

## Appendix C. Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness, Shoshone National Forest

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### Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

### Shoshone National Forest

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## Contents

Introduction.....	1
Capability .....	1
The capability process .....	2
Availability .....	66
The availability process .....	66
Need.....	78
Summary of Need analysis.....	78
Assessment of individual Need factors.....	78
Public input on the need for additional wilderness .....	78
Regional distribution of wilderness .....	79
Other lands that provide unconfined recreation .....	80
Need of refuge for wildlife species and inclusion of ecoregions in designated wilderness .....	80
Attachment A – Summary of assessments.....	85
Attachment B – The 2006 inventory of areas for evaluation of wilderness potential.....	89
Mapping results .....	89
Inventory process.....	89
Step one—inventory criteria .....	89
Step two—criteria for including improvements and boundary adjustments.....	89
From Forest Service Handbook 1909.12.....	91
71.11 Criteria for including improvements.....	91
Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation .....	93
Introduction .....	93
About the descriptions .....	93

## List of Tables

Table 1. Capability assessment elements and criteria.....	2
Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest .....	6
Table 3. Area availability resource criteria .....	67
Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest .....	68
Table 5. Percentage of survey respondents wanting additional wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest.....	79
Table 6. Need criteria.....	81
Table 7. Details of the need assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest .....	82
Table 8. Rules for applying criteria .....	90





## Introduction

This document describes the process used to evaluate the wilderness potential of 34 areas on the Shoshone National Forest.

Three tests—capability, availability, and need—were used to determine suitability as described in Forest Service Handbook 1909.12, chapter 70. In addition to the inherent wilderness qualities an area might possess, the area must provide opportunities and experiences that are dependent on and enhanced by a wilderness environment. The area and boundaries must allow the area to be managed as wilderness.

Capability is defined as the degree to which the area contains the basic characteristics that make it suitable for wilderness designation without regard to its availability for or need as wilderness.

The availability determination is conditioned on the value of and need for the wilderness resource compared to the value of and need for the area for other resources.

Need is the determination that the area should be designated as wilderness through an analysis of the degree the area contributes to the local, regional, and national distribution of wilderness.

The 2006 inventory conducted according to Forest Service Handbook 1909.12 chapter 70 is the basis for this evaluation. The inventory process, which identified 34 areas, is documented in appendix B.

Attachment A includes a summary of the capability, availability, and need assessments for areas on the Shoshone National Forest; appendix C contains descriptions of the areas identified in the 2006 inventory.

## Capability

There are five basic characteristics identified to evaluate the capability of an area: natural environment, undeveloped, outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation, special features and values, and manageability.

1. A natural environment's ecological systems are substantially free from the effects of modern civilization and generally appear to have been affected primarily by forces of nature. Factors to consider include the presence of non-native species and the health of ecosystems, plant communities, and plant species that are rare or at risk.
2. Undeveloped areas are without permanent improvements or human habitation. Measures include the level of human occupation and modification of the area including evidence of structures, construction, habitations, or other forms of human presence, use, and occupation.
3. Opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation are measured by an area's vastness of scale, the degree of challenge and risk to users, and opportunities to experience isolation from the evidence of humans. A wide range of experiential opportunities includes physical and mental challenge, adventure and self-reliance, isolation, self-awareness, and feelings of solitude, and inspiration. Primitive-type recreation activities include hiking, backpacking, using pack and saddle stock, fishing, hunting, floating, kayaking, cross-country skiing, camping, and enjoying nature.
4. An area's special features and values are identified by determining its ecologic, geologic, scientific, educational, scenic, historical, or cultural significance. Examples include unique fish and wildlife species, unique plants or plant communities, connectivity, potential or existing research natural areas, outstanding landscape features, and significant cultural resource sites.

5. Manageability considers the ability of the Forest Service to manage the area as wilderness as required by the 1964 Wilderness Act. The area must be managed as an enduring resource of wilderness, untrammelled by humans, retaining its primeval character, with its natural character protected. Such factors as size, shape, and juxtaposition to external influences will be considered.

The combinations of basic natural characteristics are of infinite variety. No two areas possess any of the characteristics in the same measure. The process is to analyze the quality and quantity of these characteristics and determine if they can be provided by establishing management, protective, mitigation, or enhancement measures.

## The capability process

To evaluate the five basic characteristics, they were broken down into elements, activities, or features that describe the basic characteristics and provide a basis for rating. At least two criteria were established for each element, activity, or feature. Since criteria were not of equal importance, criteria are in order of priority for each element, activity, or feature. Criteria were established to consider existing as well as future conditions both inside and adjacent to the area.

Shoshone National Forest resource specialists in soils, hydrology, fisheries biology, wildlife biology, and recreation evaluated each criteria, rating each as high, moderate, or low. Based on the ratings given in the first step and the heavier weighting of the initial criteria, each area was rated high, moderate, or low in capability. The elements and criteria are shown in table 1. Details of the capability assessment are shown in table 2.

Table 1. Capability assessment elements and criteria

1. Natural environment		
Variety and abundance of wildlife		
High	Moderate	Low
1. Diverse community of native mammals, birds, and fish. 2. Known high variety of threatened and endangered species. 3. Streams are critical to historic distribution of Yellowstone cutthroat trout. 4. Provides critical linkage between wildlife areas or habitats. 5. Noxious weeds are not evident. 6. High water quality. Fully supports beneficial uses.	1. Moderate variety of native mammals, birds, and fish. 2. Known moderate variety of threatened and endangered species. 3. Streams are important to historic distribution of Yellowstone cutthroat trout. 4. Provides linkage between wildlife areas or habitats. 5. Noxious weeds evident only along trails. 6. Good water quality. Partially supports beneficial uses.	1. Community of native mammals, birds, and fish is not diverse. 2. Low variety of threatened and endangered species. 3. Streams are not important to historic distribution of Yellowstone cutthroat trout. 4. Does not provide linkage between wildlife areas or habitats. 5. Noxious weeds common or scattered throughout the area. 6. Poor water quality. Does not support beneficial uses.

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

Table 1. Capability assessment elements and criteria

2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
High	Moderate	Low
7. Area appears free of human disturbance. Disturbance appears to be natural, e.g., small wildfire. 8. Area visible in surrounding foreground (outside the area) may show some human disturbance but does not dominate the view. 9. Only a minor improvement, e.g., trail.	7. Area appears mostly free of human disturbance. Natural disturbance evident but does not dominate the landscape. 8. Area visible in surrounding foreground has signs of human activities, e.g., road, farm house. 9. Several minor improvements.	7. Area shows signs of human disturbance. Natural disturbance dominates the landscape, such as stand-replacing wildfire. 8. Area visible in surrounding foreground shows obvious human activities, e.g., clearcuts, town. 9. Major improvements, e.g., power line, dam, road.
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
High	Moderate	Low
10. Feeling of being alone or remote from civilization. 11. Recreation use by other parties is light.	10. Feeling of being alone is possible but signs of civilization are likely. 11. Recreation use by other parties is moderate.	10. Little opportunity of feeling alone. 11. Recreation use by other parties is high.
Provides challenge and adventure		
High	Moderate	Low
12. Terrain generally rugged. 13. Requires above average physical ability, knowledge, or skill to recreate safely in the area.	12. Terrain typical for general forest area. 13. Requires similar physical ability, knowledge, or skill as the general forest area.	12. Terrain more gentle and rolling. 13. Area easily accessible. Requires average physical ability, limited knowledge and skill as compared to abilities required in the general forest area.
Hiking/backpacking opportunities		
High	Moderate	Low
14. Two or more mainline trails. 15. Terrain is gentle and vegetation open to allow easy cross-country travel 16. Several dispersed camping sites that are routinely used.	14. At least one secondary trail that is routinely maintained. 15. Terrain is moderate or vegetation brushy that impedes cross-country travel. 16. At least one dispersed camping site that is occasionally used.	14. No system trails that are maintained. 15. Terrain is steep or vegetation too dense (including down material) that cross-country travel is difficult. 16. No dispersed camping sites that are used, but progressive camping may occur.
Saddle stock opportunities		
High	Moderate	Low
17. At least one mainline trail designed for saddle stock. 18. Trailhead has stock facilities, such as unloading ramp.	17. At least one secondary trail that is suitable for saddle stock and routinely maintained. 18. Trailhead has room to turn around stock truck or trailer.	17. No system trails that are maintained. 18. Trailhead does not support use of stock.

Table 1. Capability assessment elements and criteria

Hunting opportunities		
High	Moderate	Low
19. Good populations of big game animals or fair population of permitted animals, such as sheep or goats. 20. Terrain is gentle and vegetation open to allow easy hunting access off trails and ridges.	19. Fair populations of game animals. 20. Terrain is moderately steep or vegetation brushy that limits hunting on much of the area.	19. Scattered small herds of big game animals. 20. Terrain is steep or vegetation too dense that hunting is limited to trails or ridges.
Fishing opportunities		
High	Moderate	Low
21. Good populations of native game fish. 22. Stream bottoms are generally gentle with minor brush, allowing access to water.	21. Fair populations of native game fish. 22. Stream channel has enough brush to limit access. Channel bottoms or side slopes not overly steep.	21. Low populations of native game fish. 22. Stream channels steep, or steep rocky side slopes, or brush along channels, making access difficult.
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
High	Moderate	Low
23. Terrain is gentle and vegetation open to allow easy cross-country travel. 24. Easily accessible in winter by motorized wheeled vehicles.	23. Terrain is moderate or vegetation brushy that impedes cross-country travel. 24. Snow keeps wheeled vehicles several miles from area, but access is possible by snowmobile.	23. Terrain is steep or vegetation too dense that cross-country travel is difficult. 24. Area is difficult or rarely accessed by snowmobile.
Snowmobiling opportunities		
High	Moderate	Low
25. Terrain is steep or vegetation too dense that cross-country travel is difficult. 26. Snowmobile use prohibited, or if allowed, rarely used.	25. Terrain is moderate or vegetation brushy that impedes cross-country travel. 26. Snowmobile use restricted to two months or less, or on half or less of the area.	25. Terrain is gentle and vegetation open to allow easy cross-country travel. 26. Snowmobile use permitted.
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
High	Moderate	Low
27. Area has peaks or rocky formations considered spectacular from the rest of the Forest and/or special vegetative features that are considered very scenic. 28. Area has alpine lakes, creeks in alpine meadows, or waterfalls.	27. Area has a peak or formation that stands out from surrounding terrain and/or vegetative features considered scenic. 28. Area may have bodies of water that are typical for the Forest.	27. Terrain is typical of the Forest or surrounding area and vegetation is common to the surrounding area. 28. Area has no permanent lakes but may have perennial creeks or ponds.

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

Table 1. Capability assessment elements and criteria

Other special features		
High	Moderate	Low
29. Area has at least one major other special feature, e.g., high mountain meadow, fen, etc. 30. Contains a designated special area, e.g., wild and scenic river, research natural area, etc.	29. Several minor other special features, e.g., flat creek bottom, small waterfall, etc. 30. Contains a candidate or eligible special area, e.g., wild and scenic river, research natural area, etc.	29. No major or very few minor other special features. 30. Does not contain an established, candidate, or eligible special area.
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
High	Moderate	Low
31. Several significant scientific, educational, or historical values have been identified in the area. 32. Identified values are unique to the region.	31. At least one significant or several minor scientific, educational, or historical values have been identified in the area. 32. Identified values are common in the region but uncommon on the Forest.	31. No scientific, educational, or historical value has been identified in the area. 32. Any identified values are common throughout the Forest and the region.
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
High	Moderate	Low
33. Size and shape of area allows effective management. 34. Minimum activity in surrounding area that affects manageability. 35. Located adjacent to existing wilderness or other inventoried areas.	33. Size or shape will affect manageability but can be mitigated by boundary changes. 34. Activity is evident and ongoing in surrounding area but will not keep area from being managed. 35. Located near existing wilderness or other inventoried areas. May be difficult to access.	33. Size is small or has irregular shape that makes management difficult. 34. Activity in surrounding area will affect the manageability of the inventoried area. 35. Isolated, small parcel of land.
Area boundaries are recognizable		
High	Moderate	Low
36. The vast majority of the boundary follows features that can be easily found and identified on the ground, e.g., dominant ridge, creek, road, or trail. 37. Boundary can be easily adjusted to follow locatable and identifiable features without significantly modifying the area boundaries.	36. More than half the boundary follows a feature that can be easily found and identified on the ground. 37. Boundary can be adjusted to follow locatable and identifiable features but will modify the general size and shape of the area. Boundary may be identified with minimal signing.	36. Boundary generally lies across the hillside and can rarely be located without equipment, e.g., GPS unit. 37. Boundary cannot be adjusted to follow locatable and identifiable features, or requires extensive signing.

