is allowed for exploration or development of leasable minerals in Parcels A and B or under valid existing rights.
- 3.28.86 Locatable, saleable, or private minerals exploration or development that involves surface disturbance (including dredging) in Parcels A and B, or under valid existing rights elsewhere in the SMA, can occur after a Resource Conservation and Protection Plan (RCPP) is authorized by the Forest Service describing measures in the development activity that will conserve and protect resources designated in the legislation. The RCPP is in addition to any other permits or authorizations needed for development or exploration activities.
- 3.28.87 If non-federal minerals within the Hermosa watershed are acquired by the federal government, these areas must be withdrawn from all forms of entry listed in 3.28.81 above.

Guidelines

- 3.28.88 Short term surface disturbance that can be fully reclaimed within one year to a non-detectable status may be allowed, as determined on a case-by-case basis.
- 3.28.89 Geologic processes should be allowed to continue shaping the landscape of the Hermosa watershed, unless such processes would interfere with the purposes of the legislation, or would interfere with human health and safety.

Leasing Availability

Figures 2.19.3, 2.19.4, and 2.19.5 Oil and Gas Leasing Availability in the Forest Plan are amended to show the SMA and Wilderness withdrawn from leasing (except parcels A and B). These are non-discretionary administrative changes necessary to comply with the legislation.

FIGURE 2.19.3 Oil and Gas Leasing – No Surface Occupancy

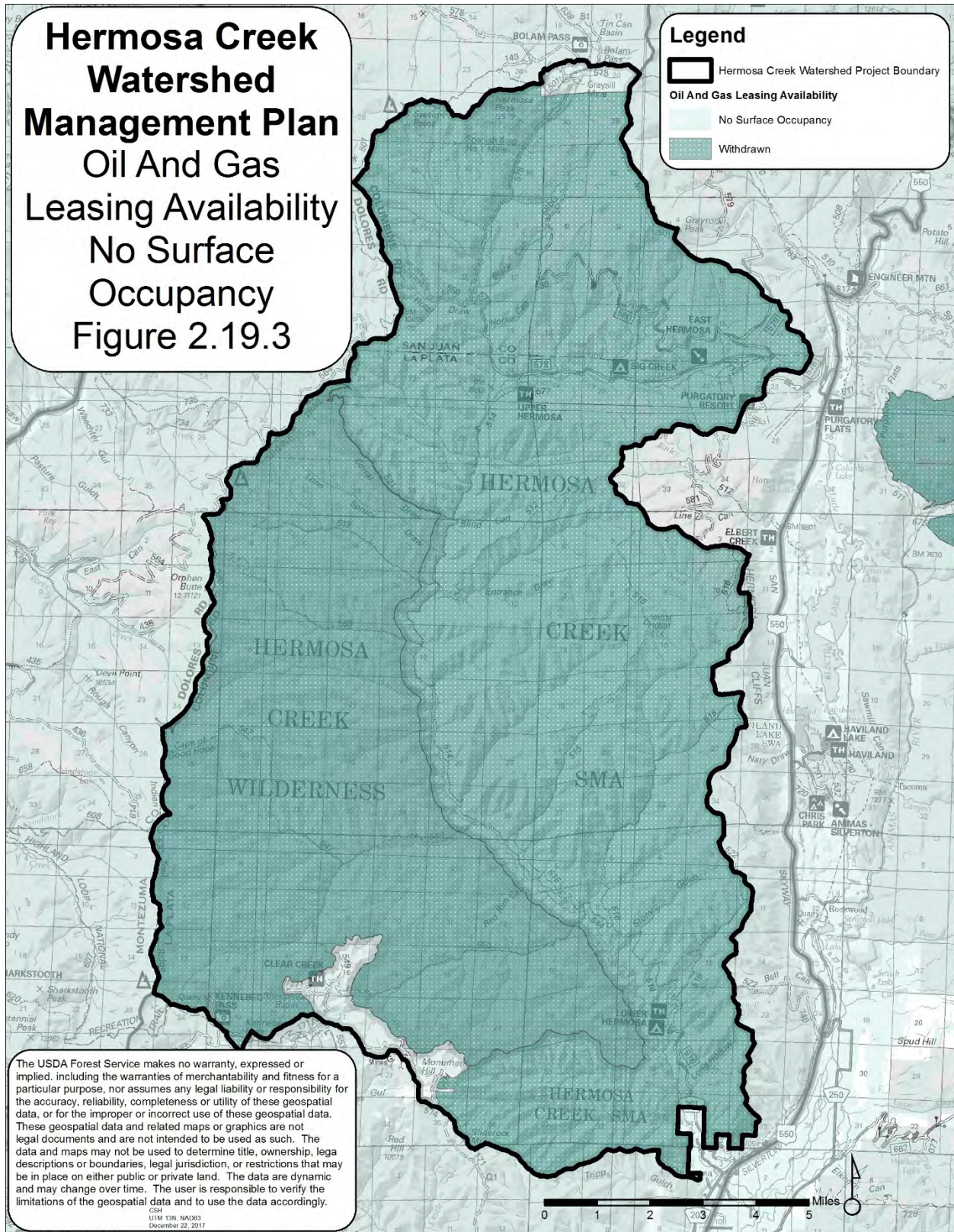


FIGURE 2.19.4 Oil and Gas Leasing – Controlled Surface Use

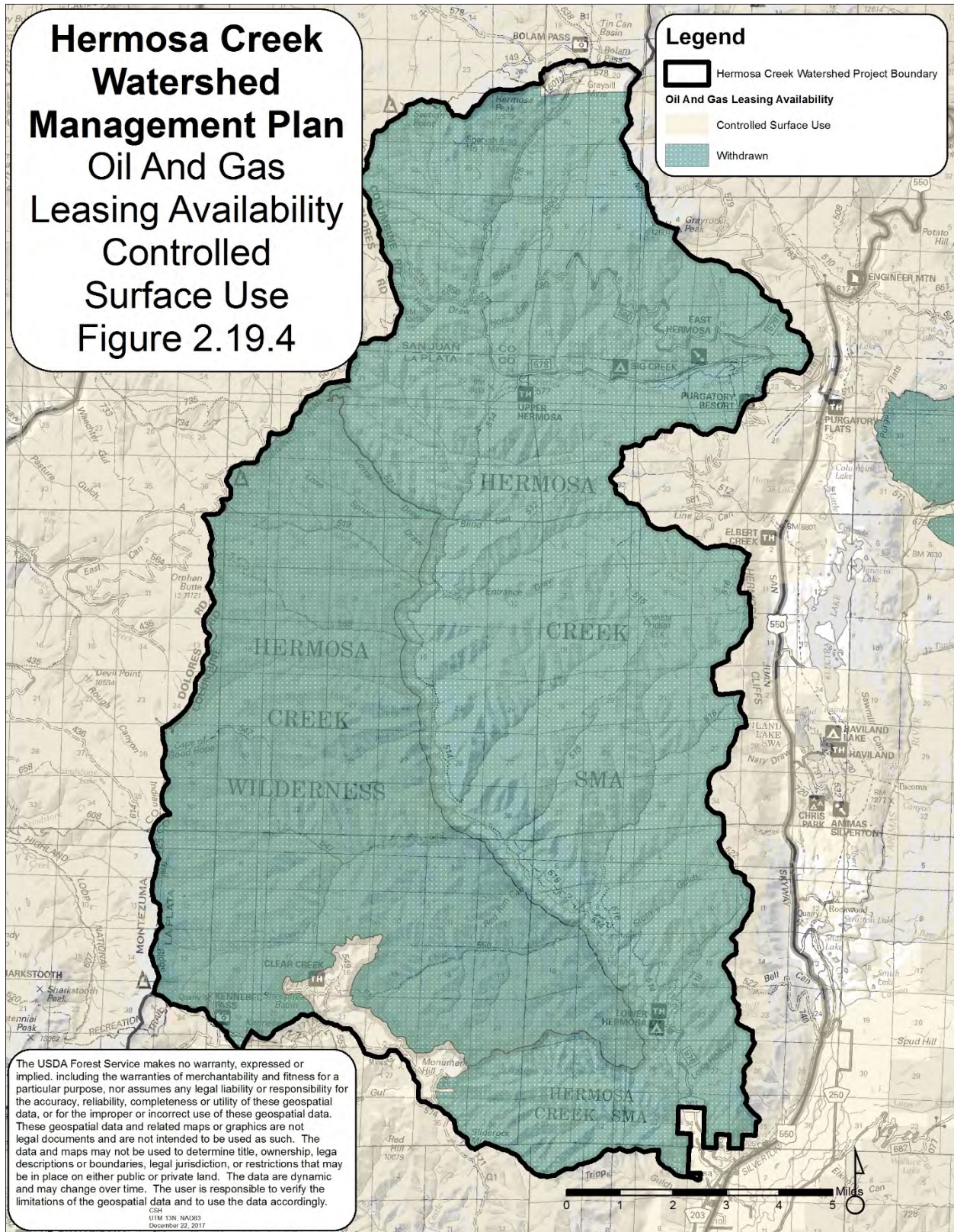
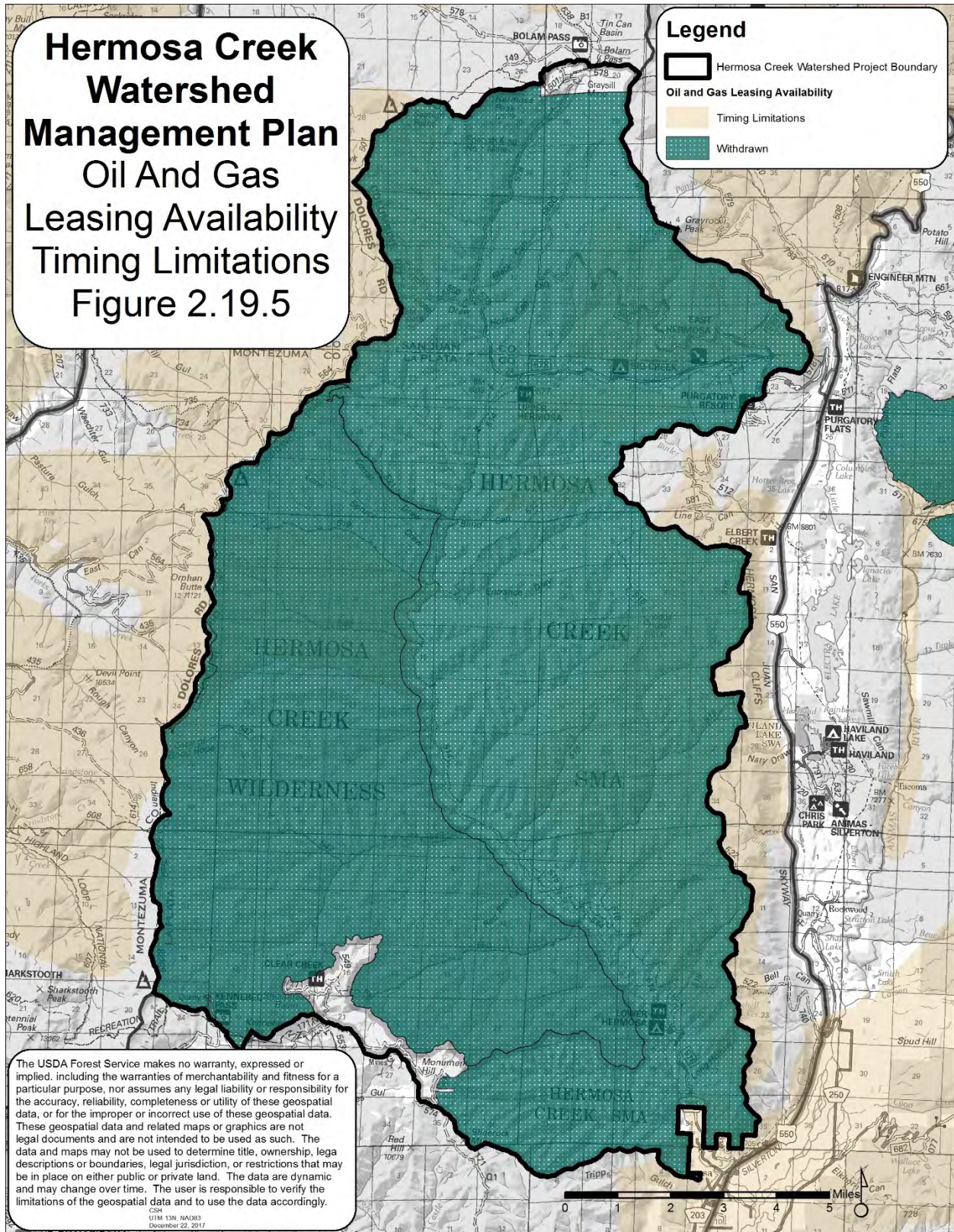


FIGURE 2.19.5 Oil and Gas Leasing – Timing Limitation



Area Direction for Hermosa Creek Watershed

Columbine Ranger District Geographic Area

Table 3.3.1- Management Area Distribution in the Columbine Geographic Area in the Forest Plan is amended to reflect the new acreages that result from the designation of the Hermosa wilderness, now Management Area 1, and to reflect that the Hermosa SMA is now Management Area 2. These are non-discretionary administrative changes necessary to comply with the legislative designations.

