

# **BONNER COUNTY, IDAHO**

---

## **Inventoried Roadless Area Recommendations**

**A summary of Bonner County Inventoried Roadless Areas,  
public involvement and comments, and  
recommendations of the Board of County Commissioners**



Version: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006

BONNER COUNTY, IDAHO

# Inventoried Roadless Area Recommendations

---

Information Compiled By:  
William E. Schlosser, Ph.D.  
Tera King, B.S.  
Toby Brown, B.S.  
Adrienne L. Oryhon, B.S.

Northwest Management, Inc.  
233 East Palouse River Drive  
P.O. Box 9748  
Moscow, Idaho 83843  
Phone 208-883-4488 • Fax 208-883-1098  
[www.Consulting-Foresters.com](http://www.Consulting-Foresters.com)

---

# Table of Contents

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	<b>I</b>	<i>West Fork Elk IRA .....</i>	<i>43</i>
<b>PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT.....</b>	<b>1</b>	<i>White Mountain IRA .....</i>	<i>43</i>
<b>OVERVIEW OF IRA’S IN BONNER COUNTY .....</b>	<b>1</b>	<i>Mount Willard - Lake Estelle IRA .....</i>	<i>43</i>
MANAGEMENT AREA PRESCRIPTIONS.....	11	<b>POSITION OF BONNER COUNTY</b>	
<i>Panhandle National Forest Management Area</i>		<b>COMMISSIONERS.....</b>	<b>44</b>
<i>Prescriptions.....</i>	<i>11</i>	BONNER COUNTY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS ...	45
Management Area 1 Timber Production.....	11	RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION .....	46
Management Area 2 Timber/ Grizzly Bear.....	12	<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>47</b>
Management Area 3-Grizzly Bear/Big Game Winter Range .....	14	BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS .....	47
Management Area 4-Timber Production/Big Game Winter Range.....	15	PREPARERS .....	47
Management Area 5-Big Game Winter Range .....	17	<i>Northwest Management, Inc. ....</i>	<i>47</i>
Management Area 6-Timber Production/Elk Summer Range.....	18	TABLE OF TABLES.....	48
Management Area 7-Caribou Management.....	19	TABLE OF FIGURES .....	48
Management Area 9-Unsuitable Lands .....	21		
Management Area 10-Recreation .....	22		
Management Area 11 Existing and Proposed Wilderness	23		
Management Area 12 National Wild and Scenic Rivers...25			
Management Area 13 Special features .....	26		
Management Area 14 RNA’s .....	28		
Management Area 19.....	29		
<b>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS.....</b>	<b>32</b>		
PUBLIC MEETINGS .....	32		
<i>December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Public Meeting Minutes .....</i>	<i>32</i>		
<i>January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Public Meeting Minutes .....</i>	<i>34</i>		
<b>SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS .....</b>	<b>37</b>		
SUMMARY OF GENERAL COMMENTS RECEIVED BY BONNER COUNTY .....	37		
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS SPECIFIC TO BONNER COUNTY .....	37		
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FOREST .....	38		
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREAS ON THE IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FOREST .....	38		
<i>Beetop IRA .....</i>	<i>38</i>		
<i>Blacktail Mountain (sdpt) IRA .....</i>	<i>39</i>		
<i>Blacktail Mountain (pl) IRA.....</i>	<i>39</i>		
<i>East Cathedral Peak IRA.....</i>	<i>40</i>		
<i>Little Grass Mountain IRA.....</i>	<i>40</i>		
<i>Magee IRA .....</i>	<i>40</i>		
<i>Packsaddle IRA.....</i>	<i>41</i>		
<i>Salmo-Priest IRA .....</i>	<i>41</i>		
<i>Schafer Peak IRA .....</i>	<i>41</i>		
<i>Scotchman Peaks IRA .....</i>	<i>42</i>		
<i>Trestle Peak IRA.....</i>	<i>42</i>		
<i>Upper Priest IRA.....</i>	<i>42</i>		