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

Table 1. Capability assessment elements and criteria

Area boundaries are manageable		
High	Moderate	Low
38. Area access by trail or closed and revegetated road, adjacent area has natural setting. 39. Boundary totally on national forest and not adjacent to private property. 40. No inholdings.	38. May be accessed by narrow or two-track open road that is lightly traveled, minimal human presence evident. 39. Boundary follows property line forming irregular shape. 40. Few small inholdings may be present.	38. Boundary adjacent to heavily used road or along area showing high human presence, e.g., a number of farm houses with outbuilding, pasture land, etc. 39. Boundary crosses private property so there are inholdings along the boundary. 40. Several small or one large inholding.
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
High	Moderate	Low
41. Topographic features provide a natural barrier, e.g., major stream or steep hill side. 42. Human improvement is significant to physically provide a barrier, e.g., road cut slope.	41. Topography generally makes it difficult to participate in prohibited use. 42. Human improvement places user on notice of prohibited use, e.g., a sign.	41. Topography not a deterrent to prohibited use. 42. Human improvement not a deterrent; may provide point of access of prohibited use.

Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Windy Mountain 02039			
1. Natural environment			
Ecological systems			
1. Native animals	low	moderate	
2. Threatened and endangered species	high		
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low		
4. Habitat linkage	high		
5. Noxious weeds	moderate		
6. Water Quality	moderate		
2. Undeveloped			
Natural and free from disturbance			
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate	
8. Visible foreground	moderate		
9. Improvements	moderate		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation			
Opportunity for solitude			
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate	
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate		

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	moderate
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	moderate	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	low	
Windy Mountain 02039		
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	moderate
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	low	low
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	low	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	moderate	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	low	
Pat O'Hara 02040		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	moderate	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	high	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	low	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	



## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	low	
Pat O'Hara 02040		
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	moderate	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

Sulphur Creek 02041		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	moderate	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	high	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Sulphur Creek 02041		
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	moderate
24. Area access	high	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	low	moderate
26. Use restrictions	high	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Clarks Fork 02042		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	high	high
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	high	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	high	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

Clarks Fork 02042		
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	moderate	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	high	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	moderate	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	low	
Sunlight 02043		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious Weeds	high	
6. Water Quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	low	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Sunlight 02043		
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	low
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	high	moderate
42. Human improvement	low	
Trout Creek 02044		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	high	high
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	high	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Trout Creek 02044		
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	high	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	high	high
42. Human improvement	moderate	



## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

Wapiti Valley North 02045		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	low	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	low	low
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	moderate
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	moderate
24. Area access	high	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
Wapiti Valley North 02045		
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38.Area access	low	moderate
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	low	
Rattlesnake 02046		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	high	high
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	high	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	low	low
11. Recreation use by other parties	low	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	low
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	low	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Rattlesnake 02046		
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	low	low
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	low
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	low	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	high	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	high	high
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Wapiti Valley South 02048		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Wapiti Valley South 02048		
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	moderate
24. Area access	high	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	high	high
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	high	high
42. Human improvement	moderate	
South Fork 02049		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	moderate	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	low	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	moderate
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	moderate	moderate
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	moderate
24. Area access	high	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
South Fork 02049		
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Carter Mountain 02050		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	moderate	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	low	low
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	low	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	low	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	moderate
15. Terrain	high	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Carter Mountain 02050		
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	moderate	moderate
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	moderate	



Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	low	low
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	low	low
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	low
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	low	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	low	
40. Inholdings	moderate	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	low	low
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Franc's Peak 02051		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	high	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	high	high
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
Franc's Peak 02051		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	moderate	moderate
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	moderate	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	high	high
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	high	high
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Franc's Peak 02051		
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	high	high
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Wood River 02052		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	high	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	high	high
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	moderate	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	high	high
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Castle Rock 02053		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	moderate	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	high	high
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other users	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	moderate
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Castle Rock 02053		
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	moderate	moderate
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Telephone Draw 02054		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	moderate	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
Telephone Draw 02054		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	moderate	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	low	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	high	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Telephone Draw 02054		
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Carson Lake 02055		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	



Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	moderate
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	moderate
20. Terrain	low	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	low	low
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	low	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	low	low
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	low	low
37. Boundary adjustment	low	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	low	
East Dunoir 02056		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	moderate
20. Terrain	low	
East Dunoir 02056		
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	moderate
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	high	high
42. Human improvement	moderate	
South Dunoir 02057		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
South Dunoir 02057		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	high	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	moderate	moderate
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	high	moderate
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	low	moderate
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	low	low
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	low
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	moderate	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	low	low
37. Boundary adjustment	low	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	high	high
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
South Dunoir 02057		
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	low	moderate
42. Human improvement	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Dunoir 02058		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	high	moderate
24. Area access	low	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	low	moderate
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	high	
Dunoir 02058		
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	high	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	high	high
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	low	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	high	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	high	
West Dunoir 02059		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	moderate	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	low	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
West Dunoir 02059		
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	moderate
20. Terrain	low	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	moderate
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	



Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	moderate	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	low	low
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	low	moderate
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Sheridan Pass 02060		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	moderate	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	high	high
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
Sheridan Pass 02060		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	low	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	moderate
20. Terrain	low	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	high	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	high	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	low	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	low	low
37. Boundary adjustment	low	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Sheridan Pass 02060		
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	low	low
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Benchmark 02061		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	moderate	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	moderate	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	high	high
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	high	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	low	low
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Benchmark 02061		
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	low	low
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Salt Creek 02062		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	moderate	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	low	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Salt Creek 02062		
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	moderate	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	moderate	moderate
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	low	low
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	high	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	low	low
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	low
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	low	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	low	low
37. Boundary adjustment	low	
Area boundaries promote remoteness		
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	low	low
42. Human improvement	low	
Little Popo Agie 02064		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	low	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	low	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	moderate	
Little Popo Agie 02064		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	low
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	moderate
20. Terrain	low	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	low
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	low	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Little Popo Agie 02064		
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Canyon Creek 02065		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	moderate	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	low	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	moderate	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
5. Free of disturbance	high	high
6. Visible foreground	high	
7. Improvements	high	



## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	moderate
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	moderate	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	low	low
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	high	high
32. Value uniqueness	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	low	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Pass Creek 02066		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	low	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	low	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	high	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	low
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	low	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Pass Creek 02066		
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	moderate	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	low	low
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	high	high
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	low
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	low	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	low	moderate
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Middle Fork 02901		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	moderate	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	moderate	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	low	
Middle Fork 02901		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	moderate	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	low	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	high	high
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	low	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Middle Fork 02901		
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Warm Spring Creek 02902		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	high	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	moderate	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	moderate	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	moderate
15. Terrain	high	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	high	high
24. Area access	moderate	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	low	low
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	low	low
32. Value uniqueness	low	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	low	low
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Togwotee Pass 02903		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	moderate	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	moderate	
4. Habitat linkage	moderate	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	low	low
8. Visible foreground	low	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	low	low
11. Recreation use by other parties	low	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	high	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Togwotee Pass 02903		
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	high	



## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	high	high
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	low	moderate
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	high	high
42. Human improvement	moderate	
Deep Lake 02911		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	high	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
Deep Lake 02911		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	high	high
11. Recreation use by other parties	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	low	low
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	high	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	moderate	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	high	high
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	high
30. Designated special area(s)	moderate	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	high	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	moderate	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	high	high
37. Boundary adjustment	high	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	high	high
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	low	low
42. Human improvement	moderate	
North Boundary 02913		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	low
2. Threatened and endangered species	low	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	low	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	high	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	low	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	high	high
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	high	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	low
15. Terrain	low	
16. Dispersed camping	low	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	low	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	low	moderate
20. Terrain	high	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	low	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	low	low
32. Value uniqueness	low	
North Boundary 02913		
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	low
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Reef 02914		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	low	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	high	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	high	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	moderate	moderate
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	moderate	moderate
18. Trailhead facilities	high	
Reef 02914		
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	low	low
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	low	low
24. Area access	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	high	high
26. Use restrictions	high	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	moderate	moderate
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	moderate	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	moderate	moderate
34. Surrounding area	moderate	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	moderate
39. Adjacent property	moderate	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	
High Lakes NF915		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	high
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	high	

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	high	high
8. Visible foreground	high	
9. Improvements	moderate	
High Lakes NF915		
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	moderate	moderate
11. Recreation use by other parties	low	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	moderate	moderate
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	moderate	
Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	high	high
15. Terrain	moderate	
16. Dispersed camping	high	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	high	high
18. Trailhead facilities	moderate	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	moderate	moderate
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	moderate	moderate
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	high	high
28. Water features	high	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	high	moderate
30. Designated special area(s)	low	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	moderate	moderate
32. Value uniqueness	moderate	
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	high	high
34. Surrounding area	high	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	
Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	moderate	high
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	low	low
42. Human improvement	moderate	
High Lakes Addition NF915a		
1. Natural environment		
Ecological systems		
1. Native animals	low	moderate
2. Threatened and endangered species	high	
3. Yellowstone cutthroat trout distribution	low	
4. Habitat linkage	high	
5. Noxious weeds	high	
6. Water quality	moderate	
2. Undeveloped		
Natural and free from disturbance		
7. Free of disturbance	moderate	moderate
8. Visible foreground	moderate	
9. Improvements	moderate	
3. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation		
Opportunity for solitude		
10. Feeling alone	low	low
11. Recreation use by other parties	low	
Provides challenge and adventure		
12. Terrain	low	low
13. Ability, knowledge, skill	low	



## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Hiking/Backpacking opportunities		
14. Trails	low	moderate
15. Terrain	high	
16. Dispersed camping	moderate	
Saddle stock opportunities		
17. Trails	low	low
18. Trailhead facilities	moderate	
Hunting opportunities		
19. Big game populations	high	high
20. Terrain	high	
Fishing opportunities		
21. Game fish populations	high	high
22. Stream variables	moderate	
Skiing and snowshoeing opportunities		
23. Terrain	high	high
24. Area access	moderate	
Snowmobiling opportunities		
25. Terrain	low	low
26. Use restrictions	low	
4. Special features and values		
Scenic features		
27. Terrain features	low	low
28. Water features	moderate	
Other special features		
29. Other special features	low	low
30. Designated special area(s)	low	
Scientific, educational, or historical values		
31. Value presence	low	low
32. Value uniqueness	low	
High Lakes Addition NF915a		
5. Manageability		
Manageable		
33. Size and shape	low	moderate
34. Surrounding area	low	
35. Location	high	
Area boundaries are recognizable		
36. Identifiable on the ground	moderate	moderate
37. Boundary adjustment	moderate	

**Table 2. Details of the capability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest**

Area boundaries are manageable		
38. Area access	low	moderate
39. Adjacent property	high	
40. Inholdings	high	
Area boundaries constitute barrier to prohibited use		
41. Topographic feature	moderate	moderate
42. Human improvement	moderate	

## Availability

The availability determination for wilderness recommendation is conditioned on the value of and need for the wilderness resource compared to the value of and need for the area for other resources.

The availability of an area for wilderness management must be evaluated against other resource needs, demands, and uses of the area. To be available for wilderness, the wilderness value—both tangible and intangible—should offset the value of the other resources. The predominant value does not necessarily reflect the use or combination of uses that would yield the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output. In evaluating other resources, current uses, trends, and potential future uses and outputs need to be considered.

Wilderness designation and management of an area can have an effect on the management of adjacent lands. Evaluation of other resource needs may need to be considered in the area adjacent to an area. Forest Service Handbook 1909.12, chapter 72.21 provides some examples and guidance in evaluating the development and management for sustained yield production of resources other than the wilderness resource.

## The availability process

While the capability process evaluated the wilderness characteristics of an area, the availability process considered other resource needs.

Shoshone National Forest resource specialists in fisheries, silviculture, fuels, plants, soils, wildlife, and hydrology rated the resources for each area. Table 3 shows the availability criteria and ratings. Details of the availability assessment are shown in table 4.

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 3. Area availability resource criteria

<b>Resources</b>
1. Areas that are of high value for water yield or on-site storage where installation and maintenance of improvements may be required
2. Areas needing management for wildlife or aquatic animals that might conflict with wilderness management
3. Areas needing active aquatic restoration activities
4. Areas needing active vegetative restoration activity due to specific species survival, or identifiable fuels reduction activity to reduce the risk of wildfire, or known areas of severe insect infestation(s) that will lead to high tree mortality
5. Areas of high value mineral deposits of economic or strategic importance
6. Areas having such unique characteristics or natural phenomena that public access should be developed to facilitate public use and enjoyment including winter sports sites
7. Lands committed through contracts, permits, or agreements that would be in conflict with wilderness management (some minor permitted uses may still be allowed)
<b>Ratings</b>
High = areas having evidence of and high priority need for treatment in the category addressed.
Moderate = areas having a need for treatment in the category addressed.
Low = areas having no to little need of treatment or management addressed.