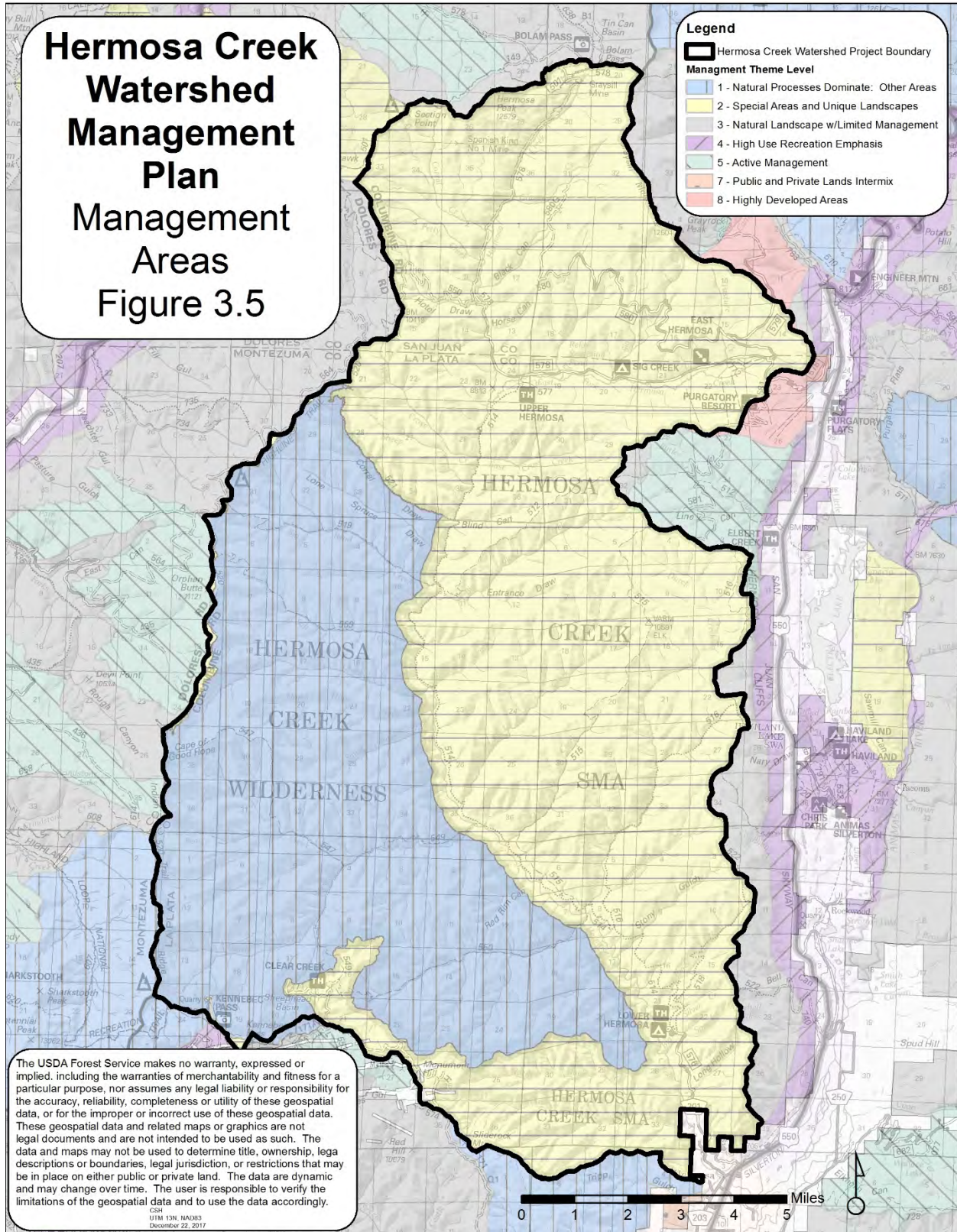
Table 3.3.1. Management Area Distribution in the Columbine Geographic Area

Management Area	Acres	Percentage of Geographic Area (USFS lands)
MA 1: natural processes dominate	300,834	44%
MA 2: special areas and designations	118,752	17%
MA 3: natural landscapes, with limited management	175,918	26%
MA 4: high-use recreation emphasis	29,144	4%
MA 5: active management (commodity production in order to meet multiple-use goals)	52,031	8%
MA 7: public and private lands intermix	7,840	1%
MA 8: highly developed areas	2,274	<1%
Total	686,794	100%

Management Areas

Figure 3.5 Management Areas in the Forest Plan is amended to change the SMA portion of the watershed to Management Area 2, and to change the wilderness area of the watershed to Management Area 1. These are non-discretionary administrative changes necessary to comply with the legislative designations.

FIGURE 3.5 Management Areas



Wilderness and Recommended Wilderness

Desired Conditions

3.28.90 Wilderness boundaries and regulations are clearly posted on the ground.

Objectives

3.28.91 Make special education and enforcement efforts in first 10 years after the legislation.

3.28.92 Post boundaries within three years of the legislation.

Standards

3.28.93 Adopt the standards in the SJNF Wilderness Management Direction.

Guidelines

3.28.94 Adopt the guidelines from the SJNF Wilderness Management Direction, except camping and campfires are not permitted within 50 feet of streams or lakes because of terrain restrictions (instead of 100' as in the Weminuche).

Figure 3.6 Wilderness and Recommended Wilderness in the Forest Plan is amended to add the designated Hermosa Creek Wilderness. This is a non-discretionary administrative change necessary to comply with the legislative designation. Additionally, the figure is amended to remove all previously-recommended wilderness in the watershed from recommendation (6,200 acres).

Figure 3.6.1. Management Prescription Areas within the Hermosa Wilderness is added to the SJNF Wilderness Management Direction (SJNF 1998). This figure depicts Management Prescriptions 1.11 and 1.12, as described in the Wilderness Management Direction.

FIGURE 3.6.1 Wilderness and Recommended Wilderness

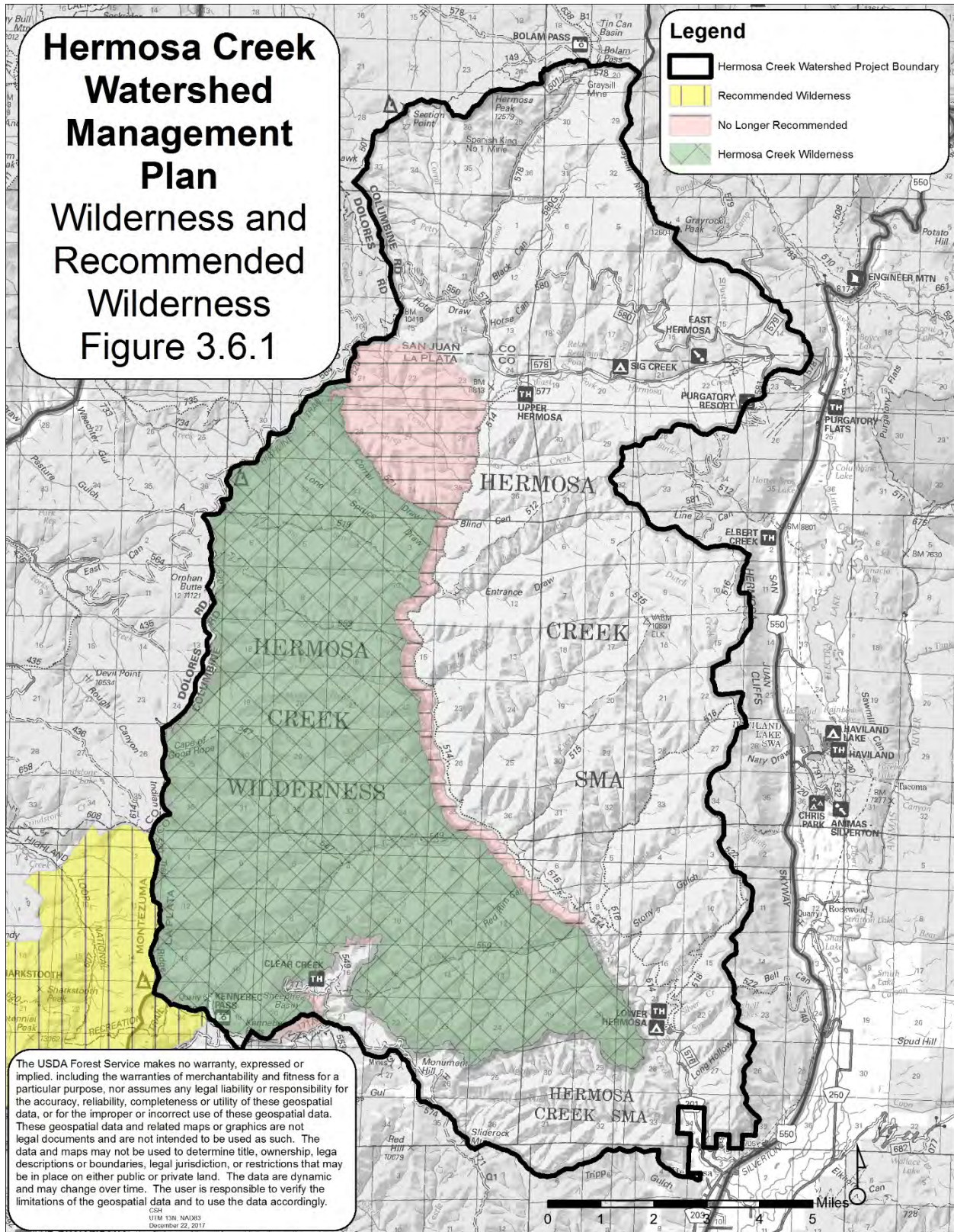
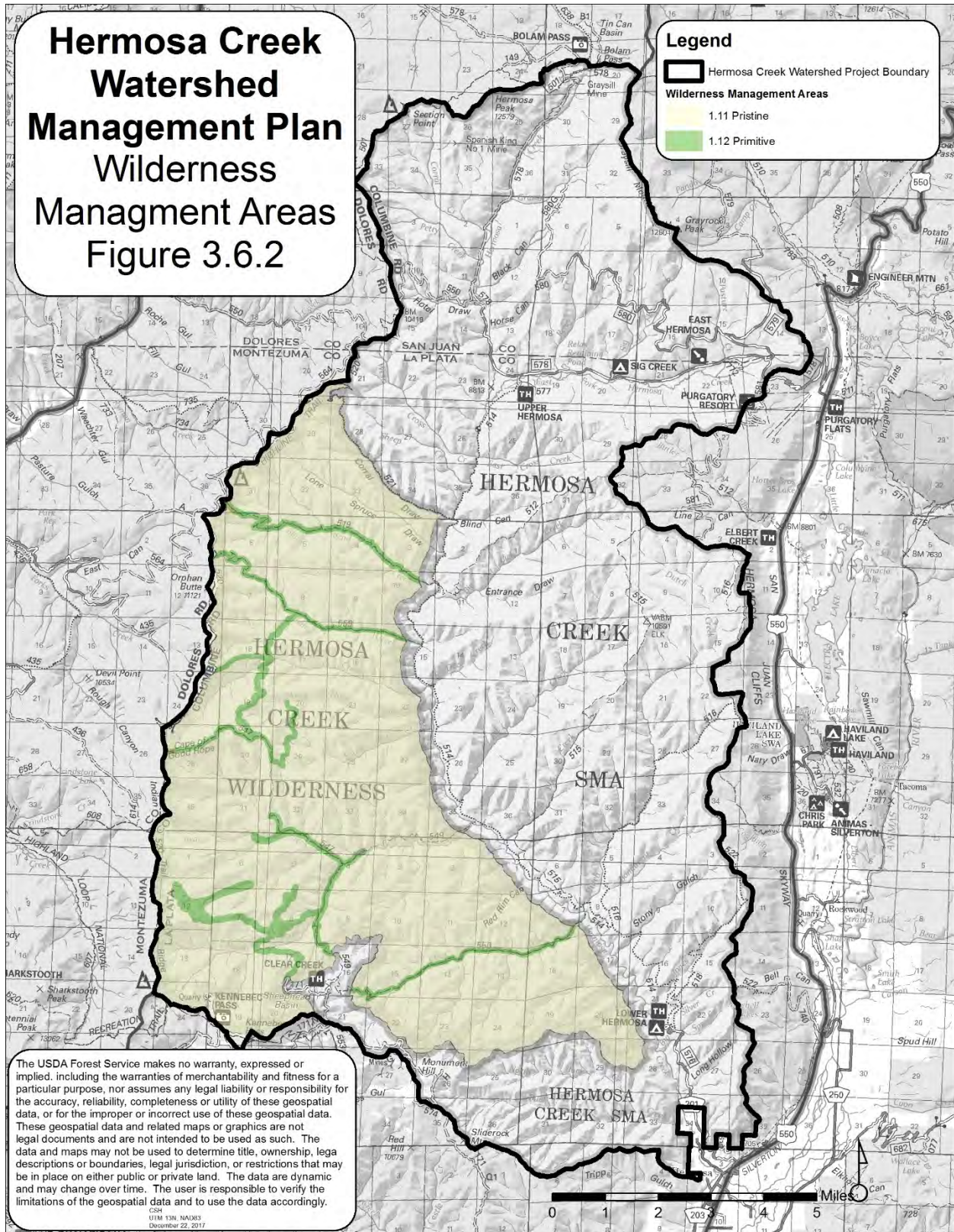