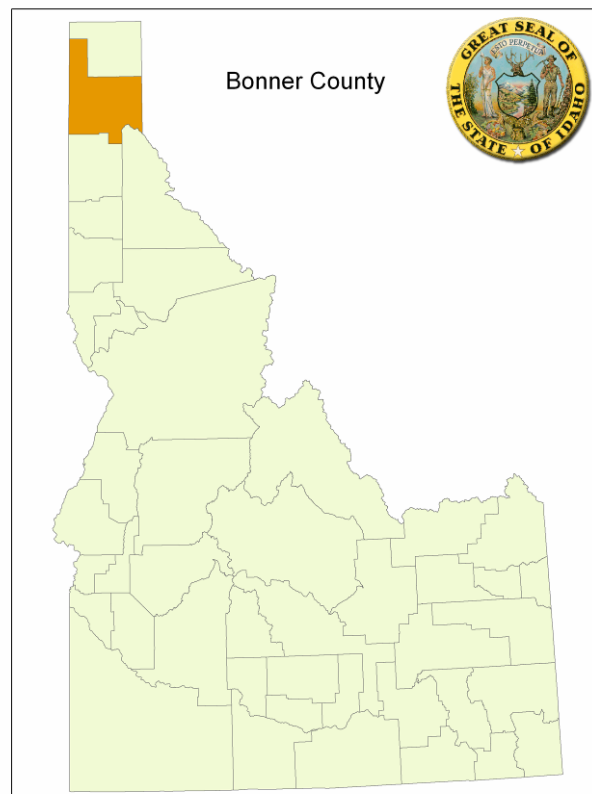
## Purpose of this Report

Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRA) are summarized in this chapter including specific information by IRA, maps of each IRA and additional information needed to allow the reader to understand the IRA forest plan recommendations in the county.

## Overview of IRA's in Bonner County

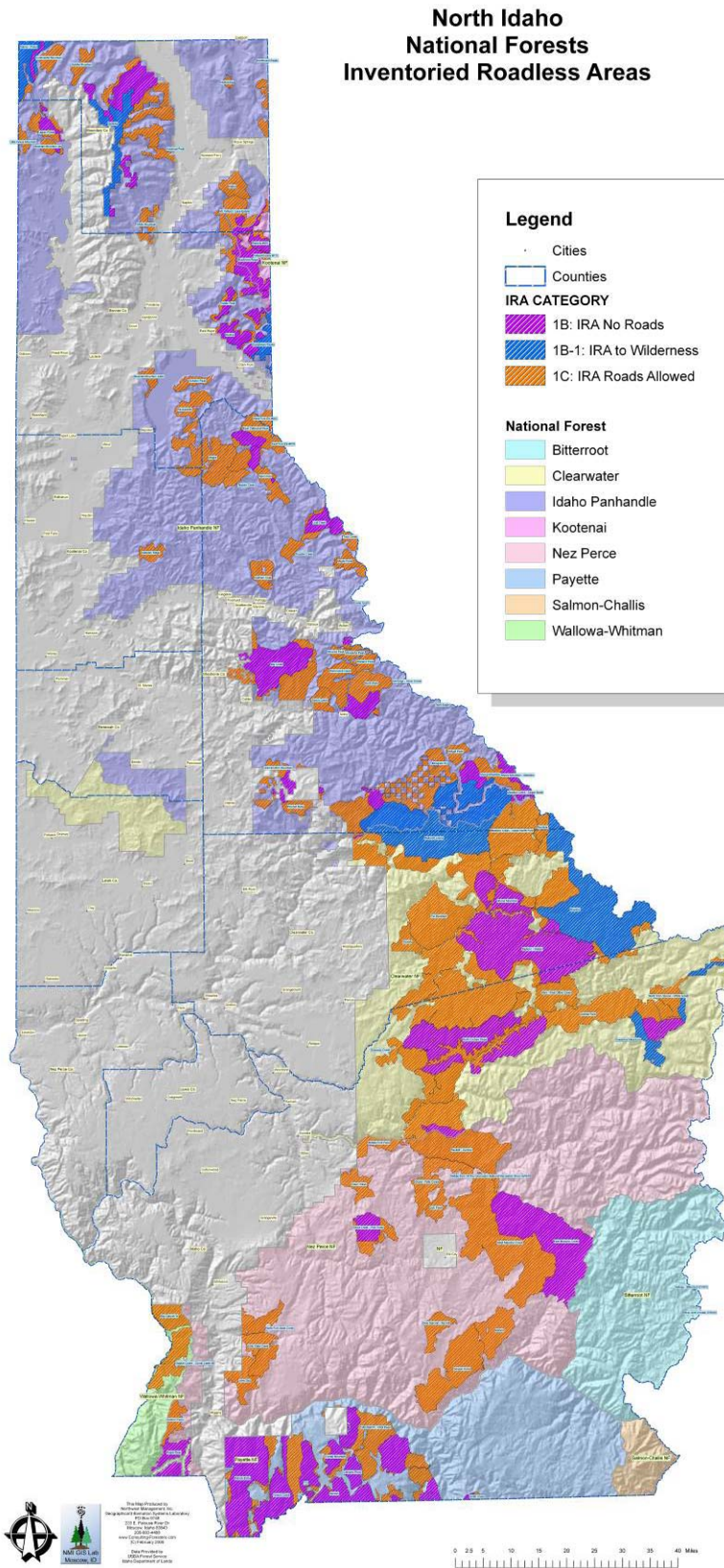
Bonner County is located in the Idaho Panhandle and borders the state of Washington to its west, Montana to the east, and the counties of Kootenai, Shoshone, and Boundary (Figure 1.1). All or part of eighteen Inventoried Roadless Areas are located within Bonner County (Figure 1.2-1.9).