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Windy Mountain 02039	Pat O'Hara 02040	Sulphur Creek 02041	Clarks Fork 02042	Sunlight 02043	Trout Creek 02044	Wapiti Valley North 02045
1. Areas that are of high value for water yield or on-site storage where installation and maintenance of improvements may be required.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
2. Areas needing management for wildlife or aquatic animals that might conflict with wilderness management.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
3. Areas needing active aquatic restoration activities.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
4. Areas needing active vegetative restoration activity due to specific species survival, or identifiable fuels reduction activity to reduce the risk of wildfire, or known areas of severe insect infestation(s) that will lead to high tree mortality.	mod	high	high	high	mod	high	mod

## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Windy Mountain 02039	Pat O'Hara 02040	Sulphur Creek 02041	Clarks Fork 02042	Sunlight 02043	Trout Creek 02044	Wapiti Valley North 02045
5. Oil and gas potential	low	low	low	low	low	mod	mod/low
6. Areas having such unique characteristics or natural phenomena that public access should be developed to facilitate public use and enjoyment including winter sports sites.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
7. Lands committed through contracts, permits, or agreements that would be in conflict with wilderness management (some minor permitted uses may still be allowed).	low	low	mod	mod	mod	low	high
Number of high ratings	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Number of moderate ratings	1	0	1	1	2	1	2
Number of low ratings	6	6	5	5	5	5	4
Availability rating <sup>1</sup>	high	high	high	high	high	high	moderate

<sup>1</sup> The availability rating for an area for proposed wilderness designation will be the opposite of the rating for other resource requirements. For example, a rating of high means a low rating for wilderness designation.

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Rattlesnake 02046	Wapiti Valley South 02048	South Fork 02049	Carter Mountain 02050	Franc's Peak 02051	Wood River 02052	Castle Rock 02053
1. Areas that are of high value for water yield or on-site storage where installation and maintenance of improvements may be required.	low	low	low	low	low	mod	mod
2. Areas needing management for wildlife or aquatic animals that might conflict with wilderness management.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
3. Areas needing active aquatic restoration activities.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
4. Areas needing active vegetative restoration activity due to specific species survival, or identifiable fuels reduction activity to reduce the risk of wildfire, or known areas of severe insect infestation(s) that will lead to high tree mortality.	high	high	high	mod	high	high	low
5. Oil and gas potential	mod	mod/low	high/mod	high	high	high	high

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Rattlesnake 02046	Wapiti Valley South 02048	South Fork 02049	Carter Mountain 02050	Franc's Peak 02051	Wood River 02052	Castle Rock 02053
6. Areas having such unique characteristics or natural phenomena that public access should be developed to facilitate public use and enjoyment including winter sports sites.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
7. Lands committed through contracts, permits, or agreements that would be in conflict with wilderness management (some minor permitted uses may still be allowed).	low	low/high	low/high	low	low	low	low
Number of high ratings	1	2	1	1	2	2	1
Number of moderate ratings	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Number of low ratings	5	4	5	5	5	4	5
Availability rating <sup>2</sup>	high	moderate	low	high	moderate	moderate	high

<sup>2</sup> The availability rating for an area for proposed wilderness designation will be the opposite of the rating for other resource requirements. For example, a rating of high means a low rating for wilderness designation.

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Telephone Draw 02054	Carson Lake 02055	East Dunoir 02056	South Dunoir 02057	Dunoir 02058	West Dunoir 02059	Sheridan Pass 02060
1. Areas that are of high value for water yield or on-site storage where installation and maintenance of improvements may be required.	mod	low	low	low	low	low	low
2. Areas needing management for wildlife or aquatic animals that might conflict with wilderness management.	mod	low	low	low	low	low	low
3. Areas needing active aquatic restoration activities.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
4. Areas needing active vegetative restoration activity due to specific species survival, or identifiable fuels reduction activity to reduce the risk of wildfire, or known areas of severe insect infestation(s) that will lead to high tree mortality.	mod	mod	high	mod	mod	high	high
5. Oil and gas potential	high	high	high	low	high	high	high



Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Telephone Draw 02054	Carson Lake 02055	East Dunoir 02056	South Dunoir 02057	Dunoir 02058	West Dunoir 02059	Sheridan Pass 02060
6. Areas having such unique characteristics or natural phenomena that public access should be developed to facilitate public use and enjoyment including winter sports sites.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
7. Lands committed through contracts, permits, or agreements that would be in conflict with wilderness management (some minor permitted uses may still be allowed).	low	low	low	low	low	low	mod
Number of high ratings	1	1	2	0	1	2	2
Number of moderate ratings	3	1	0	1	1	0	1
Number of low ratings	3	5	5	5	5	5	4
Availability rating <sup>3</sup>	moderate	high	moderate	high	high	moderate	moderate

<sup>3</sup> The availability rating for an area for proposed wilderness designation will be the opposite of the rating for other resource requirements. For example, a rating of high means a low rating for wilderness designation.

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Benchmark 02061	Salt Creek 02062	Little Popo Agie 02064	Canyon Creek 02065	Pass Creek 02066	Middle Fork 02901	Warm Spring Creek 02902
1. Areas that are of high value for water yield or on-site storage where installation and maintenance of improvements may be required.	low	low	mod	mod	mod	mod	low
2. Areas needing management for wildlife or aquatic animals that might conflict with wilderness management.	mod	low	low	low	low	low	low
3. Areas needing active aquatic restoration activities.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
4. Areas needing active vegetative restoration activity due to specific species survival, or identifiable fuels reduction activity to reduce the risk of wildfire, or known areas of severe insect infestation(s) that will lead to high tree mortality.	mod	mod	mod	mod	low	mod	low
5. Oil and gas potential	high	high	low	low (no potential)	low (no potential)	low (no potential)	high

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Benchmark 02061	Salt Creek 02062	Little Popo Agie 02064	Canyon Creek 02065	Pass Creek 02066	Middle Fork 02901	Warm Spring Creek 02902
6. Areas having such unique characteristics or natural phenomena that public access should be developed to facilitate public use and enjoyment including winter sports sites.	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
7. Lands committed through contracts, permits, or agreements that would be in conflict with wilderness management (some minor permitted uses may still be allowed).	mod	mod	low	mod	low	mod	mod
Number of high ratings	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Number of moderate ratings	3	2	2	3	1	3	1
Number of low ratings	3	4	5	4	6	4	5
Availability rating <sup>4</sup>	moderate	moderate	high	moderate	high	moderate	high

<sup>4</sup> The availability rating for an area for proposed wilderness designation will be the opposite of the rating for other resource requirements. For example, a rating of high means a low rating for wilderness designation.

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Togwotee Pass 02903	Deep Lake 02911	North Boundary 02913	Reef 02914	High Lakes NF915	High Lakes addition NF915a
1. Areas that are of high value for water yield or on-site storage where installation and maintenance of improvements may be required.	mod	low	low	low	low	low
2. Areas needing management for wildlife or aquatic animals that might conflict with wilderness management.	low	low	low	low	low	low
3. Areas needing active aquatic restoration activities.	low	low	low	low	low	low
4. Areas needing active vegetative restoration activity due to specific species survival, or identifiable fuels reduction activity to reduce the risk of wildfire, or known areas of severe insect infestation(s) that will lead to high tree mortality.	mod	low	mod	low	low	low
5. Oil and gas potential	high	low (no potential)	low (withdrawn)	low (no potential)	low (withdrawn)	low (withdrawn)

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 4. Details of the availability assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Togwotee Pass 02903	Deep Lake 02911	North Boundary 02913	Reef 02914	High Lakes NF915	High Lakes addition NF915a
6. Areas having such unique characteristics or natural phenomena that public access should be developed to facilitate public use and enjoyment including winter sports sites.	low	low	low	low	low	low
7. Lands committed through contracts, permits, or agreements that would be in conflict with wilderness management (some minor permitted uses may still be allowed).	low	low	low	low	low	low
Number of high ratings	1	0	0	0	0	0
Number of moderate ratings	2	0	1	0	0	0
Number of low ratings	4	7	6	7	7	7
Availability rating <sup>5</sup>	moderate	high	high	high	high	high

<sup>5</sup> The availability rating for an area for potential wilderness designation will be the opposite of the rating for other resource requirements. For example, a rating of high means a low rating for wilderness designation.

## Need<sup>6</sup>

After evaluating an area's capability for providing wilderness characteristics and availability for wilderness designation, the last step of the evaluation process is to determine if the area is needed as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Forest Service Handbook (FSH 1909.12 72.3) directs that the need for an area to be designated as wilderness is determined through an analysis of the degree to which it contributes to the overall National Wilderness Preservation System. It goes on to say, "Demonstrate this need through the public involvement process, including public input to the evaluation report. Deal with the 'need' on a regional basis and evaluate such factors as the geographic distribution of areas and representations of landforms and ecosystems."

This section provides an assessment of factors that can be used to assess the "need" for additional wilderness designation. A summary of the assessment of those factors is included next. Further details discussion on the factors follows the summary.

## Summary of Need analysis

The following factors are addressed in the need assessment below:

1. Public input
2. Regional distribution of wilderness and visitor pressure on existing wilderness
3. Availability of other lands for unconfined recreation
4. Providing refuge for wildlife species and providing representation of landforms

Factors of regional distribution, visitor pressure, and other lands providing unconfined recreation all show a low need for additional wilderness. Based upon public input, there is no consensus, but there is a segment of the public that feels additional wilderness is needed. The assessment of the 4<sup>th</sup> factor identifies 14 areas that indicate a high need for wilderness areas that have habitat for key wildlife species and provide representative landforms. To some degree, this need is already met by existing designated wilderness. How much more representation of these items is needed is a subjective call and the rating analysis does not try to make that call. No overall assessment for need was made by trying to aggregate these factors together into one rating. Such a rating would be totally dependent upon how the factors were combined and weighted. The individual elements will be used by the decision maker in coming to a final decision.

## Assessment of individual Need factors

### Public input on the need for additional wilderness

Management of 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule lands and other undeveloped lands are one of the highest areas of public concern in the revision process.

<sup>6</sup> The portion of the need assessment displayed in Table 7 was updated between draft and final. One typo was found that changed Wood River from a moderate need to a high need. The analysis for question 4 on ecoregions was verified and a number of errors were fixed. The fixes affected the overall rating for two areas. Carter Mountain went from a moderate to a low need and south Dunoir went from a high to a moderate need.

A random public survey commissioned by the State of Wyoming queried residents from the four-county area around the Shoshone on their desire for additional wilderness designation on the Forest. Respondents to the survey were asked what percentage of existing roadless areas they would like to see recommended to Congress for additional wilderness. Table 5 displays the survey results.<sup>7</sup>

Table 5. Percentage of survey respondents wanting additional wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Number of areas recommended for wilderness	Percent of respondents
None of the roadless areas	40
Some of the roadless areas	24
All of the roadless areas	21
Don't know	15

The mix of opinions reflects the range of comments received throughout the revision process and on the DEIS and this evaluation. A segment of the public, including the majority of the local government cooperators, generally does not support additional wilderness designation because it limits the types of recreational uses and resource management options that can occur in the areas; they believe there are enough designated wilderness areas on the Shoshone. Another segment of the public generally supports additional wilderness designation because it is the best way to ensure long-term protection of the areas. Between these positions are persons who would like to see a select number of areas managed as wilderness. From public meetings, emails, and letters, there is no clear consensus from the public on whether additional designated wilderness is needed on the Forest.

### Regional distribution of wilderness

One need factor that is not addressed by individual area is the regional distribution and availability of wilderness. There are 1,364,000 acres of designated wilderness on the Shoshone, representing 55 percent of the total Forest acres.

The Shoshone is one of six national forests and two national parks that comprise the Greater Yellowstone Area.<sup>8</sup> The total acreage on the six national forests is 12,000,000 acres, with 4,000,000 acres of designated wilderness. National park lands total 2,000,000 acres. On the east side of Yellowstone National Park, the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests and the Beartooth Ranger District of the Custer National Forest consist of nearly 50 percent designated wilderness. The Shoshone and its wilderness areas contribute to one of the largest expanses of contiguous wilderness in the lower 48 states.

A connected evaluation factor is whether present visitor pressure and the associated trend of that pressure is at a level that is affecting or will affect currently designated wilderness. Given the amount of wilderness in the geographic area and the generally low population the impact of visitor pressure on existing wilderness is not currently an issue, nor is it anticipated that it will become an issue.

Based on the factors of regional distribution and availability of wilderness and the impact of visitor pressure, the need for additional wilderness on the Shoshone is low.

<sup>7</sup> The survey results were published in Report: Study of Preferences and Values on the Shoshone National Forest and are available from the Shoshone National Forest Supervisor's Office in Cody and on the Forest's Web site.

<sup>8</sup> The six national forests in the Greater Yellowstone Area are the Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Bridger-Teton, Caribou-Targhee, Custer, Gallatin, and Shoshone. The two national parks are Yellowstone and Grand Teton.

### Other lands that provide unconfined recreation

One consideration on the need for additional wilderness is whether there are other non-wilderness lands on the Shoshone that are available to provide opportunities for unconfined outdoor recreation experiences. There are over 745,000 acres of forest being considered in this wilderness evaluation. The vast majority of that land is also classified as inventoried roadless areas. That portion is covered by the 2001 Roadless Conservation Rule has strict limits on the type of management activities that can be conducted. In the alternatives being considered in the plan revision, the most development-oriented alternative manages one-third of the wilderness evaluation areas under back country non-motorized management prescriptions. This prescription provides most of the same opportunities for unconfined recreation that designated wilderness does. The proposed action manages half of the wilderness evaluation area under this prescription. Based upon the factor of whether there are non-wilderness lands available to provide opportunities for unconfined outdoor recreation experiences, the need for additional wilderness on the Shoshone is low.