FIGURE 3.6.2. Hermosa Creek Wilderness Management Prescriptions



Allowable Uses Hermosa Creek Watershed

The allowable uses in the following table are not all-inclusive.

Table 3.28.3. Allowable Uses in Hermosa Creek Watershed

Management Activities and Use	Wilderness	RNA	East Hermosa Area & Roadless Areas	Remainder of the SMA
Fire managed for resource benefit	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed except within the ski area.
Prescribed burning	Restricted - allowed as in Forest Plan	Restricted - allowed as in Forest Plan	Allowed	Allowed
Mechanical fuels treatment	Prohibited	Prohibited	Restricted—allowed as in Roadless Rule	Allowed
Timber production (scheduled on a rotation basis)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
Timber harvesting as a tool	Prohibited	Prohibited	Restricted—allowed as in Roadless Rule	Restricted to purposes of the legislation
Commercial use of special forest products and firewood	Prohibited	Prohibited	Restricted—allowed as in Roadless Rule	Restricted to purposes of the legislation
Lands Special Use authorizations, ROWs and utility corridors.	Restricted - allowed as in Forest Plan	Restricted to purposes of the RNA.	Restricted—allowed as in Roadless Rule	Restricted to purposes of the legislation
Recreation Special Uses	Restricted to Outfitter/Guides	Restricted to Outfitter/Guides	Allowed	Allowed. Ski area uses managed under the SUP and annual operating plans.
Livestock grazing (term permits)	Prohibited by previous NEPA decision, except Divide Allot.	Prohibited by previous NEPA decision	Allowed	Allowed
Facilities	Restricted - allowed as in Forest Plan	Prohibited	Restricted—allowed as in Roadless Rule	Allowed
Motorized transport (summer)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Restricted to designated routes	Restricted to designated routes
Motorized transport (winter)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Restricted to designated areas	Restricted to designated areas
Mechanical transport (summer)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Restricted to designated routes	Restricted to designated routes
Mechanical transport (winter)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Restricted to designated routes or areas	Restricted to designated routes or areas
Non-motorized transport (summer and winter)	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Road construction (permanent or temporary)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Restricted—allowed as in Roadless Rule	Allowed
Minerals – leasable federal (oil and gas, and other)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited - except for A and B, and valid existing rights
Minerals – locatable federal	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited - except for Parcels A and B, and valid existing rights
Minerals – saleable federal (materials)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited - except for Parcels A and B, valid existing rights and admin. use

CHAPTER 3 – MONITORING PLAN

Monitoring is used to determine how well management requirements, such as standards and guidelines, are being applied. The monitoring plan that is part of the Forest Plan will provide information that is applicable for the Hermosa watershed. However, there are a few monitoring items identified that are specific to the Hermosa watershed. The following table will be added to the SJNF Monitoring Plan, and follows the same format and requirements.

Table 3.28.4. Monitoring Plan for Hermosa Creek Watershed

Status of Select Watershed Conditions					
Monitoring Question	Desired Conditions and Objectives	Indicators	Scale	Frequency of Reporting	Sources and/or Partners
Are stream conditions stable or moving towards desired conditions?	DC 3.28.18 The East Fork of the Hermosa and the reach of Hermosa Creek just above the East Fork confluence, and their riparian corridors, are in a 'Robust' stream health category, as defined in the Watershed Conservation Practices Handbook.	Number of sites monitored, and number in Robust condition.	site or reach	5-10 years	unit reporting
		Snow compaction and mechanical impacts from over-snow motorized vehicles during low snow conditions.	East Fork of Hermosa Park	Twice a year	Unit reporting
Status of Fish Species					
Are non-native trout effectively excluded from CRCT occupied habitat, ensuring CRCT long-term persistence?	DC 3.28.22 Natural and manmade barriers to upstream fish migration adequately protect CRCT populations while allowing for stream reaches large enough to support long term population viability. DC 3.28.23 Manmade barriers to upstream fish migration within CRCT habitat are maintained to ensure effectiveness.	Number of CRCT stream segments with no non-native trout.	Hermosa watershed	3-5 years	unit reporting, CPW

CHAPTER 4 - REFERENCES

- 36 CFR 294. 2012. Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation; Applicability to the National Forests in Colorado; Final Rule. Federal Register Vol. 77, #128. July 3, 2012.
- P.L. 113-291. Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015; Section 3062. Hermosa Creek Watershed Protection. 8 pp.
- SJNF, 1998. Wilderness Management Direction. USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region.
- SJNF, 2008. Durango Mountain Resort Improvement Plan, Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision. On file at Columbine Ranger District.
- SJNF, 2009. Hermosa Landscape Grazing Analysis, Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision. On file at Columbine Ranger District.
- SJNF, 2013. Final San Juan National Forest and Proposed Trés Rios Field Office Land and Resource Management Plan. USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region.
- SJNF, 2016. Recreation Site Assessment. USDA Forest Service San Juan National Forest.
- SJNF, 2017a. Hermosa Creek Watershed Management Plan Environmental Assessment. On file at Columbine Ranger District.
- SJNF 2017b. Hermosa Creek Watershed Management Plan Decision Notice. On file at Columbine Ranger District.
- SJNF 2017c. Hermosa Creek Watershed Recreation and Travel Management Project Decision Notice. On file at Columbine Ranger District.

APPENDIX A - Hermosa Creek Watershed Protection Legislation



PUBLIC LAW 113-291 – DEC. 19, 2014

CARL LEVIN AND HOWARD P. "BUCK"
MC KEON NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR
2015

SEC. 3062. HERMOSA CREEK WATERSHED PROTECTION.

16 USC 539q.

(a) DEFINITIONS.-In this section:

(1) CITY.-The term "City" means the city of Durango, Colorado.

(2) COUNTY.-The term "County" means La Plata County, Colorado.

(3) SECRETARY.-The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(4) SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.-The term "Special Management Area" means the Hermosa Creek Special Management Area designated by subsection (b)(1).

(5) STATE.-The term "State" means the State of Colorado.

(b) DESIGNATION OF HERMOSA CREEK SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.-

(1) DESIGNATION.-Subject to valid existing rights, certain Federal land in the San Juan National Forest comprising approximately 70,650 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Proposed Hermosa Creek Special Management Area and Proposed Hermosa Creek Wilderness Area" and dated November 12, 2014, is designated as the "Hermosa Creek Special Management Area".

(2) PURPOSE.-The purpose of the Special Management Area is to conserve and protect for the benefit of present and future generations the watershed, geological, cultural, natural, scientific, recreational, wildlife, riparian, historical, educational, and scenic resources of the Special Management Area.

(3) ADMINISTRATION.-

(A) IN GENERAL.-The Secretary shall administer the Special Management Area-

(i) in a manner that conserves, protects, and manages the resources of the Special Management Area described in paragraph (2); and

(ii) in accordance with-

(I) the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.);

(II) this Act; and

(III) any other applicable laws.

(B) USES.-

(i) IN GENERAL.-The Secretary shall allow only such uses of the Special Management Area as the Secretary determines would further the purposes described in paragraph (2).

(ii) MOTORIZED AND MECHANIZED VEHICLES.-

(I) IN GENERAL.-Except as provided in subclause (II) and as needed for administrative purposes or to respond to an emergency, the use of motorized or mechanized vehicles in the Special Management Area shall be permitted only on roads and trails designated by the Secretary for use by those vehicles.

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(II) **OVERSNOW VEHICLES.**-The Secretary shall authorize the use of snowmobiles and other oversnow vehicles within the Special Management Area-

(aa) when there exists adequate snow coverage; and

(bb) subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary may require.

(iii) **GRAZING.**-The Secretary shall permit grazing within the Special Management Area, if established before the date of enactment of this Act, subject to all applicable laws (including regulations) and Executive orders.

(iv) **PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.**-Within the area of the Special Management Area identified as "East Hermosa Area" on the map entitled "Proposed Hermosa Creek Special Management Area and Proposed Hermosa Creek Wilderness Area" and dated November 12, 2014, the following activities shall be prohibited:

(I) New permanent or temporary road construction or the renovation of existing non-system roads, except as allowed under the final rule entitled "Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation; Applicability to the National Forests in Colorado" (77 Fed. Reg. 39576 (July 3, 2012)).

(II) Projects undertaken for the purpose of harvesting commercial timber (other than activities relating to the harvest of merchantable products that are byproducts of activities conducted for ecological restoration or to further the purposes described in this section).