Figure 1.1. Location Map of Bonner County.



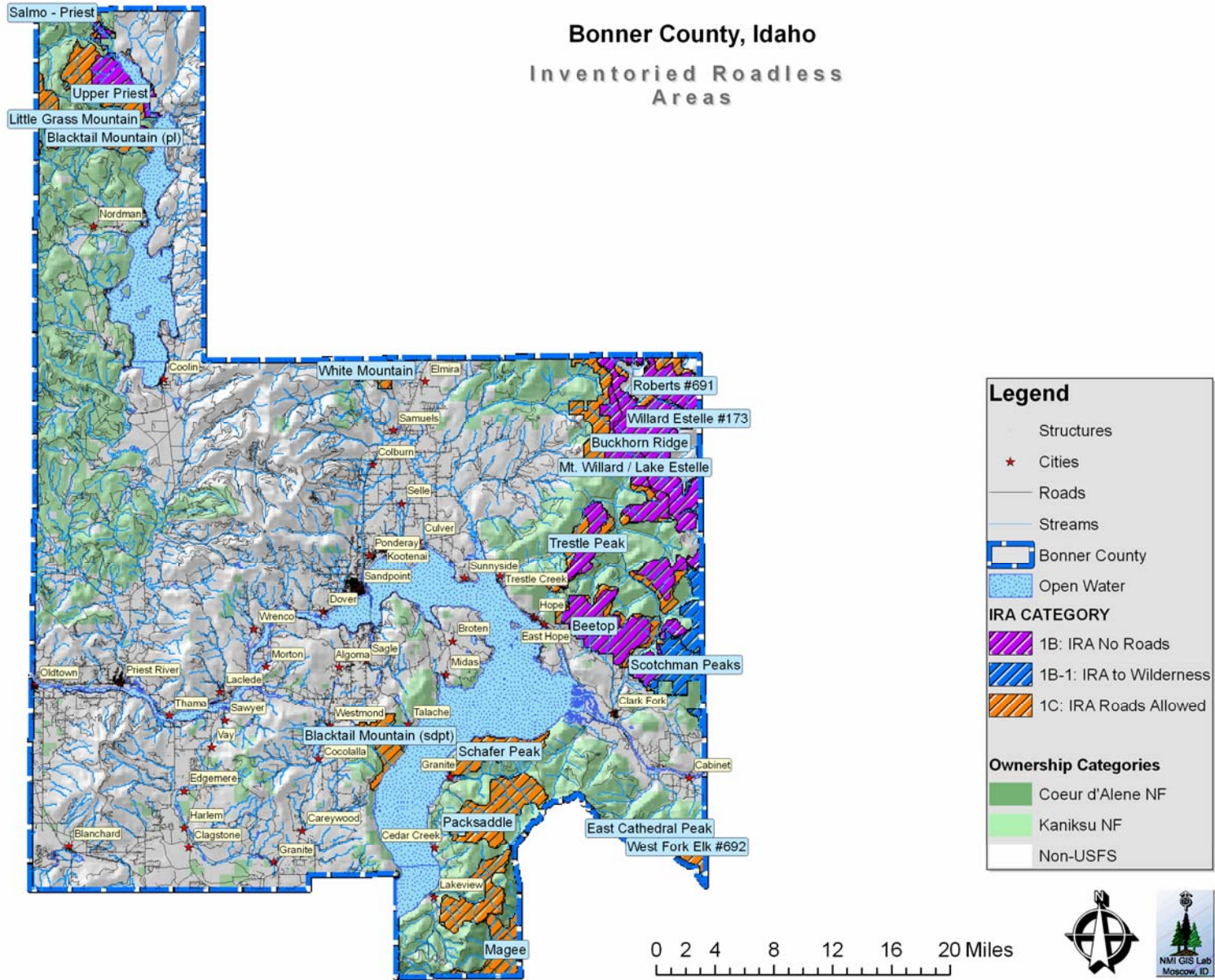
**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