### Need of refuge for wildlife species and inclusion of ecoregions in designated wilderness

To assess the factors related to providing refuge for wildlife species and inclusion of landforms, the interdisciplinary team rated five criteria and created a composite score for need. Additional discussion on the scoring is included below. For these factors, 14 areas were identified as having a high need. It is important to realize that for the wildlife portion of the composite score that existing designated wilderness already provides lands that meet some of that need. The landform portion of the composite score does indicate that some of the areas include ecosystem subsections that are not in currently designated wilderness. Five areas rate high for that criterion. For most of those areas, the actual acreage of the unrepresented landform is less than 3,000 acres. If those areas are recommended, care should be taken to review landform information in identifying a final boundary.

Shoshone National Forest resource specialists in fisheries, plants, wildlife, and soils rated each area by answering questions, shown in table 6.<sup>9</sup> An overall rating was applied for each area, based on the following criteria:

- ◆ High overall rating if three or more questions were rated high, or two questions were rated high and at least two of the remaining three questions were rated moderate
- ◆ Moderate overall rating if two questions were rated high and not more than one of the remaining three questions was rated moderate, or one question was rated high and at least one of the remaining four was rated moderate, or no question was rated high but two or more were rated moderate
- ◆ Low overall rating if four of the questions rated low or no question was rated high and no more than two were rated moderate

Details of the need assessment are shown in table 7.

<sup>9</sup> One criterion for assessing need that is commonly used in analyses is the number of wilderness acres near population centers. This criterion was not used for the Shoshone's analysis because large acres of wilderness are distributed across the Forest; these acres provide wilderness opportunities to population centers.



## Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

## Shoshone National Forest

Table 6. Need criteria

Questions	High	Moderate	Low
1. Are Yellowstone cutthroat trout present?	High genetic purity Yellowstone cutthroat present	Yellowstone cutthroat trout present	Yellowstone cutthroat trout not present
2. Are species of concern or species of interest present?	Species of concern present	Species of interest present	Neither species of concern nor interest present
3. Is the area adjacent to existing wilderness?	Adjacent to existing wilderness boundary	Separated from wilderness boundary by a corridor	Not applicable
4. Are ecoregion <sup>10</sup> subsections represented in wilderness?	Ecoregion subsections represented by not more than 10,000 acres	Ecoregion subsections represented by 10,001 to 100,000 acres	Ecoregion subsections represented by more than 100,000 acres
5. Does the grizzly bear primary conservation area or a lynx analysis unit occur in the area?	Area contains at least 100 acres of grizzly bear primary conservation area and lynx analysis unit	Area contains at least 100 acres of grizzly bear primary conservation area or lynx analysis unit	Less than 100 acres or no grizzly bear primary conservation area or lynx analysis unit

<sup>10</sup> An ecoregion is a classification and mapping system for stratifying the earth into progressively smaller areas of increasingly uniform ecological potentials. Ecological types are classified and ecological units are mapped based on associations of those factors that directly affect or indirectly express energy, moisture, and nutrient gradients, which regulate the structure and function of ecosystems. These factors include climate, physiography, water, soils, air, hydrology, and potential natural communities.

Table 7. Details of the need assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Windy Mountain 02039	Pat O'Hara 02040	Sulphur Creek 02041	Clarks Fork 02042	Sunlight 02043	Trout Creek 02044	Wapiti Valley North 02045
1. Are Yellowstone cutthroat trout present?	low	low	low	low	low	low	mod
2. Are species of concern or species of interest present?	high	high	high	mod	high	high	high
3. Is the area adjacent to existing wilderness?	high	high	high	low	high	high	high
4. Are ecoregion subsections represented in wilderness?	mod	mod	mod	mod	low	high	low
5. Does the grizzly bear primary conservation area or a lynx analysis unit occur in the area?	high	low	high	high	high	mod	high
Need rating	high	moderate	high	moderate	high	high	high
Criteria	Rattlesnake 02046	Wapiti Valley South 02048	South Fork 02049	Carter Mountain 02050	Franc's Peak 02051	Wood River 02052	Castle Rock 02053
1. Are Yellowstone cutthroat trout present?	low	mod	high	low	high	high	high
2. Are species of concern or species of interest present?	high	high	high	low	high	high	mod
3. Is the area adjacent to existing wilderness?	high	high	high	low	high	high	high
4. Are ecoregion subsections represented in wilderness?	mod	high	high	low	low	low	low
5. Does the grizzly bear primary conservation area or a lynx analysis unit occur in the area?	low	high	high	mod	mod	mod	mod
Need rating	moderate	high	high	moderate	high	high	moderate

Evaluation of Areas for Potential Wilderness

Shoshone National Forest

Table 7. Details of the need assessment for areas being evaluated for potential wilderness on the Shoshone National Forest

Criteria	Telephone Draw 02054	Carson Lake 02055	East Dunoir 02056	South Dunoir 02057	Dunoir 02058	West Dunoir 02059	Sheridan Pass 02060
1. Are Yellowstone cutthroat trout present?	high	low	low	low	low	low	low
2. Are species of concern or species of interest present?	mod	high	mod	high	high	mod	mod
3. Is the area adjacent to existing wilderness?	high	high	high	low	high	low	low
4. Are ecoregion subsections represented in wilderness?	low	low	Low	low	low	low	low
5. Does the grizzly bear primary conservation area or a lynx analysis unit occur in the area?	mod	mod	high	high	high	high	mod
Need rating	high	moderate	moderate	high	high	moderate	moderate
Criteria	Benchmark 02061	Salt Creek 02062	Little Popo Agle 02064	Canyon Creek 02065	Pass Creek 02066	Middle Fork 02901	Warm Spring Creek 02902
1. Are Yellowstone cutthroat trout present?	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
2. Are species of concern or species of interest present?	mod	mod	high	mod	mod	mod	mod
3. Is the area adjacent to existing wilderness?	high	low	low	low	low	high	high
4. Are ecoregion subsections represented in wilderness?	mod	high	mod	mod	mod	mod	high
5. Does the grizzly bear primary conservation area or a lynx analysis unit occur in the area?	mod	mod	low	low	low	low	mod
Need rating	moderate	moderate	moderate	low	moderate	moderate	high

## Attachment A – Summary of assessments

**Attachment A – Summary of assessments**

Area name	Capability	Availability	Need
Windy Mountain 02039	3 high 12 moderate 2 low	0 high 1 moderate 6 low	3 high 1 moderate 1 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating high
Pat O'Hara 02040	4 high 12 moderate 1 low	1 high 0 moderate 6 low	2 high 0 moderate 2 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating moderate
Sulphur Creek 02041	6 high 10 moderate 1 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	3 high 1 moderate 1 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating high
Clarks Fork 02042	10 high 7 moderate 0 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	1 high 2 moderate 2 low
	capability rating high	availability rating high	need rating moderate
Sunlight 02043	3 high 11 moderate 3 low	0 high 2 moderate 5 low	3 high 0 moderate 2 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating high
Trout Creek 02044	12 high 5 moderate 0 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	3 high 1 moderate 1 low
	capability rating high	availability rating high	need rating high
Wapiti Valley North 02045	9 high 7 moderate 1 low	1 high 2 moderate 4 low	3 high 1 moderate 1 low
	capability rating high	availability rating moderate	need rating high
Rattlesnake 02046	6 high 4 moderate 7 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	2 high 1 moderate 2 low
	capability rating low	availability rating high	need rating moderate
Wapiti Valley South 02048	12 high 5 moderate 0 low	2 high 1 moderate 4 low	4 high 1 moderate 0 low
	capability rating high	availability rating moderate	need rating high
South Fork 02049	5 high 12 moderate 0 low	3 high 0 moderate 4 low	5 High 0 moderate 0 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating low	need rating high
Carter Mountain 02050	2 high 8 moderate 7 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	0 high 1 moderate 4 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating low

## Attachment A – Summary of assessments

Area name	Capability	Availability	Need
Franc's Peak 02051	14 high 2 moderate 1 low	2 high 0 moderate 5 low	3 high 1 moderate 1 low
	capability rating high	availability rating moderate	need rating high
Wood River 02052	10 high 7 moderate 0 low	2 high 1 moderate 4 low	3 high 1 moderate 1 low
	capability rating high	availability rating moderate	need rating high
Castle Rock 02053	5 high 9 moderate 3 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	2 high 2 moderate 1 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating moderate
Telephone Draw 02054	6 high 11 moderate 0 low	1 high 3 moderate 3 low	2 high 2 moderate 1 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating high
Carson Lake 02055	4 high 8 moderate 3 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	2 high 1 moderate 2 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating moderate
East Dunoir 02056	4 high 11 moderate 2 low	2 high 0 moderate 5 low	2 high 1 moderate 2 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating moderate
South Dunoir 02057	4 high 9 moderate 4 low	0 high 1 moderate 6 low	2 high 0 moderate 3 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating moderate
Dunoir 02058	9 high 8 moderate 0 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	3 high 0 moderate 2 low
	capability rating high	availability rating high	need rating high
West Dunoir 02059	3 high 11 moderate 3 low	2 high 0 moderate 5 low	1 high 1 moderate 3 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating moderate
Sheridan Pass 02060	3 high 12 moderate 2 low	2 high 1 moderate 4 low	0 high 2 moderate 3 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating moderate
Benchmark 02061	3 high 11 moderate 3 low	1 high 3 moderate 3 low	1 high 3 moderate 1 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating moderate

## Attachment A – Summary of assessments

Area name	Capability	Availability	Need
Salt Creek 02062	3 high 9 moderate 5 low	1 high 2 moderate 4 low	1 high 2 moderate 2 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating moderate
Little Popo Agie 02064	6 high 7 moderate 4 low	0 high 2 moderate 5 low	1 high 1 moderate 3 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating moderate
Canyon Creek 02065	6 high 8 moderate 3 low	0 high 3 moderate 4 low	0 high 2 moderate 3 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating low
Pass Creek 02066	4 high 8 moderate 5 low	0 high 1 moderate 6 low	0 high 2 moderate 3 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating moderate
Middle Fork 02901	6 high 11 moderate 0 low	0 high 3 moderate 4 low	1 high 2 moderate 2 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating moderate	need rating moderate
Warm Spring Creek 02902	6 high 6 moderate 5 low	1 high 1 moderate 5 low	2 high 2 moderate 1 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating high
Togwotee Pass 02903	8 high 7 moderate 2 low	1 high 2 moderate 4 low	3 high 0 moderate 2 low
	capability rating high	availability rating moderate	need rating high
Deep Lake 02911	12 high 3 moderate 2 low	0 high 0 moderate 7 low	1 high 2 moderate 2 low
	capability rating high	availability rating high	need rating moderate
North Boundary 02913	3 high 6 moderate 8 low	0 high 1 moderate 6 low	2 high 1 moderate 2 low
	capability rating low	availability rating high	need rating moderate
Reef 02914	2 high 13 moderate 2 low	0 high 0 moderate 7 low	2 high 1 moderate 2 low
	capability rating moderate	availability rating high	need rating moderate
High Lakes NF915	9 high 7 moderate 1 low	0 high 0 moderate 7 low	3 high 1 moderate 1 low
	capability rating high	availability rating high	need rating high
High Lakes addition NF915a	3 high 7 moderate 7 low	0 high 0 moderate 7 low	2 high 1 moderate 2 low
	capability rating low	availability rating high	need rating moderate

## Attachment B – The 2006 inventory of areas for evaluation of wilderness potential

### Mapping results

The 2006 inventory does not include 40,176 acres that are covered under the 2001 Roadless Conservation Area Rule (Rule).<sup>11</sup> These acres mostly occur in smaller blocks, some of which are the result of apparent errors in the original inventory, while others are the result of harvest and road construction that has occurred since 1979.

The 2006 inventory includes 104,962 acres not covered under the Rule. These additional acres include one new area (Salt Creek, 7,171 acres), with the remaining occurring in blocks adjacent to various 2001 Roadless area and wilderness areas. These new blocks are a result of various situations. In some cases, blocks of undeveloped areas were not included in the original mapping used for the Rule. The original inventory included many boundaries that were a 0.25 mile or more from roads. Criteria used in the 2006 inventory moved many of those boundaries closer to the roads. In one area, the conversion of private land to National Forest System lands (Kirwin) resulted in a significant block that was included in the 2006 inventory.

In summary, the 2006 inventory identified 751,336 acres for evaluation as potential wilderness. This includes 64,787 acres more than are covered by the Rule. This amounts to 31 percent of the Forest.

### Inventory process

#### Step one—inventory criteria

In step 1 we identified areas on the Forest that met the minimum size requirements and did not contain forest roads<sup>12</sup> (Forest Service Handbook 1909.12, 71.1). The minimum size requirements that applied to the Shoshone are 5,000 acres or less than 5,000 acres if they are contiguous to an existing wilderness area. As part of the process, we buffered all forest roads by 300 feet. This reflects the current direction that allows motorized travel within 300 feet of forest roads for parking or dispersed camping. This buffering did not result in the elimination of any areas, because of the size criteria. The 300-foot criterion was established by Region 2 to maintain consistency between forests in the region.