(4) **STATE AND FEDERAL WATER MANAGEMENT.**-Nothing in this subsection affects the potential for development, operation, or maintenance of a water storage reservoir at the site in the Special Management Area that is identified in-

(A) pages 17 through 20 of the Statewide Water Supply Initiative studies prepared by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and issued by the State in November 2004; and

(B) page 27 of the Colorado Dam Site Inventory prepared by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and dated August 1996.

(5) **WITHDRAWAL.**-

(A) **IN GENERAL.**-Subject to valid rights in existence on the date of enactment of this Act and except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Federal land within the Special Management Area is withdrawn from-

(i) all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;

(ii) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and

(iii) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

(B) **EXCEPTION.**-The withdrawal under subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the areas identified as parcels A

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and B on the map entitled "Proposed Hermosa Creek Special Management Area and Proposed Hermosa Creek Wilderness Area" and dated November 12, 2014.

(6) WINTER SKIING AND RELATED WINTER ACTIVITIES.—Nothing in this subsection alters or limits—
 (A) a permit held by a ski area;
 (B) the implementation of the activities governed by a ski area permit; or
 (C) the authority of the Secretary to modify or expand an existing ski area permit.

(7) VEGETATION MANAGEMENT.—Nothing in this subsection prevents the Secretary from conducting vegetation management projects within the Special Management Area—
 (A) subject to—
 (i) such reasonable regulations, policies, and practices as the Secretary determines to be appropriate; and
 (ii) all applicable laws (including regulations); and
 (B) in a manner consistent with—
 (i) the purposes described in paragraph (2); and
 (ii) this subsection.

(8) WILDFIRE, INSECT, AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT.—In accordance with this subsection, the Secretary may—
 (A) carry out any measures that the Secretary determines to be necessary to manage wildland fire and treat hazardous fuels, insects, and diseases in the Special Management Area; and
 (B) coordinate those measures with the appropriate State or local agency, as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(9) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop a management plan for the long-term protection and management of the Special Management Area that—
 (A) takes into account public input; and
 (B) provides for recreational opportunities to occur within the Special Management Area, including skiing, biking, hiking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, snowmobiling, motorcycle riding, off-highway vehicle use, snowshoeing, and camping.

(10) TRAIL AND OPEN AREA SNOWMOBILE USAGE.—Nothing in this subsection affects the use or status of trails authorized for motorized or mechanized vehicle or open area snowmobile use on the date of enactment of this Act.

(11) STATE WATER RIGHTS.—Nothing in this subsection affects access to, use of, or allocation of any absolute or conditional water right that is—
 (A) decreed under the laws of the State; and
 (B) in existence on the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) HERMOSA CREEK WILDERNESS.—

(1) DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS.—Section 2(a) of the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; 107 Stat. 756; 114 Stat. 1955; 116 Stat. 1055) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(22) Certain land within the San Juan National Forest that comprises approximately 37,236 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled 'Proposed Hermosa Creek Special

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Management Area and Proposed Hermosa Creek Wilderness Area' and dated November 12, 2014, which shall be known as the 'Hermosa Creek Wilderness'.".

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.-Any reference contained in the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) to the effective date of that Act shall be considered to be a reference to the date of enactment of this Act for purposes of administering the wilderness area designated by section 2(a)(22) of the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; 107 Stat. 756; 114 Stat. 1955; 116 Stat. 1055) (as added by paragraph (1)).

(3) FIRE, INSECTS, AND DISEASES.-In accordance with section 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(1)), within the wilderness areas designated by section 2(a)(22) of the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; 107 Stat. 756; 114 Stat. 1955; 116 Stat. 1055) (as added by paragraph (1)), the Secretary may carry out any measure that the Secretary determines to be necessary to control fire, insects, and diseases, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(d) DURANGO AREA MINERAL WITHDRAWAL.-

(1) WITHDRAWAL.-Subject to valid existing rights, the land and mineral interests described in paragraph (2) are withdrawn from all forms of-

(A) entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;

(B) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and

(C) disposition under all laws relating to mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, or mineral materials.

(2) DESCRIPTION OF LAND AND MINERAL INTERESTS.-The land and mineral interests referred to in paragraph (1) are the Federal land and mineral interests generally depicted within the areas designated as "Withdrawal Areas" on the map entitled "Perins Peak & Animas City Mountain, Horse Gulch and Lake Nighthorse Mineral Withdrawal" and dated April 5, 2013.

(3) PUBLIC PURPOSE CONVEYANCE.- Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior may convey any portion of the land described in paragraph (2) that is administered by the Bureau of Land Management to the City, the County, or the State-

(A) pursuant to the Act of June 14, 1926 (commonly known as the "Recreation and Public Purposes Act") (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.); or

(B) by exchange in accordance with applicable laws (including regulations).

(e) CONVEYANCE OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAND TO COUNTY.-

(1) IN GENERAL.-On the expiration of the permit numbered COC 64651 (09) and dated February 24, 2009, on request and agreement of the County, the Secretary of the Interior shall convey to the County, without consideration and subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (2), subject to---

(A) paragraph (3);

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(B) the condition that the County shall pay all administrative and other costs associated with the conveyance; and

(C) such other terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior determines to be necessary.

(2) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (1) consists of approximately 82 acres of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Tres Rios District, Colorado, as generally depicted on the map entitled "La Plata County Grandview Conveyance" and dated May 5, 2014.

(3) USE OF CONVEYED LAND.—The Federal land conveyed pursuant to this subsection may be used by the County for any public purpose, in accordance with the Act of June 14, 1926 (commonly known as the "Recreation and Public Purposes Act") (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.).

(4) REVERSION.—If the County ceases to use a parcel of the Federal land conveyed pursuant to this subsection in accordance with paragraph (1), title to the parcel shall revert to the Secretary of the Interior, at the option of the Secretary of the Interior.

(f) MOLAS PASS RECREATION AREA; WILDERNESS STUDY AREA RELEASE; WILDERNESS STUDY AREA TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION.—

(1) MOLAS PASS RECREATION AREA.—

(A) DESIGNATION.—The approximately 461 acres of land in San Juan County, Colorado, that is generally depicted as "Molas Pass Recreation Area" on the map entitled "Molas Pass Recreation Area and Molas Pass Wilderness Study Area" and dated November 13, 2014, is designated as the "Molas Pass Recreation Area".

(B) USE OF SNOWMOBILES.—The use of snowmobiles shall be authorized in the Molas Pass Recreation Area—

(i) during periods of adequate snow coverage;

(ii) in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and other applicable laws (including regulations);

(iii) on designated trails for winter motorized travel and grooming;

(iv) in designated areas for open area motorized travel; and

(v) subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary may require.

(C) OTHER RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.—In addition to the uses authorized under subparagraph (B), the Secretary may authorize other recreational uses in the Molas Pass Recreation Area.

(2) MOLAS PASS WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—

(A) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION.—Administrative jurisdiction over the Federal land generally depicted as "Molas Pass Wilderness Study Area" on the map entitled "Molas Pass Recreation Area and Molas Pass Wilderness Study Area", and dated November 13, 2014, is transferred from the Bureau of Land Management to the Forest Service.

(B) ADMINISTRATION.—The Federal land described in subparagraph (A) shall—

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(i) be known as the "Molas Pass Wilderness Study Area" and

(ii) be administered by the Secretary, so as to maintain the wilderness character and potential of the Federal land for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

(3) RELEASE.-

(A) FINDING.-Congress finds that the land described in subparagraph (C) has been adequately studied for wilderness designation under section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782).

(B) RELEASE.-Effective beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the land described in subparagraph (C)-

(i) shall not be subject to section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c));

(ii) shall be managed in accordance with land management plans adopted under section 202 of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1712); and

(iii) shall not be subject to Secretarial Order 3310 issued on December 22, 2010.

(C) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.-The land referred to in subparagraphs (A) and (B) is the approximately 461 acres located in the West Needles Contiguous Wilderness Study Area of San Juan County, Colorado, that is generally depicted as "Molas Pass Recreation Area" on the map entitled "Molas Pass Recreation Area and Molas Pass Wilderness Study Area" and dated November 13, 2014.

(g) GENERAL PROVISIONS.-

(1) FISH AND WILDLIFE.-Nothing in this section affects the jurisdiction or responsibility of the State with regard to fish and wildlife in the State.

(2) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.-

(A) IN GENERAL.-As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary or the Secretary of the Interior, as appropriate, shall prepare maps and legal descriptions of-

(i) the Special Management Area;

(ii) the wilderness area designated by the amendment made by subsection (c)(1);

(iii) the withdrawal pursuant to subsection (d);

(iv) the conveyance pursuant to subsection (e);

(v) the recreation area designated by subsection

(f)(1); and

(vi) the wilderness study area designated by subsection (f)(2)(B)(i).

(B) FORCE OF LAW.-The maps and legal descriptions prepared under subparagraph (A) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this section, except that the Secretary concerned may correct any clerical or typographical errors in the maps and legal descriptions.

(C) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.-The maps and legal descriptions prepared under subparagraph (A) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

(3) ADJACENT MANAGEMENT.-

(A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section establishes a protective perimeter or buffer zone around—

- (i) the Special Management Area;
- (ii) the wilderness area designated by an amendment made by subsection (c)(1); or
- (iii) the wilderness study area designated by subsection (f)(2)(B)(i).

(B) NONWILDERNESS ACTIVITIES.—The fact that a non-wilderness activity or use can be seen or heard from areas within the wilderness area designated by an amendment made by subsection (c)(1) or the wilderness study area designated by subsection (f)(2)(B)(i) shall not preclude the conduct of the activity or use outside the boundary of the wilderness area or wilderness study area.

(4) MILITARY OVERFLIGHTS.—Nothing in this section restricts or precludes—

(A) any low-level overflight of military aircraft over an area designated as a wilderness area under an amendment made by this section, including military overflights that can be seen, heard, or detected within the wilderness area;

(B) flight testing or evaluation; or

(C) the designation or establishment of—

- (i) new units of special use airspace; or
- (ii) any military flight training route over a wilderness area described in subparagraph (A).

APPENDIX B - Hermosa RNA Establishment Record

(To be inserted)

APPENDIX C – Hermosa Recreation and Travel Management Project

The following appendix combines and summarizes decision points from the chosen alternative in the *Hermosa Creek Watershed Management Plan EA* with decision points resulting from the *Hermosa Creek Watershed Recreation and Travel Management Project Decision Notice*. Please refer to these two documents for more details, rationale, references, or if there is uncertainty, as they take precedence over this appendix.

The Hermosa Creek Watershed Recreation and Travel Management Project decision established regulations to manage transportation within the Hermosa Creek watershed in accordance with the requirements of the Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212), Executive Orders 11644 and 11989, and the Hermosa Creek Watershed Protection legislation (*P.L. 113-291*). The decision designated a system of roads, trails, and areas by vehicle class and time of year, including both over-ground and over-snow designations and designated allowable uses on trails (36 CFR 212 Subparts B and C). The decision also identified the minimum road system needed for safe and efficient travel, and for administration, utilization, and protection of Forest Service (FS) lands, and designated the administrative maintenance levels of those roads (36 CFR 212 Subpart A), and designated where off-road motorized and mechanized travel for dispersed camping and day-use parking is allowed. The decision also resulted in the revision of the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) (36 CFR 212.56) that displays the designated system of roads and trails for over-ground motorized travel, and will result in the development of an Over-Snow Vehicle Use Map (OSVUM) (36 CFR 212.81c). Non-motorized trails are displayed on the Forest Visitor Use Map or other FS-generated maps. A long-term plan for developed recreation sites within the watershed was also included.

The recreation and travel management decision covered travel regulations on Forest land within the Hermosa Creek watershed boundary, and additionally, it also covered some roads, trails and areas slightly beyond the watershed boundary because of their connectedness to the roads and trails within the watershed. Roads and trails that are accessible only by traveling through the watershed, or that cross back and forth across the watershed boundary, or over-snow areas that are accessed primarily only through the watershed were included. For example, the Elbert Creek Road 581, the Cascade Divide Road 579, the Hermosa Park Road 578 connecting to Highway 550, the Elbert Creek Trail west of the Elbert Creek Road 581, and the Colorado Trail where it parallels the watershed boundary were included in this decision. Conversely, some roads and trails that connect to the transportation system in the watershed were *not* included in this decision because they can be accessed from outside the watershed. For example, the Graysill Trail, the Elbert Creek Trail east of the Elbert Creek Road, the Goulding Trail, and the Mitchell Lakes Road.

Some key points of law, regulation and policy to keep in mind are:

- All motorized and mechanized travel within the watershed is restricted to designated roads, trails, and areas, year-round. **This includes bicycles**, which is a type of restriction not previously found on the SJNF, but is required by the Hermosa Creek Watershed Protection legislation (referred to as “the legislation”) within the Special Management Area.

- All designated roads, trails, and areas are also open for non-motorized and non-mechanized types of travel, year-round.
- Cross-country travel (outside of a designated route or area) is therefore only allowed for non-motorized and non-mechanized types of travel (e.g. foot, horse, ski, and snowshoe).
- All motorized and mechanized transportation is prohibited in the wilderness (*PL 88-577*); this includes, but is not limited to, motorcycles, OHVs, Segways, bicycles, unicycles, and game carts.
- Airspace is regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration, however use of the ground surface for operation of aircraft is within the jurisdiction of the FS. Manned or unmanned aircraft including, but not limited to, hang gliders, paragliders, hovercraft, airplanes, helicopters, and drones may not take off from, or land within wilderness. Additionally, unmanned aerial systems (drones) must be operated from outside the boundary of wilderness and must remain in sight of the operator (*USDA 2016*).
- Travel Management designations apply to the general public only. Exceptions can be allowed for such activities as those authorized under permit, administrative use, and emergency access (*36 CFR 212.51, 212.81*). Exceptions may also be allowed for private land access.
- Travel Management regulations within the boundaries of the Purgatory Ski Area are also affected by the terms of the ski area permit, associated Operating Plan, FS ski area management policy (*FSM 2300*), and Forest Closure Orders. Private land at the base area adjacent to the forest also affects how the public can access the FS permit area. Motorized over-snow travel by the public within the ski area permit boundary is generally not allowed except on specifically designated routes. Over-ground travel by the public within the ski area permit boundary is regulated through the ski area permit and may be different than the surrounding forest lands.

Definitions:

- *Mechanized vehicle/transportation* is defined as any contrivance for moving people or material in or over land, water, or air, having moving parts, that provides a mechanical advantage to the user, and that is powered by a living or nonliving power source. This includes, but is not limited to, sailboats, hang gliders, parachutes, bicycles, game carriers, carts, and wagons. It does not include wheelchairs when used as necessary medical appliances. It also does not include skis, snowshoes, rafts, canoes, sleds, travois, or similar primitive devices without moving parts (*FSM 2320.5(3)*).
- *Motorized vehicle/transportation* is defined as any vehicle which is self-propelled, other than: (1) a vehicle operated on rails; or (2) wheelchair or mobility devices. E-bikes (electric bikes) are therefore considered motorized vehicles, and are therefore subject to regulation under the Travel Rule. (*36CFR212*).
- *Over-ground vehicle* is defined for the purposes of this analysis and decision as wheeled motorized or wheeled mechanized vehicles (no tracks).
- *Over-snow motorized vehicle* is a motorized vehicle designed for use over-snow and that runs on a track, or track with ski(s) (*36CFR212.1*).
- *OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle)* is a motorized vehicle that is designed for, or capable of, cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh,

swampland, or other natural terrain (*36CFR212.1*), including ATVs (all-terrain vehicles), UTVs (utility task vehicles), dirt bikes, e-bikes, and motorcycles.

- *OHV Trail <50*” is, for the purposes of this analysis and decision, an authorized trail allowing wheeled vehicles 50” in width or less, unless otherwise noted (abbreviated as ‘<50” wide’ in this document). The MVUM designation will be “Trails Open to Vehicles 50” or Less in Width.”
- *OHV Trail <62*” is, for the purposes of this analysis and decision, an authorized trail allowing wheeled vehicles 62” in width or less, unless otherwise noted (abbreviated as ‘<62” wide’ in this document). The MVUM designation will be “Special Designation.”
- *Single Track Motorized Trail* refers to trails where authorized OHVs are limited to in-line 2-wheeled vehicles such as motorcycles or e-bikes. The MVUM designation will be “Trails Open to Motorcycles.”
- *E-bike (Class 1 Pedal Assist)* is defined for the purposes of this analysis as an in-line 2-wheeled vehicle with fully operable pedals, an electric motor that produces less than one horsepower that is only activated through pedaling action, and motor-assistance disengages at speeds above 20 mph. E-bikes trails will be listed on the MVUM as a “Special Designation.”

Roads, Over-Ground Travel

Each road is designated by vehicle class and season of use (*36 CFR 212 Subpart B*). **For designated road uses applicable to each individual road, see Figure C-1 and Table C-1.** These regulations apply to public use of over-ground vehicles on open FS system roads. Public motorized or mechanized use of closed system and unauthorized non-system roads, or cross-country over-ground travel, are not permitted in the watershed per the legislation. Over-snow use is discussed below.

Designated roads by motorized vehicle class and season of use will be displayed on a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) and uses the following terminology for roads in its legend:

- *Roads Open to Highway Legal Vehicles.* These roads are open to motor vehicles only of the type licensed under state law for general operation on all public roads within the state. These roads are also commonly referred to as “no mixed use.” The MVUM designation will be “Roads Open to Highway-Legal Vehicles Only.” Non-motorized vehicles, horse, and foot traffic are allowed as well.
- *Roads Open to All Vehicles.* These roads are open to all motor vehicles including full-sized vehicles, OHVs, motorcycles, and e-bikes. Non-motorized vehicles, horse, and foot traffic are allowed as well. This category is also commonly referred to as “mixed use” and includes most of the open roads in the watershed. The MVUM designation will be “Roads Open to All Motor Vehicles.”
- *Special Vehicle Designation.* These roads are open to specific classes of motor vehicles designated specifically for a particular road, other than the two preceding general categories. The MVUM designation will be “Special Vehicle Designation.”
- *Seasonal Designation.* A grey highlight symbol used in conjunction with other road symbols indicates that the road is open only during certain times of the year. Seasons of use in this Hermosa Plan apply to both motorized and mechanized vehicles, but not to horse and foot traffic.

- *Dispersed Camping.* A symbol of dots paralleling a designated road indicates that limited cross-country motor vehicle use within 300 feet of that road is permitted for dispersed camping. Rules for driving for dispersed camping in this Hermosa Plan apply to both motorized and mechanized vehicles, but not to horse and foot traffic.

Closed Maintenance Level 1 system roads will not display on the MVUM.

Seasonal Closures

The Travel Rule requires the publication of an MVUM which specifies not only the designated motor vehicle classes, but also the designated time of year that roads are open. For the Hermosa Plan, this includes the provision that **seasonal road closures apply to mechanized (bicycles) as well as motorized uses**, with the following exception: Lower Hermosa Road 576 remains open to mechanized use year-round to allow bike access to the Hermosa Creek Trail.

Mechanized and e-bike use of open FS roads within the ski area permit boundary will be seasonally managed under permit terms.

Refer to Table C-1 for seasonal closure dates by vehicle type by road segment.

Mixed Use Restriction

Most roads will appear on the MVUM as “Open to All Motor Vehicles,” which means mixed use is allowed. *Mixed use* refers to the operation of unlicensed, non-highway legal motorized vehicles (OHVs such as ATVs, UTVs, and unlicensed motorcycles) on Forest roads that are open to licensed highway legal vehicle use. Restriction of mixed uses applies to motorized vehicles only; bicycle, foot, and horse traffic is allowed on any open Forest road.

In the Hermosa project area, motorized mixed uses are prohibited on a segment of lower Road 578. However, the prohibition does not apply until either the OHV Bypass Trail or a staging area is built. Motorized mixed uses continue to be allowed during the interim timeframe, with interim safety mitigation measures applied.

Campsite Spurs

Management along Roads 579, 580, 581, and 550 follow the so-called “300 foot rule.” The “300 foot rule” means that driving a motorized or mechanized vehicle off-road up to 300 feet for the purposes of dispersed camping is allowed, as long as resource damage is not occurring.

The “300 foot rule” does *not* apply along the Hermosa Park Road 578 corridor, and instead, many of the existing user-made routes to traditional campsites are designated as system roads. The decision allows parking a motorized or mechanized vehicle within one vehicle length of designated routes and spurs along the 578 corridor.

Campsite spurs north of the creek at Road 577 are designated as open until a new campground is built in Hermosa Park, and then will be removed from the system.

Additionally, three camp spurs longer than 300 feet off the Elbert Creek Road 581, and one camp spur longer than 300 feet off of the Relay Road 580 are designated as roads. The decision allows parking a motorized or mechanized vehicle within one vehicle length of these spurs.

Creek Crossings

Currently there are two road low-water crossings, or fords, of creeks in the Hermosa Creek watershed. One is where Forest Road 577 crosses the East Fork of Hermosa Creek to reach the upper Hermosa trailhead, and the other is where Forest Road 578 crosses the main stem of

Hermosa Creek, about 1.5 miles north of the trailhead. The decision authorized installation of full-sized road crossing structures at both of these locations. The structures could be bridges, bottomless culverts, box culverts, or other types of structures that allow for fish passage.

Minimum Road System

The minimum road system is the system needed for safe and efficient travel and for administration, utilization, and protection of FS lands. The minimum road system resulted from the travel management decision, which was informed by a travel analysis which examined key issues related to the Forest transportation system as well as management options and priorities. Table C-1 displays the identified minimum road system and maintenance levels.

Trails, Over-Ground Travel

Each trail is designated by authorized vehicle type and season of use (*36 CFR 212 Subpart B*). **For designated trail uses applicable to each individual trail, see Figure C-1 and Table C-2.** The regulations apply to public use of over-ground vehicles on FS trails. Public motorized or mechanized use of unauthorized non-system trails, or cross-country over-ground travel, are not permitted in the watershed. Authorized OHVs must be wheeled and 50” wide or less for use on designated motorized trails, unless otherwise noted (such as for the OHV Bypass Trail). Over-snow use is discussed below.

Designated motorized trails, type of use, and season of use will be displayed on an MVUM and uses the following terminology for trails in its legend:

- *Trails open to Wheeled Vehicles 50” or Less in Width.* These trails are open to motor vehicles only of the type that are wheeled (no tracks) and less than 50 inches in width at the widest point on the vehicle. This includes e-bikes. These trails are often referred to as OHV trails or ATV trails. Non-motorized vehicles, horse, and foot traffic are allowed as well.
- *Trails open to Motorcycles Only.* These trails are open to motorized vehicles of the in-line, 2-wheeled type only. This includes motorcycles and e-bikes. These are also commonly referred to as single track motorized trails. Non-motorized vehicles, horse, and foot traffic are allowed as well.
- *Special Vehicle Designation.* These trails are open to specific classes of motor vehicles designated specifically for a particular trail, other than the two preceding general categories. For example:
 - Trails open to motorized use only by e-bikes.
 - Trails open to wheeled motor vehicles 62 inches or less in width.
- *Seasonal Designation.* A grey highlight symbol used in conjunction with other trail symbols indicates that the trail is open only during certain times of the year. Seasons of use in this Hermosa Plan apply to both motorized and mechanized vehicles, but not to horse and foot traffic.

Non-motorized trails will not display on the MVUM.