Step 1 resulted in the identification of 32 areas. This was later changed to 34 areas by splitting some of the original areas.

#### Step two—criteria for including improvements and boundary adjustments

The results of step 1 included some areas of land not properly classified as undeveloped. Some of these lands are configured in a manner that is not characteristic of undeveloped lands, e.g., a narrow section of land between two roads. Other lands have had activities or include infrastructure that eliminates them

<sup>11</sup> The 1979 RARE II inventory was the basis for the areas mapped for the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule. The official designation of areas for the Rule is found in a set of inventoried roadless area maps, contained in Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, dated November 2000.

<sup>12</sup> Forest road – “A road wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving the national Forest System that the Forest service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of National Forest system and the use and development of its resources” (36 CFR 212.1). The Forest Service commonly refers to these as system roads. They are the ones that we identify on our roads atlas and associated database.

## Attachment B – The 2006 inventory of areas for evaluation of wilderness potential

from consideration as potential wilderness. Criteria for determining what types of existing development are allowable in areas are identified in the directive system (Forest Service Handbook 1909.12, 71.11, included below).

In step 2, area boundaries were adjusted to exclude areas of development and to address irregular configurations. The criteria related to area configuration and allowable development requires some amount of interpretation that is subjective. In order to achieve a level of consistency and to document the process, we developed a set of rules (table 8) to apply when making boundary adjustments.

Table 8. Rules for applying criteria

Situation	General rule
<b>Boundary adjustments for improvements</b>	
Road network penetrates the area resulting in fingers of undeveloped land with roads along each side	Based on road density within a watershed (6th level HUB) -If the road density is greater than 1 mile/sq mile, adjust the boundary to identify a portion that is undeveloped. -If the road density is less than 0.5 mile/sq mile, draw the boundary to cherry stem out the road. -If the road density is between 0.5 and 1.0 mile/sq mile, use best judgment to draw boundary.
Utility lines	Draw boundary off the line. Also exclude motorized routes that are required to maintain the utility line.
Areas of development, such as cabins and resorts	Draw boundary back 300 feet from structures. Use existing 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule lines when appropriate.
Evidence of timber harvest	Boundaries were adjusted to exclude past areas of harvest and associated temporary roads and skid trails. Where electronic records existed, those records were used to adjust the boundary. For small isolated areas of harvest that did not have associated skids trails and temporary roads the acres were not excluded. These small areas were generally light treatments that occurred more than 20 years ago. In some areas, district staff identified areas of past treatment that were not included in the electronic records. In that situation, aerial imagery was reviewed and areas with visual evidence of past harvest were delineated from the imagery to adjust the boundaries.
<b>Boundary adjustments for irregular area configuration</b>	
Configuration of area results in a neck or peninsula	Truncate the neck if it is less than 1 mile wide.
Boundary contains a large number of undulations in a short distance or has multiple sharp angles	Smooth boundaries to follow the general lay of the land. Features such as ridge tops, streams, and other topographic features provide good guides. Consider using boundaries that were used for the 2001 Roadless Conservation Area Rule.
Geographic features coincident with the 2001 Roadless Conservation Area Rule boundaries are within the vicinity of the boundary	Adjust boundary to the geographic feature. Examples would be the reef south of Chief Joseph Highway and the base of the Palisades northeast of Rattlesnake Creek.



## From Forest Service Handbook 1909.12

### 71.11 Criteria for including improvements

Potential wilderness areas may qualify for the inventory even though they include the following types of areas or features:

1. Airstrips and heliports.
2. Cultural treatments involving plantations or plantings where the use of mechanical equipment is not evident.
3. Electronic installations, such as cell towers, television, radio, and telephone repeaters, and the like, provided their impact is minimal.
4. Areas with evidence of historic mining (50+ years ago). Do not include areas of significant current mineral activity, including prospecting with mechanical or motorized earthmoving equipment. The inventory may include areas where the only evidence of prospecting is holes that have been drilled without access roads to the site. Inventoried lands that may have potential for wilderness recommendation also may include:
  - a. Areas that otherwise meet inventory criteria if they are covered by mineral leases having a “no surface occupancy” stipulation.
  - b. Areas covered by mineral leases that otherwise meet inventory criteria only if the lessee has not exercised development and occupancy rights. If and when these rights are exercised, remove the area, or portion affected, from the inventory unless it is possible to establish specific occupancy provisions that would maintain the area in a condition suitable for wilderness.
5. National Grasslands and Prairies. National Grasslands and Prairies may have structures or evidence of vegetative manipulation resulting from past management practices. National Grassland and Prairie lands that contain the following features may be inventoried:
  - a. Vegetation type conversions that are reverting to native vegetation with minimal evidence of cultivation.
  - b. Less than 1 mile of interior fence per section.
7. Areas of less than 70-percent Federal ownership, if it is realistic to manage the Federal lands as wilderness, independent of the private land.
8. Minor structural range improvements (FSM 2240.5) such as fences or water troughs. Exclude areas where nonstructural range improvements are readily visible and apparent. Areas with spray or burning projects are permissible if there is little or no evidence of the project.
9. Recreation improvements such as occupancy spots or minor hunting or outfitter camps. As a general rule, do not include developed sites. Areas with minor, easily removable recreation developments may be included.
10. Timber harvest areas where logging and prior road construction are not evident, except as provided in section 71.12 for areas east of the 100th meridian. Examples include those areas containing early logging activities related to historic settlement of the vicinity, areas where stumps and skid trails or roads are substantially unrecognizable, or areas where clearcuts have regenerated to the degree that canopy closure is similar to surrounding uncut areas.
11. Ground-return telephone lines, electric lines, etc., if a right-of-way has not been cleared.

Attachment B – The 2006 inventory of areas for evaluation of wilderness potential

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12. Watershed treatment areas if the use of mechanical equipment is not evident. The inventory may include areas where minor watershed treatment has been accomplished manually, such as small hand-constructed gully plugs.

Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

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## **Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation**

### **Introduction**

These descriptions of the Shoshone National Forest's 2006 inventoried areas, and other information about these areas, were used to evaluate the areas for wilderness potential and will be used for assigning desired conditions to areas not recommended for wilderness.

### **About the descriptions**

Vegetation percentages are shown for the most abundant vegetation types (those 10 percent or more in an area).

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Windy Mountain (02039)**

<b>Acres</b>	35,789
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork
<b>History</b>	Originally 02039 Windy Mountain, 1979 RARE II inventory 31,161 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located in the northern portion of the Shoshone National Forest just north of the Sunlight drainage. Primary access is via State Highway 296 (Chief Joseph Highway) and forest road 101 (Sunlight Road). Trail access is via trails 603 and 604.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The North Absaroka Wilderness forms the western boundary, the Sunlight drainage forms most of the southern boundary, and the eastern and northern boundaries are formed by the Chief Joseph Highway and a few parcels of private land.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain and topography consist of timbered slopes interspersed with openings and some flatter terrain along drainage bottoms. Windy Mountain (elevation 10,200 feet) is located in the middle of the area. Elevation ranges from 6,700 to 10,200 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Windy and White Mountains are the dominant visual features in this area. Tree-covered, mountainous terrain interspersed with openings characterizes the landscape. Large stands of burned timber remain from the 1988 Clover Mist Fire.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Grasslands 45%, Douglas-fir 36%, lodgepole pine 8%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is moderate and includes hiking, camping, horseback riding, and hunting. Trail 604 (Windy Mountain Trail) allows hikers and horseback riders to ascend the mountain and obtain a beautiful view of the Absaroka and Beartooth ranges. All trails in this area are popular with hunters, both on foot and on horseback. The recreation opportunity spectrum for the area is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	The entire Windy Mountain area is within the grizzly bear primary conservation area. About 17,521 acres are considered bighorn sheep winter range and 22,170 acres are elk winter range. The Sunlight wolf pack spends part of the winter in this area. Windy Mountain is within lynx analysis units 3 and 4.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are within this area.
<b>Water</b>	This area has a few small streams.
<b>Minerals</b>	75% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 25% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are four heritage sites in this area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Pat O'Hara (02040)**

<b>Acres</b>	11,786
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork and Wapiti
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02040 Pat O'Hara, 1979 RARE II inventory 10,521 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest road 102 (Pat O'Hara Road) and forest road 401 (Monument Hill Road). There is no trail access.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The Forest boundary forms the eastern boundary of this area. The North Absaroka Wilderness runs along the western boundary and roaded areas border the area on the north and south.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain and topography vary from lower sagebrush and grasslands to a high mountain ridge. The north side of the area consists of Douglas-fir stands at lower elevations with limber pine and spruce at higher elevations. The southern portion of the area contains spruce and fir at the upper and lower elevations with whitebark pine and limber pine at mid elevation. Elevation ranges from 6,000 to 9,000 feet
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature is the long ridge of Pat O'Hara Mountain and Pat O'Hara Peak on the west boundary.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 32%, grasslands 20%, Douglas-fir 18%, limber pine 10%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low due to limited access to the area. The majority of use occurs during elk and deer hunting seasons. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides 4,326 acres of elk winter range. Most of lynx analysis unit 5 is within this area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (spring developments, fences) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Several creeks flow from the north side of Pat O'Hara Mountain. Pat O'Hara Creek flows east in the southern portion of the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	53% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 45% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Sulphur Creek (02041)**

<b>Acres</b>	27,730
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02041 Sulphur Creek, 1979 RARE II inventory 25,184 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located just west of Dead Indian summit on the northern half of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via State Highway 296 (Chief Joseph Highway) and forest road 101 (Sunlight Road). Trails 601 and 602 leading from the Elk Creek trailhead and Sunlight Ranger Station are primary access routes into this portion of the back country.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The Sunlight Creek drainage forms the northern boundary, the southern boundary follows the North Absaroka Wilderness, the Chief Joseph Highway runs along the east end of the area, and Company Creek forms the western boundary.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The area is predominantly forested slopes down to flatter creek bottoms. The forest is mainly lodgepole pine in the lower elevation creek bottoms, mixed stands of Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, spruce/fir and limber pine at mid elevation, and Engelmann spruce at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 6,000 to 9,900 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Tree-covered mountainous terrain interspersed with openings and creek drainages are the dominant landscape. Dead Indian, Trout, and Elkhorn Peaks are landmark peaks located outside the southern boundary of the area.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 43%, grasslands 29%, lodgepole pine 15%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is light to moderate and includes hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. The recreation opportunity spectrum for this area is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	The Sulphur Creek area provides winter habitat for bighorn sheep (4,471 acres) and elk (9,313 acres). This area includes 27,699 acres in the grizzly bear primary conservation area and is almost entirely within lynx analysis unit 4.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of one active allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) occur in this area.
<b>Water</b>	Several streams originate from the ridge at the area's southern boundary and flow into Sunlight Creek. There are a few small lakes.
<b>Minerals</b>	49% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 51% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are eight heritage sites in the unit.
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Clarks Fork (02042)**

<b>Acres</b>	36,451
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02911 South Beartooth Highway, 1979 RARE II inventory 32,964 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located in the northeast portion of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via U.S. Highway 212 (Beartooth Highway) and State Highway 296 (Chief Joseph Highway). Trail access to the southern portion of the area is via trail 628 (Clarks Fork Trail).
<b>Boundaries</b>	The Beartooth Highway forms the northern boundary, the Morrison Jeep Trail runs along the eastern boundary, and the Chief Joseph Highway runs along the southern and western boundaries.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain and topography vary from alpine plateau and rock outcrops to the lower, heavily timbered areas of the Beartooth range. The area consists of open areas of alpine tundra on top of the Beartooth plateau interspersed with stands of conifers. The lower elevations are heavily timbered with Douglas-fir as the primary timber type. Elevation ranges from 6,500 to 9,900 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature in this area is the steep face of the Beartooth Mountains on the southwestern edge of the area and the canyon of the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River, a designated wild river.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 29%, grasslands 20%, lodgepole pine 16%, spruce/fir 13%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is fairly low and includes hiking and camping along trail 628 (Clarks Fork Trail). Most of the area is inaccessible except on foot, off the trail. The recreation opportunity spectrum for the majority of the area is semi-primitive non-motorized with a small portion semi-primitive motorized. There is some cross-country snowmobile use in the area.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides wintering habitat for bighorn sheep (4,471 acres) and elk (9,313 acres). About 30,760 acres of this area are in the grizzly bear primary conservation area and part of this area is within lynx analysis unit 2.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of seven active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	There are several wet areas along the northern boundary of the area. Table and Canyon Creeks are the primary creeks; these creeks flow off the Beartooth range and into the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River. Numerous small creeks are found in the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	12% are legally withdrawn and 4% are administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 65% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, and 19% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are three heritage sites in this area.
<b>Special areas</b>	This area contains the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River (designated wild river), a portion of Sunlight Creek (eligible wild river), and the Bald Ridge potential Research Natural Area.