Seasonal Closures

Seasonal trail closures apply to mechanized as well as motorized uses, which includes bicycles, with the following exceptions: Hermosa Creek, Big Lick, and Elbert Creek Trails will remain open year-round to mechanized use. Where motorized use is allowed, seasonal

restrictions will still apply to motorized use. Additionally, the Colorado Trail does not have any seasonal closure dates.

Refer to Table C-2 for seasonal closure dates by vehicle type by trail segment.

Condition-based seasonal management will be an option for mechanized trail use in elk winter concentration areas. Seasonal closure for these trails will default to the dates that are displayed on Table C-2, but with the option for longer condition-based opening determined on a season-by-season basis. The exact criteria have yet to be determined, but will likely include factors such as snow depth, trail tread conditions, and big game utilization of the habitat. There will be a “core” closure with dates to be determined when we establish the criteria. Whether extension of the open dates will be allowed will be resolved in conjunction with CPW, agency specialists, and other community partners.

Year-round mechanized use on specific trails and conditions-based seasonal management are subject to compliance and cooperation by users. Mechanized users (who requested these two items) are partially responsible for providing information on trail conditions and trail use, and share responsibility for education, self-enforcement, and implementation of these items. If persistent long-term non-compliance occurs, or community cooperation is not provided to the extent that sustainable management can be implemented, then management will revert to fixed dates applied to mechanized travel.

Adding to or Subtracting from Trail System

The West Cross Trail is added to the FS system of trails and will be open to mechanized travel. The Cutthroat Trail is also added to the system and will be open to mechanized travel and motorized type Class 1 e-bike travel.

However, opening of Cutthroat Trail and West Cross Trail to public use will not occur until those trails meet satisfactory conditions, as determined by the District Ranger. This will include input and clearance work from specialists, and will include realignment of segments, installation of water control structures, and other tread work.

A segment of the Colorado Trail at Tin Can Basin may be re-routed so that the trail is segregated from motorized use of the East Fork Trail. The need for, and timing of implementation of this re-routed segment of the Colorado Trail depends on the outcome of a Dolores Ranger District travel management decision.

The Big Bend, South Fork, and Neglected Trails are removed from the FS system. Corresponding to the removal of the South Fork Trail from the system, the bridge over Hermosa Creek will also be removed.

An OHV Bypass Trail designated for mechanized and motorized vehicles 62” wide or less is authorized to be constructed and added to the FS system.

Purgatory Complex of Trails

The trails within the ski area permit boundary are to be maintained and managed under the terms of the ski area Special Use Permit, and need to coincide closely with ski area management year-round. The complex of trails on the backside of the ski area (trails within both the SMA and the ski area permit boundary) are considered “permitted” trails with uses designated through the permit, but are not part of the official FS system. This allows more flexibility for the ski area to determine seasonal management that fits with their master development plan, permit, and annual

operating plans. Therefore, no seasonal restrictions are imposed by this decision on those trails, and the specific arrangement of trails can be varied through approval under the permit. These trails are open to mechanized travel and motorized type Class 1 e-bike travel.

Over-Snow Travel

Over-snow motorized and over-snow mechanized travel is designated by *area* for the Hermosa Plan (36 CFR 212 Subpart C). Criteria that were used to determine over-snow travel areas include: big game winter concentration areas, access for non-motorized users that could lead to user-group conflicts, sufficient snow cover in most years, and historical use patterns including permitted commercial use. Boundary mapping was made to follow topographic features on the ground that are apparent in the wintertime, such as drainage bottoms or ridgelines. Smaller-scale topography within larger areas (slope, cliffs, etc.) was *not* used as a criterion because it is impossible to delineate or enforce on the ground. Recognition was given that vehicle technology is evolving and areas once considered inaccessible are becoming accessible. Over-snow use and grooming that are regulated under permit may have restrictions within a designated area.

Over-snow travel regulations apply to mechanized vehicles (bicycles) as well as snowmobiles, tracked OHVs, tracked motorcycles, and other motorized over-snow vehicles.

Over-snow travel is permitted in open areas any time there is adequate snow cover. Adequate snow cover means that unacceptable damage to underlying resources is not occurring.

There are three general areas that designated as open for over-snow travel: the Hermosa Park/Bolam Pass/Cascade Divide area, the Elbert Creek drainage, and the top of Junction Creek Road (Figure C-2).

Dispersed Camping

Dispersed Camping is camping anywhere outside of a developed campground. Dispersed camping regulations are related to, but different than, vehicle use regulations. Dispersed camping, by itself, is allowed anywhere within the watershed (exceptions noted below). However, driving a vehicle off-road to a dispersed campsite is regulated separately, as described below.

Vehicle use for dispersed camping is part of the regulations developed to comply with the Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212 Subpart B). In some locations, the “300 foot rule” still applies, and in other locations, it is eliminated. Where eliminated, vehicle use for camping is restricted to one vehicle length from designated routes. In the Hermosa SMA, because motorized and mechanized vehicles are restricted to roads and trails by legislative requirement, **rules for vehicle use related to dispersed camping apply to bicycles as well as motorized vehicles.**

Driving a vehicle 300 feet off-road for dispersed camping is allowed along roads 579, 580, 581, and 550 if resource damage does not occur. There are also a few camp spurs along these roads that are longer than 300 feet that are designated so that traditionally used sites could be accessed by vehicle. This applies to both motorized and mechanized vehicles.

Along all trails and along the Hermosa Park Road 578 corridor from Highway 550 to the top of Bolam Pass at the watershed boundary (which is also the Columbine District and SMA boundary), dispersed camping is allowed anywhere, but the “300 foot rule” for driving vehicles is eliminated. Driving and parking motorized **and mechanized** vehicles is restricted to one vehicle length from that road and its spurs in this corridor (FSM 7710). This applies to both motorized and mechanized vehicles.

Dispersed camping along Road 577 will be prohibited when a new campground is built in Hermosa Park.

Dispersed camping is prohibited along Lower Hermosa Road 576. Camping in this area must be in the developed campground.

Developed Recreation Facilities

The trailhead at the upper end of the Hermosa Creek Trail is authorized to be rebuilt in its current location south of the creek. Additionally, a road bridge and a new developed fee campground south of the creek are authorized to be built. The exact layout has not yet been determined, but the trailhead and the campground will be separated. The dispersed camping that currently occurs north of the creek will be eliminated, but not until the campground is built.

Sig Creek campground will be decommissioned, but closure will not occur prior to the campground in Hermosa Park being built. The road and campsites within the Sig Creek Campground will remain open for dispersed camping.

A toilet will be provided in conjunction with the OHV staging area at the junction of the Elbert Creek road, if the staging area is built.

A lower parking area currently being built near the beginning of Road 578 will be used in conjunction with the authorized OHV Bypass Trail, when it is built. If the bypass is not built, the staging area at Elbert Creek is built, and mixed use restrictions on 578 are implemented, then the lower parking will be closed in the summer. The lower parking area will be open in the winter for over-snow vehicle staging.

Design Criteria

In response to public comments and internal staff concerns, design criteria were developed to ease some of the potential impacts of the actions. The design criteria are required.

- Authorized facilities, roads, and trail upgrades will not occur unless funding is secured for construction and long-term maintenance.
- New uses on existing trails, or adding new trails to the National Forest trail system, will not be implemented until those trails have received specific input from FS specialists and meet satisfactory standards.
- Sig Creek Campground and its toilet will not be decommissioned until the proposed new campground is built as a replacement.
- Parking a motorized or mechanized vehicle off of an open National Forest system road or trail *for any purpose* will be allowed within one vehicle length from the edge of the road *only when* such use does not create unsafe conditions and does not cause damage to resources and facilities (*FSM 7710*).
- Parking a motorized or mechanized vehicle off of certain designated roads *for the purposes of dispersed camping* will be allowed 300 feet from the centerline *only when* such use does not create unsafe conditions and does not cause damage to resources and facilities.
- Parking a motorized or mechanized vehicle off of designated trails *for any purpose* will be allowed within one vehicle length from the edge of the trail *only when* such use does not create unsafe conditions and does not cause resource damage to resources and facilities.
- Signing, closure, decommissioning, or rehabilitation of unauthorized routes will occur as funding allows, with the goal of having them in a vegetated state without erosion. The following locations have been identified as priorities:
 - Dispersed campsite spurs immediately adjacent to Hermosa Creek, along 578 between the trailhead and the low water crossing.
 - Camp spur which crosses the creek in T39N R10W Section 1.
 - Decommission 576A beyond Lower Hermosa Campground.
 - Remove the trail bridge at South Fork Trail.
 - Shorten end of 580G at Grassy Creek.
 - Cutting of switchbacks on Bolam Pass.
 - Informational and regulatory signing to accommodate forest users will be identified and implemented.
- Impacts to the fen at Tin Can Basin from the existing road will be mitigated; type of actions depend on which alternative is chosen under the decision delegated to Dolores Ranger District, but could include rock placement, bank stabilization, drainage structures altered, trail/road realignment, and use of heavy equipment.
- Mixed Use analysis was completed and mitigation will include:
 - “Share the Road” signs installed to alert drivers on Road 578 of the potential presence of OHVs operating on the roadway.
 - Delineators installed along fill slopes steeper than 1:1 and greater than 10 feet in height from the road shoulder to the toe of slope.
 - Brushing performed periodically to ensure adequate sight distance is maintained along both sides of the road.

- Mixed uses will not be prohibited on the segment of 578 until either an OHV bypass or staging area is built, with interim safety signing installed.
- Noxious weed treatments along roads and trails, at trailheads, campgrounds and dispersed campsites will be performed.
- Site-specific ground disturbing activities needed for implementation, but not specifically mentioned in the EA or not cleared as part of the analysis, may require additional cultural and/or threatened, endangered, and sensitive species clearances prior to implementation. These activities may also need 404 permits. Additional NEPA decisions are not anticipated to be necessary, but may be needed if final designs vary substantially from what was portrayed in the EA. This includes:
 - New campground/trailhead and bridge at Hermosa Park.
 - Bridge/fish passage structures.
 - Colorado Trail parallel realignment at Tin Can Basin Road 578B.
 - Cutthroat Trail (re)alignment.
 - West Cross Trail (re)alignment.
 - OHV bypass.
 - South Fork Trail bridge removal.
- Sign locations, brush removal for improved sight distance on roads, new gates, etc. authorized under this decision will not occur within any cultural site boundaries.
- Informational and regulatory signing to accommodate forest users will be identified and implemented.