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Sunlight (02043)**

<b>Acres</b>	15,791
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02041 Sulphur Creek, 02043 Headwaters Sunlight Creek, and 02042 Headwaters Sunlight Creek; 1979 RARE II inventory 7,612 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located at the headwaters of Sunlight Creek in the northern portion of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest road 101 (Sunlight Road). Trail access is via trails 606 and 751.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is almost surrounded by the North Absaroka Wilderness. Company Creek and a private inholding form the unit's eastern boundary.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The majority of the terrain is steep mountain slopes climbing to a high ridge top. The area consists of mostly conifers, with whitebark pine at the higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 7,200 to 11,900 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant features of the area are the high mountain peaks at the boundary.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Alpine 33%, barren 21%, Douglas-fir 13%, spruce/fir 15%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low and includes hiking and horseback riding. Most use occurs on trail 751 that connects the Sunlight drainage to the North Fork drainage and trail 606 leading to Yellowstone National Park. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	All 15,791 acres of this area are in the grizzly bear primary conservation area.
<b>Range</b>	None
<b>Water</b>	The area contains one small stream and the upper reaches of Sunlight Creek.
<b>Minerals</b>	99% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 1% is available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There is one heritage site in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None



## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Trout Creek (02044)**

<b>Acres</b>	39,274
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wapiti
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02044 Trout Creek, 1979 RARE II inventory 37,546 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via Rattlesnake Canyon Road (private) and forest road 405 (Jim Mountain Road). Trail access is via trails 761.5 (Big Creek Trail), 762 (Jim Mountain Trail), 763, and 792.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound by the North Absaroka Wilderness to the north and west, the Forest boundary to the south, and the Rattlesnake drainage to the east.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain consists mostly of low, open grass and sagebrush leading to timbered ridges. A large portion of the area consists of Douglas-fir stands with openings of grass and sagebrush at the lower elevations. At the higher elevations, conifers cover the timbered ridges. Elevation ranges from 6,600 to 12,200 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features are the high peaks of Jim Mountain and Crag and Trout Peaks along the boundary with the North Absaroka Wilderness.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 31%, grasslands 25%, alpine 19%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low due to limited access. The majority of use occurs during hunting seasons. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides 35,981 acres of bighorn sheep winter range and 28,215 acres of elk winter range. About 11,920 acres are in the grizzly bear primary conservation area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of three active allotments and associated developments (spring developments, fences) occur in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Several creeks drain into Trout Creek. Big and Jim Creeks run through the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	85% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 15% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are two heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Wapiti Valley North (02045)**

<b>Acres</b>	20,667
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wapiti
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02045 Wapiti Valley North, 1979 RARE II inventory 18,589 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the north side of the North Fork of the Shoshone River between the drainage and the North Absaroka Wilderness. Primary access is via U.S. Highway 14, 16, 20 (North Fork Highway). Trails access is via trails 786 (Horse Creek Trail), 759 (Clearwater Trail), 764 (Gunbarrel Creek Trail), 790 (Goff Creek Trail), 791 (Libby Creek Trail), 754 (Mormon Creek Trail), 753 (Grinnell Creek Trail), and 751 (Pahsaka Trail).
<b>Boundaries</b>	Bound by the North Absaroka Wilderness to the north, the North Fork Highway to the south, and the Forest boundary to the east and west.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain consists of low, open grass and sagebrush leading to timbered ridges on the eastern end. Timber increases to the west. A large portion of the area consists of openings of grass and sagebrush at the lower elevations and Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine in the western end and at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 5,800 to 9,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features are the numerous rock formations along the southern edge of the area.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 39%, grasslands 36%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is high due to good access via trails and the close proximity of campgrounds and resorts. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides 19,299 acres of bighorn sheep winter range and 17,188 acres of elk winter range. About 9,647 acres are in the grizzly bear primary conservation area. Portions of lynx analysis units 6 and 7 are within this area. Several wolf packs sporadically occupy the area.
<b>Range</b>	None
<b>Water</b>	Numerous creeks drain into the North Fork of the Shoshone River.
<b>Minerals</b>	48% are administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 29% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, and 23% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are four heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	The area contains a portion of the Grizzly Creek potential Research Natural Area.

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Rattlesnake (02046)**

<b>Acres</b>	4,702
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wapiti
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02044 Trout Creek, 1979 RARE II inventory 4,294 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via the Rattlesnake Canyon Road (private). There is no trail access.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound by private land to the south and west, forest road 401.2 on the north, the North Absaroka Wilderness to the northeast, and the Forest boundary on the east.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain consists mainly of low, open grass and sagebrush lands leading to a timbered ridge dominated by rock outcrops and cliffs known as the Palisades. Lower elevations consist of open grass and sagebrush, leading to stands of Douglas-fir and some limber pine. Elevation ranges from 6,800 to 8,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature is the long ridge of Pat O'Hara Mountain and Pat O'Hara Peak at the west boundary.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Grasslands 48%, Douglas-fir 34%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low due to the lack of public access to the area. The majority of use occurs during elk and deer hunting seasons. The recreation opportunity spectrum for the majority of the area is semi-primitive non-motorized with a small portion of semi-primitive motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	Approximately 4,025 acres are elk winter range. A small portion of lynx analysis unit 5 is within this area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of one active allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	There is one small, unnamed creek in the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	39% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 61% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Wapiti Valley South (02048)**

<b>Acres</b>	50,394
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wapiti and Greybull
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02048 Wapiti Valley South, 02047 Sleeping Giant, and 02046 Wapiti Valley East, 1979 RARE II inventory 48,042 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the south side of the North Fork of the Shoshone River drainage between the drainage and the Washakie Wilderness. Primary access is via U.S. Highway 14, 16, 20 (North Fork Highway). Trail access is via trails 765 (Green Creek Trail), 784 (Clocktower Trail), 785 (Pagoda Creek Trail), 760 (Elk Fork Trail), 758 (Blackwater Trail), 757 (Fishhawk Trail), 756 (Kitty Creek Trail), and 755 (Eagle Creek Trail).
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound by the Washakie Wilderness to the south, the North Fork Highway to the north, and the Forest boundary to the east and west.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain consists of low, open grass and sagebrush leading to timbered ridges on the eastern end. Timber increases to the west. A large part of the area consists of openings of grass and sagebrush at the lower elevations and conifers in the western end of the area and at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 5,700 to 11,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features are the numerous rock formations along the southern edge.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 49%, grasslands 24%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is high due to good access via trails and the close proximity of campgrounds and resorts. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides 47,588 acres of bighorn sheep winter range and 30,657 acres of elk winter range. About 18,200 acres are within the grizzly bear primary conservation area. Portions of lynx analysis units 6 and 7 are within this area. Several wolf packs sporadically occupy the area.
<b>Range</b>	None
<b>Water</b>	Numerous creeks flow into the North Fork of the Shoshone River.
<b>Minerals</b>	19% are administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 47% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, and 34% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are four heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	The area contains a portion of the Sheep Mesa potential Research Natural Area.

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**South Fork (02049)**

<b>Acres</b>	66,909
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wapiti
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02049 South Fork and 02050 Piney Pass, 1979 RARE II inventory 58,847 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest, west and east of the South Fork of the Shoshone River. Primary access is via forest road 479 (South Fork Road) and forest road 474 (Carter Mountain Road). Trail access is via trail 768 (Ishawooa Creek Trail) and 780 (Aldrich Creek Trail).
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the west and south by the Washakie Wilderness and to the north and east by the Forest boundary.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain consists of low, open grass and sagebrush leading to timbered ridges. Timber increases to the east. A large part of the area consists of openings of grass and sagebrush at the lower elevations. At the higher elevations, Douglas-fir and some lodgepole and limber pine are found on the south-facing slopes. Spruce and fir occur on the north-facing slopes. Elevation ranges from 6,200 feet to 11,300 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature is the long and high ridge of Carter Mountain.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 31%; grasslands 24%; alpine 20%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is moderate with higher use during hunting seasons. Portions of the area are in recreation opportunity spectrum semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, and roaded natural.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides winter habitat for deer, elk, and bighorn sheep as well as secure habitat for grizzly bears. About 30,470 acres are in the grizzly bear primary conservation area, about 54,050 acres provide bighorn sheep winter range, and 41,663 acres are elk winter range. Several migration routes for deer, elk, and bighorn sheep occur within this area. The entire area is within lynx analysis unit 19. Approximately two miles of streams and creeks are important to the recovery of the Yellowstone cutthroat trout.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of nine active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in this area.
<b>Water</b>	Numerous creeks in the area drain into the South Fork of the Shoshone River.
<b>Minerals</b>	62% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 38% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There is one heritage site in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Carter Mountain (02050)**

<b>Acres</b>	9,930
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wapiti and Greybull
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02049 South Fork, 1979 RARE II inventory 7,590 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest, west and east of the South Fork of the Shoshone River. Primary access is via forest roads 474 (Carter Mountain Road) and 211. There is no trail access
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north, east, and south by the Forest boundary and on the west by the Forest boundary and area 02049.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Terrain consists of low, open grass and sagebrush leading to timbered ridges. A large portion of the area consists of openings of grass and sagebrush at the lower elevations. Conifers are found at the higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 7,700 to 11,300 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature is the long and high ridge of Carter Mountain.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Alpine 41%, spruce/fir 18%, grasslands 15%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is moderate with higher use during the hunting seasons. Portions of the unit are recreation opportunity spectrum semi-primitive motorized, semi-primitive non-motorized, and roaded natural.
<b>Wildlife</b>	About 7,020 acres are within bighorn sheep winter range and 4,242 acres are elk winter range. The area is within lynx analysis unit 19. The Carter Mountain wolf pack occupies some of this area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of one active allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in this area.
<b>Water</b>	There are several creeks and one lake in this area.
<b>Minerals</b>	49% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 51% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There is one heritage site in this area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Franc's Peak (02051)**

<b>Acres</b>	67,968
<b>Ranger district</b>	Greybull
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02052 Franc's Peak, 1979 RARE II inventory 62,592 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest, southwest of Meeteetse, Wyoming. Primary access is via forest roads 290 (Greybull River Road), 200.3 (Wood River Road), and 204 (Timber Creek Road). Trail access is via trails 643 (Jack Creek Trail), 664 (Timber Creek Trail), and 656.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north and east by the Forest boundary, on the west by the Washakie Wilderness, and on the south by the Wood River drainage.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	A large portion of the area consists of open grass and sagebrush. At the higher elevations, spruce is found on the north-facing slopes with scattered areas of lodgepole pine and Douglas-fir. Limber pine is found on many south-facing slopes. Elevation ranges from 7,900 to 12,500 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features in the area are the high peaks at the western boundary, including Franc's Peak (elevation 13,153 feet).
<b>Vegetation</b>	Alpine 41%, grasslands 12%, spruce/fir 11%, barren 11%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low during most of the year with an increase during hunting seasons, especially in the Jack Creek drainage. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area covers 6.4 miles of Yellowstone cutthroat trout rivers and streams. It is almost entirely within lynx analysis unit 20. The area provides 22,928 acres of bighorn sheep winter range and 25,470 acres elk winter range.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of five active allotments and associated developments (spring developments, fences) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Numerous creeks drain into the Wood River.
<b>Minerals</b>	60% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 40% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are 17 heritage sites in this area.
<b>Special areas</b>	The area contains a portion of the eligible wild and scenic Greybull River.