FIGURE C-1. Over-Ground Roads and Trail Decisions

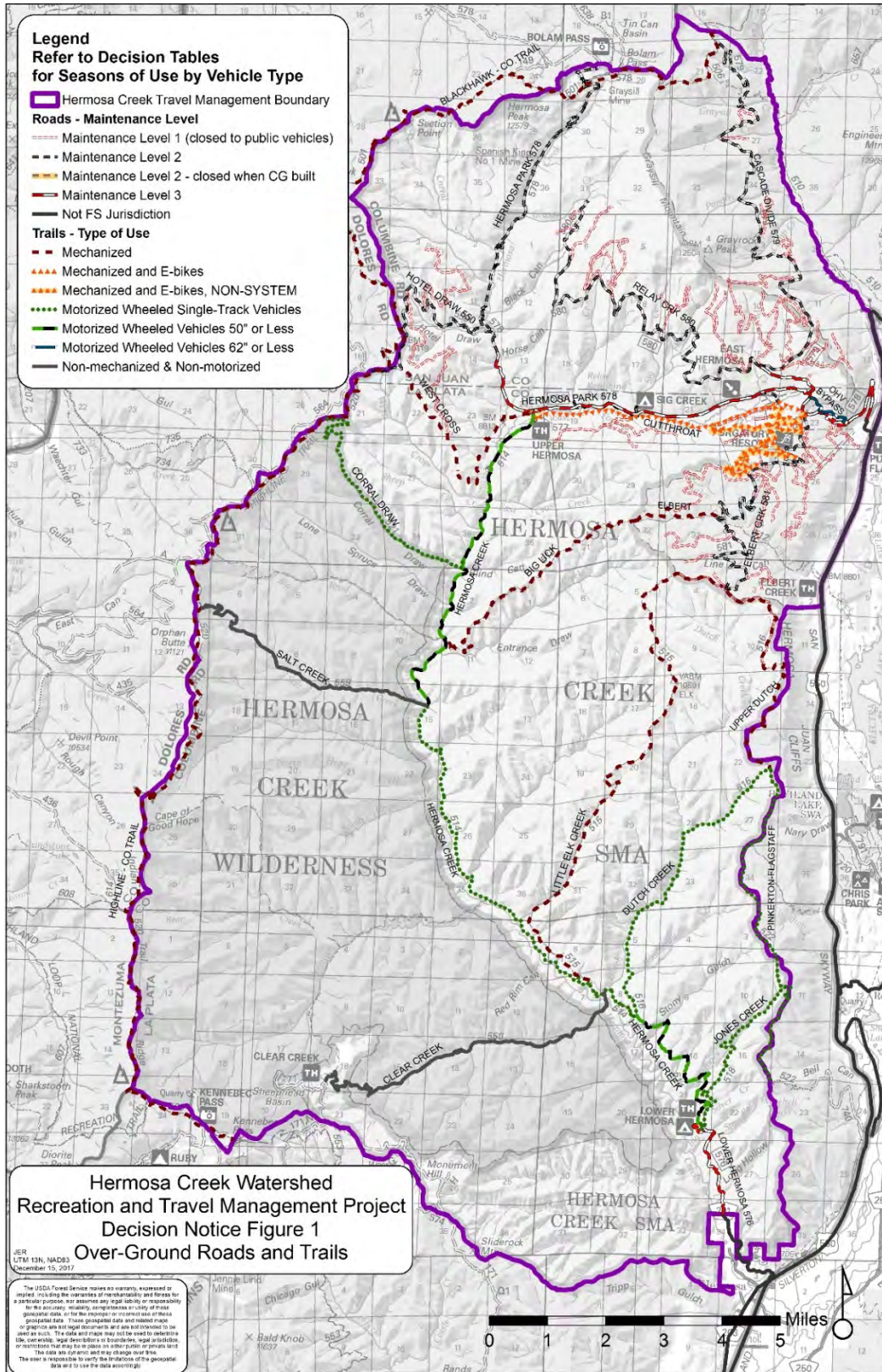
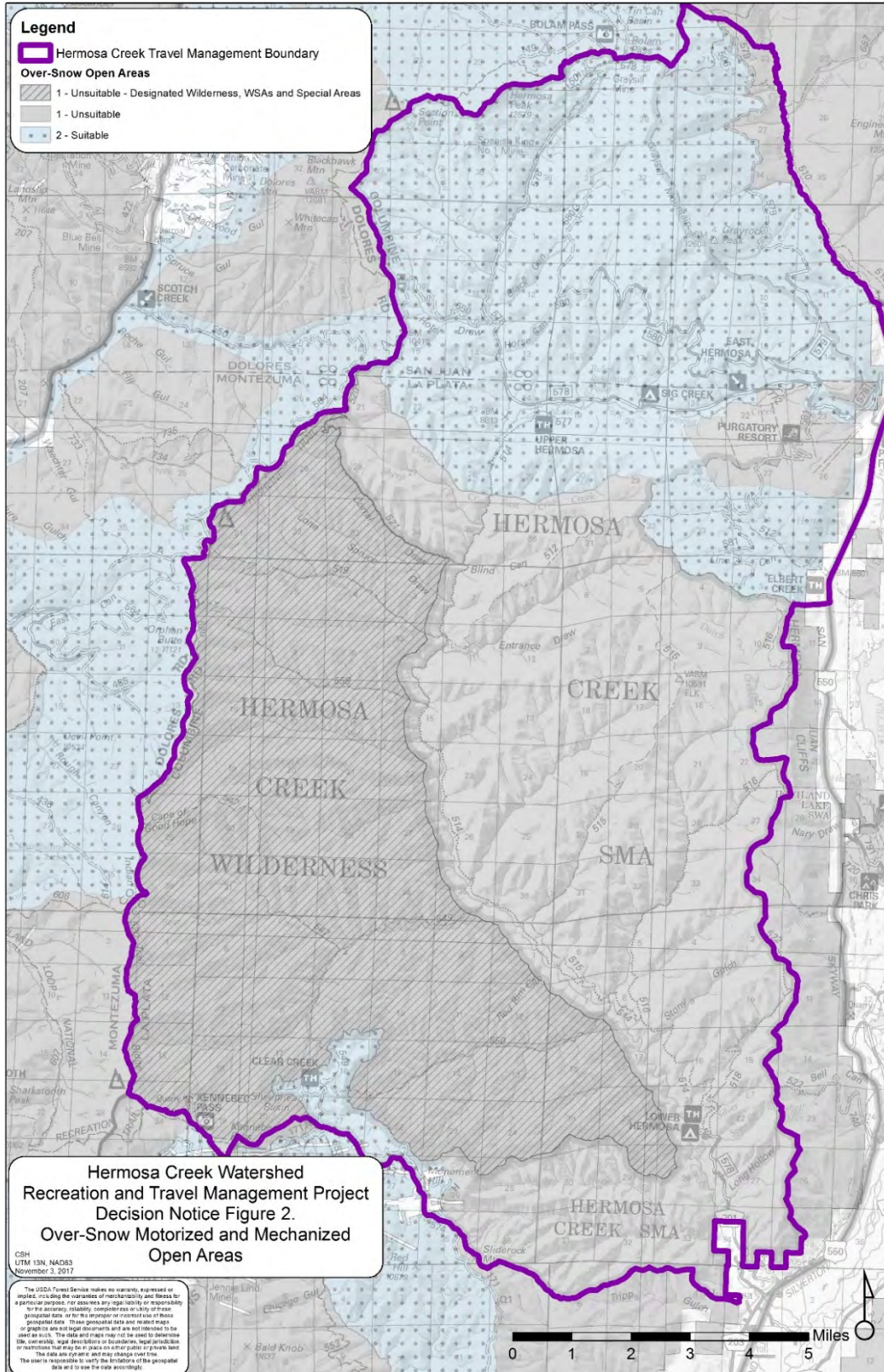


FIGURE C-2. Over-Snow Motorized and Mechanized Open Areas



APPENDIX C – HERMOSA RECREATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Table C-1. Roads Decisions

ID	NAME	ML	MAIN T. LEVEL	OVER-GROUND MOTOR. USE	OVER-GROUND MECH. USE	SEASON OVER-GROUND MOTO/MECH	300' FOR DISP'D CAMP	MIN. ROAD SYSTEM
ML1								
550.C	SODA	4.65	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.A	EAST HERMOSA	1.66	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.A1	E. HERMOSA FORK	1.36	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.A2	E. HERMOSA SPUR	0.82	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.D	FORMIDAY	0.10	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.D1	NAB	0.87	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.D2	BASESHOT	0.59	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.D3	HEADWALL	0.15	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.E	GATE 4	0.28	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.E1	MOTHER'S MILK	0.02	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
578.F	HARRIS CABIN	0.24	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.A	RIM	1.78	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.A1	RIM SPUR A1	0.67	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.A2	RIM SPUR A2	0.28	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.B	CASCADE SPUR B	0.62	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.C	PASTURE CRK	3.03	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.C1	PASTURE CRK SPUR	0.72	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.D	CASCADE SPUR D	1.24	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.D1	HIGHLINE SPUR	0.18	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.E	LOOP E	1.83	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.E1	LOOP SPUR	0.64	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.F	GRAY ROCK	1.72	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.G	CAMP CRK	1.10	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.I	PANDO CRK I	0.90	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.I1	PANDO CRK I SPUR	0.25	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.M	E. Z. CR.	0.51	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
579.N	GRAYSILL CRK	0.51	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580	RELAY CRK	1.36	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580.A	CASCADE PIT	0.15	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580.B	NEWBOLT	2.62	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580.B1	NEWBOLT B1	0.76	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580.D	SIG CRK D	1.52	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580.D1	SIG CRK D1	0.40	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580.E	GRAYSILL E	3.33	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES

APPENDIX C – HERMOSA RECREATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

ID	NAME	MI.	MAIN T. LEVEL	OVER-GROUND MOTOR. USE	OVER-GROUND MECH. USE	SEASON OVER-GROUND MOTO/MECH	300' FOR DISP'D CAMP	MIN. ROAD SYSTEM
580.E1	SHORTCUT	0.99	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580.G8	GRASSY CREEK G8	0.39	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
580.G9	GRASSY CREEK G9	0.31	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581	ELBERT CRK	0.32	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.A	BUTLER CRK	2.97	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.A1	TOP OF EIGHT	0.51	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.A2	DANTES	0.15	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.B	LINE CANYON B	1.75	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.C	CLIFF	1.22	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.D	DIVINE	1.02	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.E	LINE CANYON E	0.56	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.F	PURGATORY F	1.76	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.F1	PURGATORY F1	0.78	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.F2	BULL RUN	0.40	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.F3	5 TO 8	0.48	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.G	PURGATORY G	1.04	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.G3	BIDDY BOTTOM 2	0.10	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.G4	MAINTENANCE SHACK	0.30	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.J	PURGATORY J	1.17	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.K	CASTLE ROCK LIFT 2	2.33	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.L	PURGATORY LIFT 3	0.36	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.L1	3 TIPPY TOPS	0.23	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.L4	5 TIPPY TOPS	0.18	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.M	PURGATORY LIFT 5	1.29	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.N	ELBERT CRK BRANCH N	1.50	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.P	PURGATORY P	0.53	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.P1	PURGATORY P1	0.31	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.P3	PANDAMERCY	0.39	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.P4	POWDERHOUSE	0.11	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.P5	6 PACK	0.51	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.P6	AFTER THE 6 PACK	0.14	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
581.Q	DUTCH CREEK	2.22	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
717	PETTY CRK	3.27	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES
772	PURGATORY	1.17	ML1	NO	NO	NA	NO	YES

APPENDIX C – HERMOSA RECREATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

ID	NAME	MI.	MAIN T. LEVEL	OVER-GROUND MOTOR. USE	OVER-GROUND MECH. USE	SEASON OVER-GROUND MOTO/MECH	300' FOR DISP'D CAMP	MIN. ROAD SYSTEM
ML2								
550	HOTEL DRAW	4.90	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	YES	YES
550.H	HOTEL CAMP SPUR	0.07	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	YES	YES
577.A	HERMOSA TRAILHEAD CAMP SPUR	0.07	ML2 - Closed when CG	Interim open to all - Closed when CG is built	YES - Close when CG is built	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
577.B	HERMOSA TRAILHEAD CAMP SPUR	0.14	ML2 - Closed when CG	Interim open to all - Closed when CG is built	YES - Close when CG is built	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578	HERMOSA PARK	7.55	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578.A	EAST HERMOSA	0.16	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.A3	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.01	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.B	TIN CAN BASIN (to first campsite)	0.13	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578.B3	TIN CAN BASIN CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578.SPUR01	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR02	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.08	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR03	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR04	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.00	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR05	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.08	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR05A	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR06	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.03	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR07	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.14	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR08	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR08A	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.09	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR08B	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.01	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR09	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.15	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR09A	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR10	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.08	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR11	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.01	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578.SPUR12	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578.SPUR13	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES

APPENDIX C – HERMOSA RECREATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