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Wood River (02052)**

<b>Acres</b>	57,011
<b>Ranger district</b>	Greybull
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02052 Wood River, 1979 RARE II inventory 51,820 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest, southwest of Meeteetse, Wyoming. Primary access is via forest roads 200.3 (Wood River Road) and 217 (Gooseberry Road). Trail access is via trails 814 (Wood River Trail), 652 (Cascade Creek Trail), 817 (Middle Fork Wood River Trail), 654 (South Fork Wood River Trail), and 651 (North Fork Owl Creek Trail).
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the south and west by the Washakie Wilderness, on the east by the Forest boundary, and on the north by the Wood River drainage.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the South Fork of the Wood River is lodgepole pine and most of the Middle Fork of the Wood River is Douglas-fir. The higher elevations are predominantly Engelmann spruce with areas of open grass and sagebrush. Elevation ranges from 7,000 to 12,300 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features include the high peaks in the southwestern portion of the area.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 25%, alpine 20%, Douglas-fir 17%, barren 12%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low during most of the year and increases during hunting seasons. The historic mining town of Kirwin attracts visitors to the Wood River drainage at the boundary of the area. The majority of this area is recreation opportunity spectrum semi-primitive non-motorized with a few areas semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides 19,442 acres of elk winter range; a small portion (327 acres) is bighorn sheep winter range. This area provides over 17 miles of rivers and creeks that are important to the recovery of the Yellowstone cutthroat trout. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has mapped a portion of this area as traditional sage grouse habitat.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of five active allotments and associated developments (spring developments, fences) are in this area.
<b>Water</b>	Numerous creeks drain in to the Wood and Big Horn Rivers.
<b>Minerals</b>	61% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 39% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are two heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None



## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Castle Rock (02053)**

<b>Acres</b>	8,206
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02053 Castle Rock, 1979 RARE II inventory 4,529 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern boundary of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest roads 277, 719, and 501. There is no trail access.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north by the Washakie Wilderness and on the east by the Forest boundary and forest road 277. Forest roads 501 and 719 form the western and southern edges of the area.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The majority of the area is a mix of Engelmann spruce, lodgepole pine, and whitebark pine. Elevation ranges from 9,000 to 11,100 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features include Castle Rock and Bear Creek Falls on the northern boundary of the area.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 30%, grasslands 18%, lodgepole pine 14%, whitebark pine 13%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation is low due to limited developed access. Most use occurs on the small portion of trail 816 (East Fork Trail), which provides access to the Washakie Wilderness, and during hunting seasons. The recreation opportunity spectrum classes are semi-primitive non-motorized and semi-primitive motorized. There are no motorized trails or designated snowmobile trails in the area, which is closed to road/trail snowmobile use.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides 920 acres of bighorn sheep winter range.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of one active allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	The area contains a few creeks and a few small lakes.
<b>Minerals</b>	19% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 81% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Telephone Draw (02054)**

<b>Acres</b>	22,147
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02054 Telephone Draw, 1979 RARE II inventory 18,939 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern end of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest, between Bear Basin and Double Cabin. Primary access is via forest roads 556, 503, 501, 1A, and 285. Trail access is via trails 848 (Indian Point Trail) and 815.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north by the Washakie Wilderness and on the east by forest roads 501 and 503. Roads 285, 2H, and 1A form the western edge of the area and the Forest boundary forms the southern edge.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area consists of a mixture of lodgepole pine and Douglas-fir with whitebark pine at the higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 7,800 to 10,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Main features include the rugged canyons of the Wiggins Fork and Bear Creek drainages running along the west side of the area.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 28%, whitebark pine 15%, spruce/fir 14%, lodgepole pine 14%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use in the area is moderate, with most uses occurring on the Indian Point Trail leading to the Washakie Wilderness. Use increases during hunting seasons. The recreation opportunity spectrum class is semi-primitive non-motorized. There are no motorized trails or designated snowmobile trails within this area, and little snowmobile use.
<b>Wildlife</b>	About 5,020 acres are bighorn sheep winter range and 6,120 acres are elk winter range. This area provides nearly 13 miles of creeks important to the recovery of Yellowstone cutthroat trout.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Wiggins Fork Creek and a few small creeks run through the area. There is one small lake.
<b>Minerals</b>	28% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 72% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are two heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	The Wiggins Fork, an eligible wild and scenic river, is in the area.

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Carson Lake (02055)**

<b>Acres</b>	4,741
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02055 Carson Lake, 1979 RARE II inventory 3,843 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern end of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest, north of the Horse Creek area. Primary access is via forest roads 509, 507, and 504. Trail access is via trails 810 (Horse Creek Trail) and 811.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north by the Washakie Wilderness and on the west, south, and east by forest roads.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area consists of Engelmann spruce and whitebark pine with some stands of lodgepole pine. There are some areas of Douglas-fir on the east side of the area. Elevation ranges from 8,000 to 9,700 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Prominent features include Elkhorn Ridge, Carson Lake, Ramshorn Basin, and Deacon Meadows.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 41%, Douglas-fir 14%, whitebark pine 17%, grasslands 14%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use in the area is moderate, with most uses occurring on the Horse Creek Trail, which leads to the Washakie Wilderness. There are no motorized trails in the area and one ungroomed snowmobile trail. Snowmobile use in the area is low. The recreation opportunity spectrum classes are roaded natural and semi-primitive motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	A small portion (83 acres) is within the grizzly bear primary conservation area. Most of this area is within lynx analysis unit 1 and a small portion is within lynx analysis unit 9. There are elk and deer migration routes through this area. Approximately 339 acres are winter range for bighorn sheep.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Horse Creek runs through the area, as well as a few smaller creeks. There are a few small lakes.
<b>Minerals</b>	32% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 68% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**East Dunoir (02056)**

<b>Acres</b>	6,034
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02056 East Dunoir, 1979 RARE II inventory 3,251 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern end of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest, just south of Ramshorn Peak. Primary access is via forest roads 510, 511, and 512.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north by the Washakie Wilderness and area 02058, on the east and south by forest roads, and on the west by the Forest boundary.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The area is timbered with a mix of lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, and whitebark pine. Elevation ranges from 8,400 to 10,500 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The main feature is Ramshorn Peak (elevation 11,600 feet) at the area's northern boundary, and Ramshorn Lakes.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 56%, lodgepole pine 21%, whitebark pine 10%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is moderate. Most uses occur during hunting seasons. There are no motorized trails or snowmobile trails and little snowmobile use in this area. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive motorized and semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area contains 317 acres of bighorn sheep winter range and 1,344 acres are within the grizzly bear primary conservation area. This area is completely within lynx analysis units 11 and 12.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (spring developments, fences) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	There are a few creeks and lakes in the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	15% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 85% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**South Dunoir (02057)**

<b>Acres</b>	3,111
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02057 South Dunoir, 1979 RARE II inventory 2,894 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern end of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest in the southern Dunoir area. There is no road access to the area; primary access is via trails 808, 809, and 835.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north and east by the Dunoir area, on the west by West Dunoir Creek, and on the south by the Forest boundary.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The area is timbered with some limber pine and areas of mixed Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine. Elevation ranges from 8,000 to 9,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The main features are the East Fork of Dunoir Creek and Esmond Park.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 37%, lodgepole pine 26%, grasslands 4%, spruce/fir 13%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low. Most uses occur during hunting seasons. There are no motorized trails and little snowmobile use in the area. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	The entire area is within the grizzly bear primary conservation area and lynx analysis unit 12. Deer and elk migrate through this area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of one active allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	East Dunoir and Esmond Creeks run through the area. Trail Lake is in this area.
<b>Minerals</b>	17% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 83% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Dunoir (02058)**

<b>Acres</b>	28,879
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02058 Dunoir, 1979 RARE II inventory 28,879 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern end of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest in the Dunoir drainage. There is no road access. Primary access is by trails 809, 819, 835, 82, 88, and 807.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north and east by the Washakie Wilderness and on the south and west by the East Dunoir, South Dunoir, and West Dunoir areas.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	A portion of the area is open with grass and sagebrush. The remainder of the area is a mixture of conifers. Elevation ranges from 8,000 to 11,000 feet
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features are Coffin Butte (elevation 11,000 feet) and Dundee Meadows.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Lodgepole pine 29%, whitebark pine 22%, spruce/fir 21%, alpine 10%
<b>Recreation</b>	This is a popular recreation area for those seeking a back country experience and access to wilderness areas. Uses increase during hunting seasons. There are no motorized trails or designated snowmobile trails. Some cross-country snowmobile use and mountain bike use occurs in the area. The recreation opportunity spectrum class is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides 5,796 acres of bighorn sheep winter range and 29,509 acres of grizzly bear primary conservation area. The entire area is within lynx analysis unit 12. There are several deer, elk, and bighorn sheep migration routes in the area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	The West and East Dunoir Creek drainages are in the area, as well as several small lakes.
<b>Minerals</b>	96% are legally withdrawn, 4% are administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There is one heritage site in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	The area contains portions of West Dunoir Creek, an eligible wild and scenic river.

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**West Dunoir (02059)**

<b>Acres</b>	7,115
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02059 West Dunoir, 1979 RARE II inventory 2,443 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern end of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest west of the Dunoir drainage. Primary access is via forest roads 552, 513, and 515. There is trail access to the northern portion of the area via trails 808 and 807.1A.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north by areas 02058, 02903, and 02057 and to the south, east, and west by a series of forest roads.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area is timbered with whitebark pine. There are some scattered stands of conifers. Elevation ranges from 9,000 to 11,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature is Pinnacle Buttes.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 36%, whitebark pine 35%
<b>Recreation</b>	The northern portion of the area is popular for those seeking a back country experience and access to the West Dunoir area. Recreation use is moderate. There are no motorized trails or designated snowmobile trails and very little cross-country snowmobile use. Portions of the area are within recreation opportunity spectrum roaded natural, semi-primitive motorized, and semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	The area provides 794 acres of bighorn sheep winter range. About 4,860 acres are within the grizzly bear primary conservation area. The area is within lynx analysis unit 12.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	The headwaters of several creeks are within this area.
<b>Minerals</b>	16% are administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 17% are available with no surface occupancy, and 67% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Sheridan Pass (02060)**

<b>Acres</b>	11,746
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02060 Sheridan Pass, 1979 RARE II inventory 7,986 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the western boundary of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest. Road access is via forest roads 537, 538, and 540. There is no trail access.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north and east by forest roads and on the west and south by the Forest boundary.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area is timbered with some open areas of grass and sagebrush. The timbered areas are mostly stands of whitebark pine and Engelmann spruce. Many rock areas occur. Elevation ranges from 9,000 to 10,500 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Lava Mountain and Pelham Lake are the main features.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 40%, grasslands 21%, whitebark pine 18%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low due to limited access. Most use occurs on the Sheridan Creek Trail; there are no motorized trails. Two groomed and one ungroomed snowmobile trails are in the area. Snowmobile use occurs in the southern portion. The recreation opportunity spectrum includes semi-primitive non-motorized and semi-primitive motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area is within lynx analysis unit 12. Deer and elk migrate through this area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	A few creeks run through the area. Pelham Lake is the only lake.
<b>Minerals</b>	11% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 89% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are five heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	This area contains a portion of Warm Spring Creek, an eligible wild and scenic river.



## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Benchmark (02061)**

<b>Acres</b>	8,931
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02061 Benchmark, 1979 RARE II inventory 5,280 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the eastern border of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest roads 531, 554, 524, and 961. There is no trail access.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the west by forest road 531, on the south by the Fitzpatrick Wilderness, on the east by the Forest boundary, and on the north by roaded areas.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area is timbered with areas of Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine at lower elevations and Engelmann spruce and whitebark pine at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 9,000 to 10,500 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features are Grandy Reservoir and Windy Mountain.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 35%, whitebark pine 31%, grasslands 13%, lodgepole pine 8%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low due to limited access. Use increases during hunting seasons. There is one motorized trail and one ungroomed snowmobile trail in the area. The recreation opportunity spectrum class is semi-primitive motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	The area contains 601 acres of bighorn sheep winter range and 957 acres of elk winter range. The area is within lynx analysis unit 13.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of one active allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Wildcat Creek and its tributaries run through the north portion of the area. Grandy Reservoir is the only lake.
<b>Minerals</b>	12% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 88% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Salt Creek (02062)**

<b>Acres</b>	7,166
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	New area not covered by the 2001 Roadless Conservation Area Rule
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the western border of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest roads 534 and 543. There is limited trail access via trail 561.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the west and south by the Forest boundary and on the north and east by roaded areas.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The western side of the area consists largely of open grass and sagebrush. The remainder of the area is predominantly Engelmann spruce and whitebark pine with some scattered lodgepole pine. Elevation ranges from 9,000 to 10,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The main feature is Fish Lake Mountain along the western boundary.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Grasslands 36%, spruce/fir 22%, shrub 17%, sagebrush 10%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low. Most use occurs during hunting seasons. The area contains two groomed snowmobile trails and no motorized trails. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	The area is within lynx analysis unit 13.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of two active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Salt Creek and its tributaries run through the southern portion of the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	8% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 92% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Little Popo Agie (02064)**

<b>Acres</b>	10,737
<b>Ranger district</b>	Washakie
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02064 Little Popo Agie, 1979 RARE II inventory 8,060 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the southeastern border of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest roads 352, 361, 364, and 326. Trail access is via motorized trail 907 (Wolf Trail).
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the west and south by forest roads 352 and 361, on the north by forest road 364, and on the east by forest road 326.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The area is timbered with Douglas-fir at the higher elevations and lodgepole pine at the lower elevations. Elevation ranges from 7,000 to 9,200 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features are Little Popo Agie Canyon and Freak Mountain.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 52%, grasslands 17%, lodgepole pine 15%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use in this area is low due to limited access. There are no groomed snowmobile trails and very little snowmobile use. There is one motorized trail. The recreation opportunity spectrum classes are semi-primitive motorized, semi-primitive non-motorized, and roaded natural.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area provides 1,557 acres of elk winter range and 359 acres of bighorn sheep winter range. There are deer and elk migration routes through the area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of three active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	The Little Popo Agie River and several creeks flow through the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	35% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 65% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are nine heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Canyon Creek (02065)**

<b>Acres</b>	8,662
<b>Ranger district</b>	Washakie
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02065 Canyon Creek, 1979 RARE II inventory 7,237 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the southern end of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest roads 352, 354, and 300 (Loop Road). There is no trail access.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the west by the Loop Road, on the south and east by forest roads 352 and 354, and on the north by roaded areas.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area is timbered with lodgepole pine with some Douglas-fir. Whitebark pine stands are scattered throughout the area. Elevation ranges from 8,700 to 9,200 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature is Meyer Lookout in the northern portion of the area.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Lodgepole pine 68%, Douglas-fir 9%, whitebark pine 8%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation is low due to limited access. There are no motorized trails and one groomed snowmobile trail, with very little cross-country snowmobile use. The recreation opportunity spectrum classes are semi-primitive motorized and roaded natural.
<b>Wildlife</b>	Deer and elk migration routes occur in this area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of three active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Several streams run through the area and there are some small lakes at the southern end.
<b>Minerals</b>	17% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 83% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Pass Creek (02066)**

<b>Acres</b>	4,208
<b>Ranger district</b>	Washakie
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02066 Pass Creek, 1979 RARE II inventory 2,991 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located in the southeast corner of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest roads 352, 354, 366, and 367. There is no trail access.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the west and north by forest roads 354 and 367, on the south by forest road 366, and on the east by forest road 326 and private land.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area is timbered with lodgepole pine with some Douglas-fir at higher elevations. Elevation ranges from 7,700 to 9,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The main feature is the Pass Creek drainage.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Lodgepole pine 59%, grasslands 13%, aspen 9%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low due to the lack of trail access. There are no motorized trails or groomed snowmobile trails in the area. Snowmobile use is low. The Recreation Opportunity spectrum class is semi-primitive motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	Several deer and elk migration routes are in the area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of four active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Two creeks are within the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	17% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 83% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are nine heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Middle Fork (02901)**

<b>Acres</b>	59,722
<b>Ranger district</b>	Washakie
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02901 Middle Fork, 1979 RARE II inventory 48,650 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located along the eastern and southern boundary of the Popo Agie Wilderness on the southern end of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest roads 350, 351, 334, 329, 306, and 355. Trail access is via trails 724 (Louis Lake Trail), 910 (Pine Creek Trail), 721 (Christina Lake Trail), 701 (Sheep Bridge Trail), 700 (Middle Fork Trail), 711 (Shoshone Lake Trail), 710 (North Fork Trail), 750, and 716.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the west by the Popo Agie Wilderness and the Bridger-Teton National Forest. It is bound on the north, east, and south by the Forest boundary, other areas, and roaded areas.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area is timbered with lodgepole pine. Several whitebark pine stands are scattered throughout the area. Elevation ranges from 8,000 to 11,100 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features are the granite cliffs and outcrops of the Wind River Mountains, several high peaks within the southwest portion of the area, and Christina and Shoshone Lakes.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Lodgepole pine 56%, whitebark pine 22%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use in the area can be moderate to high and includes hiking, camping, horseback riding, and hunting. The area provides several trails that offer access to the Popo Agie Wilderness. There are two motorized trails in the northern portion. Snowmobiling is allowed within the entire area; most use occurs south of the Middle Fork of the Popo Agie River. There are four groomed snowmobile trails. The recreation opportunity spectrum classes are semi-primitive motorized and semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	Several deer and elk migration routes are within the area, as well as 648 acres of elk winter range. There is an active goshawk nest in this area.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of six active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	The Little Popo Agie River, Middle Fork of the Popo Agie River, and the North Fork of the Popo Agie River flow out of the Wind River Mountains through this area. There are numerous lakes within the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	1% is administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 22% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, and 77% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are two heritage sites within the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	The area contains a portion of the Middle Fork of the Popo Agie River, an eligible wild and scenic river.

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Warm Spring Creek (02902)**

<b>Acres</b>	6,026
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally 02902 Warm Spring Creek, 1979 RARE II inventory 5,545 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the western border of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via forest roads 263, 531, and 2C.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the west and south by the Forest boundary and on the north and east by roaded areas.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area is timbered with Engelmann spruce and whitebark pine with open areas of willow and grass on the west side of the area. Elevation ranges from 9,200 to 11,500 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Features include Union Peak (elevation 11,491 feet) along the southwest boundary and Moon and Union Lakes.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Spruce/fir 41%, forbs 19%, whitebark pine 17%
<b>Recreation</b>	Recreation use is low due to limited access. There are no motorized trails. There are two groomed and one ungroomed snowmobile trails in the area. The recreation opportunity spectrum classes are semi-primitive non-motorized and roaded natural.
<b>Wildlife</b>	The area contains about 162 acres of bighorn sheep winter range. Most of the area is within lynx analysis unit 13.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of one active allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	The South Fork of Warm Springs Creek runs through the area. Union and Moon Lakes are in the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	14% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, 86% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Togwotee Pass (02903)**

<b>Acres</b>	6,888
<b>Ranger district</b>	Wind River
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02903 Togwotee Pass, 1979 RARE II inventory 6,802 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern end of the southern portion of the Shoshone National Forest in the Brooks Lake area. Road access is via forest roads 515 and 516. Primary trail access is via trails 823, 823.1A, and 823.1B.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The area is bound on the north by the Washakie Wilderness, on the west and south by forest roads, and on the east by area 02058.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the area is timbered with whitebark pine and a few stands of Engelmann spruce. Elevation ranges from 9,000 to 10,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	Dominant features are Sublette Peak and numerous back country lakes.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Whitebark pine 56%, spruce/fir 16%, alpine 7%
<b>Recreation</b>	This area is popular for those seeking a back country experience and access to back country lakes and the Teton Wilderness. Trail 823 is part of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail and is a popular hiking trail. There are no motorized trails or designated snowmobile trails. Snowmobiling and cross-country skiing are popular uses. The recreation opportunity spectrum is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	This area is within lynx analysis unit 12. Approximately 193 acres are bighorn sheep winter range. About 6,460 acres are within the grizzly bear primary conservation area.
<b>Range</b>	There is one active allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Brooks Lake Creek runs through the area. There are several lakes.
<b>Minerals</b>	85% are administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 3% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, and 12% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are eight heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None



## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Deep Lake (02911)**

<b>Acres</b>	59,206
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork
<b>History</b>	Originally part of 02911 South Beartooth Highway, 1979 RARE II inventory 56,547 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northeast boundary of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via U.S. Highway 212 (Beartooth Highway). Trail access is via trails 613, 623, 629, 613.1, 613.1A, 613.1B, 613.1C, and 613.1D.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The Wyoming-Montana state line and the Beartooth Highway form the northern boundary, forest road 120 (Morrison Jeep Trail) runs along the western boundary, the Clarks Fork River runs along the southern boundary, and the eastern boundary follows the old RARE II boundary and private land.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The terrain and topography vary from alpine plateau and lakes, rock outcrops, and the timbered face of the Beartooth range. The area consists of open alpine tundra on the top of the Beartooth plateau interspersed with stands of conifers. The face of the Beartooth plateau is more heavily timbered with a mix of timber types and several steep drainages. Elevation ranges from 5,000 to 10,500 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant features in this area are alpine lakes and rock outcroppings.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Alpine 29%, grasslands 18%, spruce/fir 15%, Douglas-fir 14%, whitebark pine 11%
<b>Recreation</b>	There are several trails within the area and primitive recreation opportunities abound. The majority of recreation use is low and includes hiking, camping, fishing, and hunting. The Beartooth Loop National Recreation Trail and the Deep Lake Trail are popular trails for hikers and backpackers who want to experience the remote high country of the Beartooth Mountains. The Morrison Jeep Trail runs along the western boundary of the unit and although it does not fall within the area, it is a popular route and allows recreationists to access the area. The recreation opportunity spectrum for this area is semi-primitive non-motorized. There is some cross-country snowmobile use within the unit.
<b>Wildlife</b>	Approximately 6,015 acres of the Deep Lake area are bighorn sheep winter range and 9,296 acres are within the grizzly bear primary conservation area. Most of this area provides habitat for rocky mountain goats. There are several migration corridors for deer, elk, and bighorn sheep. Part of this area is sage grouse habitat.
<b>Range</b>	Portions of four active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments) are in the area.
<b>Water</b>	The area is covered with numerous lakes. Little Rock, Bennett, and Line Creeks are the principal perennial streams in the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	1% is legally withdrawn and 4% are administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 53% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, and 42% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	There are four heritage sites in the area.
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**North Boundary (02913)**

<b>Acres</b>	182
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork
<b>History</b>	Originally part of North Boundary area 02913, 1979 RARE II inventory 182 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access via forest road 160.2. There is no trail access.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The Wyoming-Montana state line forms the northern boundary and forest road 160.2 forms the west, south, and east boundaries.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The topography includes an alpine drainage below an alpine plateau and lakes. The unit consists of mostly open alpine tundra with areas of conifers scattered throughout. The elevation ranges from 9,000 to 10,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature is Ladula Creek.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Whitebark pine 55%, grasslands 26%, barren 19%
<b>Recreation</b>	The majority of recreation use is moderate and involves hiking, camping, fishing, and hunting. The recreation opportunity spectrum for the area is primitive.
<b>Wildlife</b>	Almost all this area is bighorn sheep winter range (172 acres).
<b>Range</b>	There is a portion of one active range allotment and associated developments (fences, spring developments) in the area.
<b>Water</b>	Ladula Creek is the only stream in the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	100% are legally withdrawn from oil and gas leasing
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**Reef (02914)**

<b>Acres</b>	16,915
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork
<b>History</b>	Originally 02914 Reef, 1979 RARE II inventory 15,807 acres
<b>Location and access</b>	Located in the northwest portion of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via U.S. Highway 212 (Beartooth Highway), State Highway 296 (Chief Joseph Highway), and forest road 117 (Squaw Creek Road). Trail access is via trails 610 and 611.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The unit is bound by the Beartooth and Chief Joseph Highways on one side and the North Absaroka Wilderness on the other.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	Most of the topography is steep. Elevation ranges from 7,000 to 10,000 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant feature is the cliff face, which forms a rim along a large portion of the slope within this area.
<b>Vegetation</b>	Douglas-fir 25%, lodgepole pine 22%, barren 18%, grasslands 15%
<b>Recreation</b>	The amount of recreation use is low and includes hiking and camping along trails 610 and 611. The recreation opportunity spectrum for this area is semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Wildlife</b>	Approximately 4,495 acres of the Reef area are within bighorn sheep winter range and 1,987 acres provide winter range for elk. There are several migration corridors for deer, elk, and bighorn sheep. Part of the area is sage grouse habitat, and all acres are in the grizzly bear primary conservation area.
<b>Range</b>	There are portions of two active allotments and associated developments (fences, spring developments).
<b>Water</b>	Pilot, One Mile, Squaw, and North Crandall Creeks are the primary creeks.
<b>Minerals</b>	1% is administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 92% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, and 7% are available with other stipulations
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	None

## Attachment C – Description of areas identified for potential wilderness evaluation

**High Lakes Wilderness Study Area and High Lakes addition  
(Areas NF915 and NF915a)**

<b>Acres</b>	High Lakes Wilderness Study Area (WSA) 15,224 High Lakes addition 5,402
<b>Ranger district</b>	Clarks Fork
<b>History</b>	Originally part of NF915 Beartooth proposed wilderness, 1979 RARE II inventory 15,224 acres (High Lakes WSA) and 0 acres (High Lakes addition)
<b>Location and access</b>	Located on the northern boundary of the Shoshone National Forest. Primary access is via U.S. Highway 212 (Beartooth Highway). Trail access is via trails 619, 620, and 625.
<b>Boundaries</b>	The Wyoming-Montana state line forms most of the northern boundary, the Beartooth Highway runs along the south and southeast boundaries, and the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness runs along the western boundary.
<b>Physical and biological description</b>	The terrain and topography vary from alpine plateau and lakes to granite peaks and walls. Mostly open, alpine tundra with areas of conifers scattered throughout. Elevation ranges from 9,000 to 10,500 feet.
<b>Features</b>	The dominant features in this area are the Beartooth Butte, numerous high mountain lakes, and granite peaks.
<b>Vegetation</b>	High Lakes WSA alpine 29%, grasslands 20%, barren 18% High Lakes addition grasslands 37%, spruce/fir 19%, whitebark pine 13%
<b>Recreation</b>	There are several trails within the area and primitive recreation opportunities abound. The majority of recreation use is moderate and involves hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, and snowmobiling. Trails 619 and 621 leading from Beartooth Lake Campground and trail 620 leading from Island Lake Campground are popular routes for hikers and backpackers who want to experience the remote high country of the Beartooth Mountains. There is some cross-country snowmobile use within the units.
<b>Wildlife</b>	A large portion of this area is within lynx analysis unit 1. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has delineated part of this area as sage grouse habitat. The Beartooth wolf pack sporadically occupies this area. Approximately 2,137 acres are bighorn sheep winter range and 14,364 acres are in the grizzly bear primary conservation area.
<b>Range</b>	There is a portion of one active allotment and associated developments (spring developments, fences) in the area.
<b>Water</b>	The area is covered with numerous lakes. Beartooth Creek is the only significant perennial stream in the area.
<b>Minerals</b>	100% of the High Lakes WSA are legally withdrawn from oil and gas leasing. In the High Lakes addition, 43% are administratively withdrawn from oil and gas leasing, 20% are available for oil and gas leasing with no surface occupancy, and 37% are available with other stipulations.
<b>Heritage resources</b>	None
<b>Special areas</b>	The High Lakes Wilderness Study Area