ID	NAME	MI.	MAIN T. LEVEL	OVER-GROUND MOTOR. USE	OVER-GROUND MECH. USE	SEASON OVER-GROUND MOTO/MECH	300' FOR DISP'D CAMP	MIN. ROAD SYSTEM
578. SPUR14	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.01	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR15	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.11	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR16	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.11	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR16A	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.10	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR16B	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.09	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR17	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.01	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR18	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.01	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR19	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR20	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.03	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR21	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.05	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578. SPUR22	HERMOSA CAMP SPUR	0.01	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
579	CASCADE DIVIDE	10.37	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
579.C	PASTURE CRK	0.02	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
580	RELAY CRK	8.56	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
580.G	GRASSY CRK	1.40	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
580.K	RELAY CAMP SPUR	0.14	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
581	ELBERT CRK - segment w/in ski area	2.92	ML2	All motorized	YES	Motor. 05/01 - 11/14 Mech. and ebike seasonal dates managed per permit	YES	YES
581	ELBERT CRK	5.50	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
581.R	ELBERT CAMP SPUR	0.08	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
581.S	ELBERT CAMP SPUR	0.08	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
581.T	ELBERT CAMP SPUR	0.09	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	YES	YES
698	SIG CRK CG	0.25	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
772	PURGATORY	0.51	ML2	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
ML3								
576	LOWER HERMOSA (CR 201)	1.90	ML3	All motorized	YES	Motor. 05/01 - 12/31 Mech. 01/01 - 12/31	NO	YES
576.A	LOWER HERMOSA CG	0.57	ML3	Highway Legal Vehicles Only	YES	05/01 - 12/31	NO	YES
577	HUNTER PARK	0.29	ML3	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
578	HERMOSA PARK – to OHV bypass	1.59	ML3	All motorized	YES	Motor. 05/01 - 11/14 Mech. and ebike seasonal dates managed per permit	NO	YES

APPENDIX C – HERMOSA RECREATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

ID	NAME	MI.	MAIN T. LEVEL	OVER-GROUND MOTOR. USE	OVER-GROUND MECH. USE	SEASON OVER-GROUND MOTO/MECH	300' FOR DISP'D CAMP	MIN. ROAD SYSTEM
578	HERMOSA PARK – bypassed segment	1.54	ML3	Interim open to all - Highway Legal Vehicles Only, when bypass built	YES	Motor. 05/01 - 11/14 Mech. and ebike seasonal dates managed per permit	NO	YES
578	HERMOSA PARK – Bypass to 722	1.02	ML3	All motorized	YES	Motor. 05/01 - 11/14 Mech. and ebike seasonal dates managed per permit	NO	YES
578	HERMOSA PARK – 722 to trailhead	4.08	ML3	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
578	HERMOSA PARK - past trailhead	1.48	ML3	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/30	NO	YES
579	CASCADE DIVIDE	1.18	ML3	All motorized	YES	05/01 - 11/14	NO	YES
NON-SYSTEM								
149	HERMOSA PEAK	0.98	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
544	WOODSY WAY	1.63	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
544.A	WOODSY WAY A	2.53	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
544.A1	SPUR	0.75	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
544.A2	WOODSY WAY A2	0.83	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
544.B	WOODSY WAY B	1.15	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
544.C	WOODSY WAY C	0.33	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
544010.A1	OBLIT. CANDIDATE	0.74	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.A	HOTEL DRAW A	1.81	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.A1	HOTEL DRAW A1	0.88	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.A2	HOTEL DRAW A2	0.40	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.B	MOTEL	1.47	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.D	HOTEL DRAW D	0.70	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.D1	HOTEL DRAW D1	0.60	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.E	HOTEL DRAW E	0.34	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.F	HOTEL DRAW F	1.97	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.G	CROSS CRK G	1.64	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.G1	CROSS CRK G1	0.62	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.G2	CROSS CRK G2	3.38	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.G3	CROSS CRK G3	0.96	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO

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ID	NAME	MI.	MAIN T. LEVEL	OVER-GROUND MOTOR. USE	OVER-GROUND MECH. USE	SEASON OVER-GROUND MOTO/MECH	300' FOR DISP'D CAMP	MIN. ROAD SYSTEM
550.G4	CROSS CRK G4	0.58	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
550.I	CROSS CRK I	0.20	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
564.X	DIVIDE X	0.45	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
576	LOWER HERMOSA (CR 201)	0.35	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
578.B	TIN CAN BASIN (segment coincident with East Fork Trail)	0.6	Delegate to Dolores RD	Delegate to Dolores RD	Delegate to Dolores RD	Delegate to Dolores RD	NO	Delegate to Dolores RD
578.B	TIN CAN BASIN	1.33	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
578.B2	GRAYSILL MINE	0.42	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.F1	GRAYROCK SPUR	0.71	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.H	CASCADE SPUR	0.44	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.J	PANDO J	0.84	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.J1	PANDO J1 SPUR	0.55	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.J2	PANDO J2 SPUR	0.30	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.K	PANDO SPUR	0.29	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.L	PANDO L	0.88	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.L1	PANDO L1 SPUR	0.10	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.P	SLICK ROCK	0.29	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.Q	Q SPUR	0.25	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.S	HIGH LINE S	0.64	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
579.S1	HIGH LINE S1	0.51	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580	RELAY CRK	2.92	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.B2	NEWBOLT B2	0.79	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.C	SIG CRK C	2.97	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.C1	SIG CRK C1	0.57	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.C2	SIG CRK C2	1.65	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.D2	SIG CRK D2	0.41	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.E2	GRAYSILL E2	0.37	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.E3	GRAYSILL E3	0.33	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.F	GRAYSILL F	1.39	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.G1	GRASSY CRK G1	1.15	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO

APPENDIX C – HERMOSA RECREATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

ID	NAME	MI.	MAIN T. LEVEL	OVER-GROUND MOTOR. USE	OVER-GROUND MECH. USE	SEASON OVER-GROUND MOTO/MECH	300' FOR DISP'D CAMP	MIN. ROAD SYSTEM
580.G2	BLACK CANYON	0.36	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.G3	GRASSY CRK G3	1.66	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.G4	GRASSY CRK G4	0.23	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.G5	GRASSY CRK G5	0.41	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.G6	GRASSY CRK G6	0.19	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.G7	GRASSY CRK G7	0.18	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.H	GRASSY CRK H	0.31	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.H1	GRASSY CRK H1	0.14	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.I	GRASSY CRK I	0.12	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.J	GRASSY CRK J	0.29	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
580.P	GRASSY CRK P	1.24	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
581.C	CLIFF	0.22	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
581.E1	LINE CANYON E1	1.16	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
581.L	PURGATORY LIFT 3	0.94	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
581.N1	ELBERT CRK BRANCH N1	0.69	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
594	RELAY CRK SPUR	2.15	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
614	GRAY ROCK	1.36	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
614.A	GRAYROCK A	1.26	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
717.A	CORRAL CR.	1.27	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
717.A1	CORRAL CRK A1	0.31	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
717.B	PETTY CRK BRANCH B	1.27	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
717.B1	PETTY CRK BRANCH B1	0.50	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO
786	GRAY SILL	1.93	Non-System	NO	NO	NA	NO	NO

APPENDIX C – HERMOSA RECREATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Table C-2. Trails Decisions

ID	NAME	MI.	TRAIL CLASS	OVER-GROUND MOTORIZED TYPE/ OPEN SEASON	OVER-GROUND MECHANIZED USE/ OPEN SEASON	300' FOR DISP'D. CAMP.
Wilderness						
550	CLEAR CREEK	7.90	TC3 - DEVELOPED	NO	NO	NO
559	SALT CREEK	5.83	TC2 – MOD. DEVELOPED	NO	NO	NO
Colorado Trail						
501	BLACKHAWK - CO.TRAIL	10.59	TC3 - DEVELOPED	NO	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
507	RICO-SILVERTON - CO.TRAIL	3.62	TC3 - DEVELOPED	NO	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
520	HIGHLINE - CO.TRAIL	20.54	TC3 - DEVELOPED	NO	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
622	SLIDEROCK - CO.TRAIL	0.60	TC3 - DEVELOPED	NO	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
Other						
512	ELBERT CREEK	1.74	TC3 - DEVELOPED	NO	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
xxx	BIG LICK	5.29	TC2 – MOD. DEVELOPED	NO	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
514	HERMOSA CREEK-upper	6.52	TC3 - DEVELOPED	50" wide or less 05/01 - 11/30	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
514	HERMOSA CREEK-middle	8.63	TC3 - DEVELOPED	Motorcycle, single track 05/01 - 11/30	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
514	HERMOSA CREEK-lower	4.00	TC3 - DEVELOPED	50" wide or less 05/01 - 12/31	YES 01/01 - 12/31	NO
515	LITTLE ELK CREEK	10.98	TC3 - DEVELOPED	NO	YES 05/01 - 11/14*	NO
516	DUTCH CREEK	5.84	TC3 - DEVELOPED	Motorcycle, single track 05/01 - 11/30	YES 05/01 - 11/30*	NO
xxx	UPPER DUTCH CRK	5.20	TC3 - DEVELOPED	NO	YES 05/01 - 11/14*	NO
518	JONES CREEK	4.16	TC3 - DEVELOPED	Motorcycle, single track 05/01 - 11/30	YES 05/01 - 11/30*	NO
521	CORRAL DRAW	5.37	TC3 - DEVELOPED	Motorcycle, single track 05/01 - 11/30	YES 05/01 - 11/30	NO
522	PINKERTON-FLAGSTAFF	6.77	TC3 - DEVELOPED	Motorcycle, single track 05/01 - 11/30	YES 05/01 - 11/30*	NO
xxx	OHV BYPASS	~1.12	TC4 – HIGHLY DEVELOPED	62" wide or less 05/01 - 11/14	YES 05/01 - 11/14	NO
xxx	CUTTHROAT	~3.24	TC4 – HIGHLY DEVELOPED	E-bikes 05/01 - 11/14	YES 05/01 - 11/14	NO
xxx	CUTTHROAT	~1.74	TC4 – HIGHLY DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
xxx	WEST CROSS CREEK	~4.69	TC4 – HIGHLY DEVELOPED	NO	YES 05/01 - 11/30	NO
638	EAST FORK	0.60	delegate to Dolores RD	delegate to Dolores RD	delegate to Dolores RD	NO
Remove From System						
519	BIG BEND	5.39	Non-System	NO	NO	NO
547	NEGLECTED	5.68	Non-System	NO	NO	NO
549	SOUTH FORK	6.89	Non-System	NO	NO	NO

APPENDIX C – HERMOSA RECREATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

ID	NAME	MI.	TRAIL CLASS	OVER-GROUND MOTORIZED TYPE/ OPEN SEASON	OVER-GROUND MECHANIZED USE/ OPEN SEASON	300' FOR DISP'D. CAMP.
Purgatory Complex						
Non-system	BRUSHRAKE ROAD LOOP	0.55	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	GOO CREEK	0.88	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	GOO CREEK / LOS PINOS	0.63	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	GOO CREEK / PAUL'S PARK	0.57	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	GOO CREEK / PAUL'S PARK	0.51	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	GOO CREEK / PAUL'S PARK	0.25	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	HARRIS PARK LOOP	0.63	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	HARRIS PARK LOOP	0.09	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	HARRIS PARK LOOP	0.45	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	LIFT 8 BYPASS	0.41	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	LOS PINOS	0.36	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	LOS PINOS	0.62	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	LOS PINOS	0.26	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	PAUL'S PARK	0.22	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	PAUL'S PARK	0.52	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	PAUL'S PARK	0.38	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	PAUL'S PARK	0.30	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	PAUL'S PARK / LOS PINOS	0.18	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO
Non-system	PAUL'S PARK / LOS PINOS	0.43	TC3 - DEVELOPED	E-bikes season managed per permit	YES season managed per permit	NO

* Option for condition-based seasonal management based on criteria to be determined