**Figure 1.2. Inventoried Roadless Areas in Northern Idaho.**



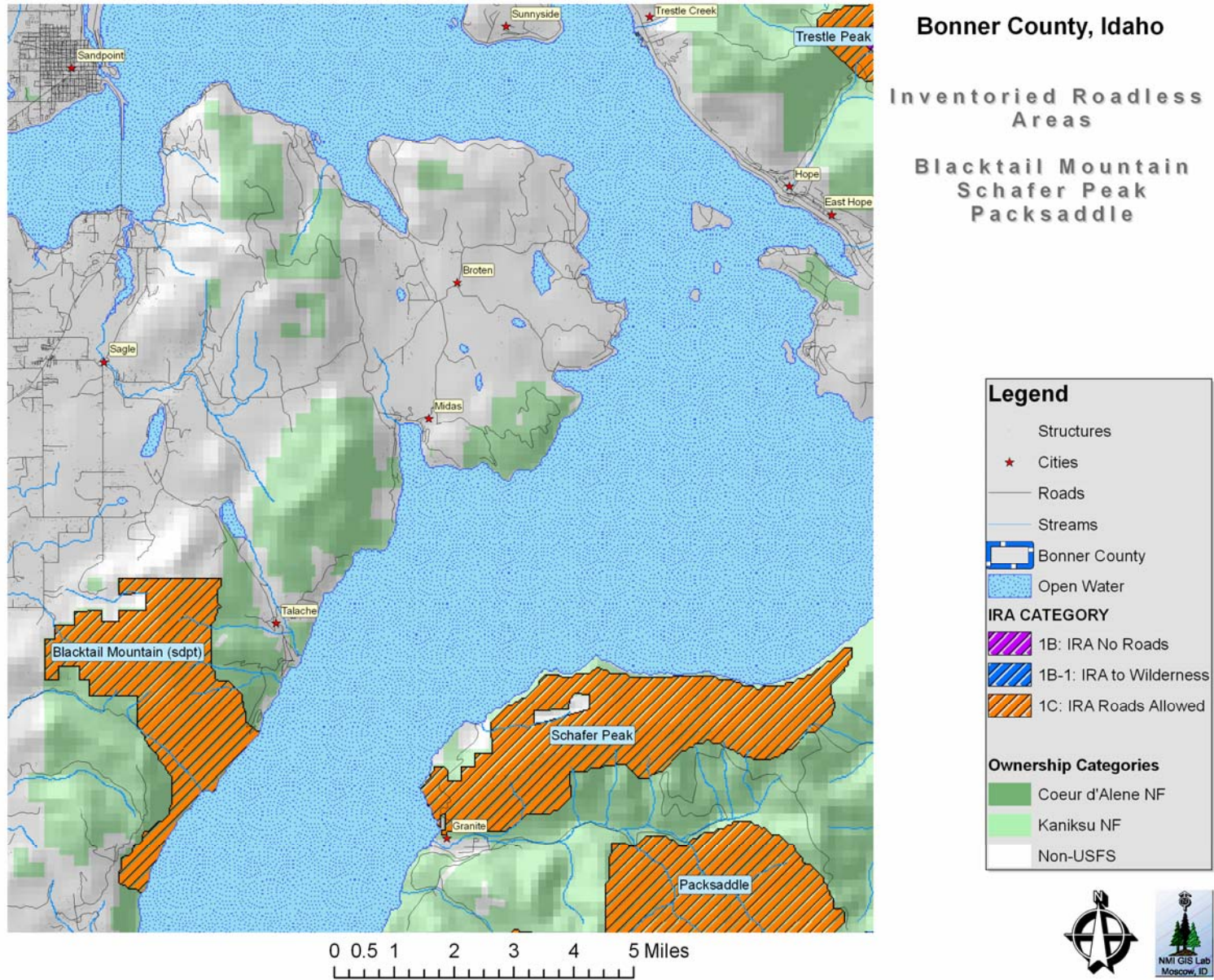
**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

**Figure 1.3. Inventoried Roadless Areas in Bonner County.**



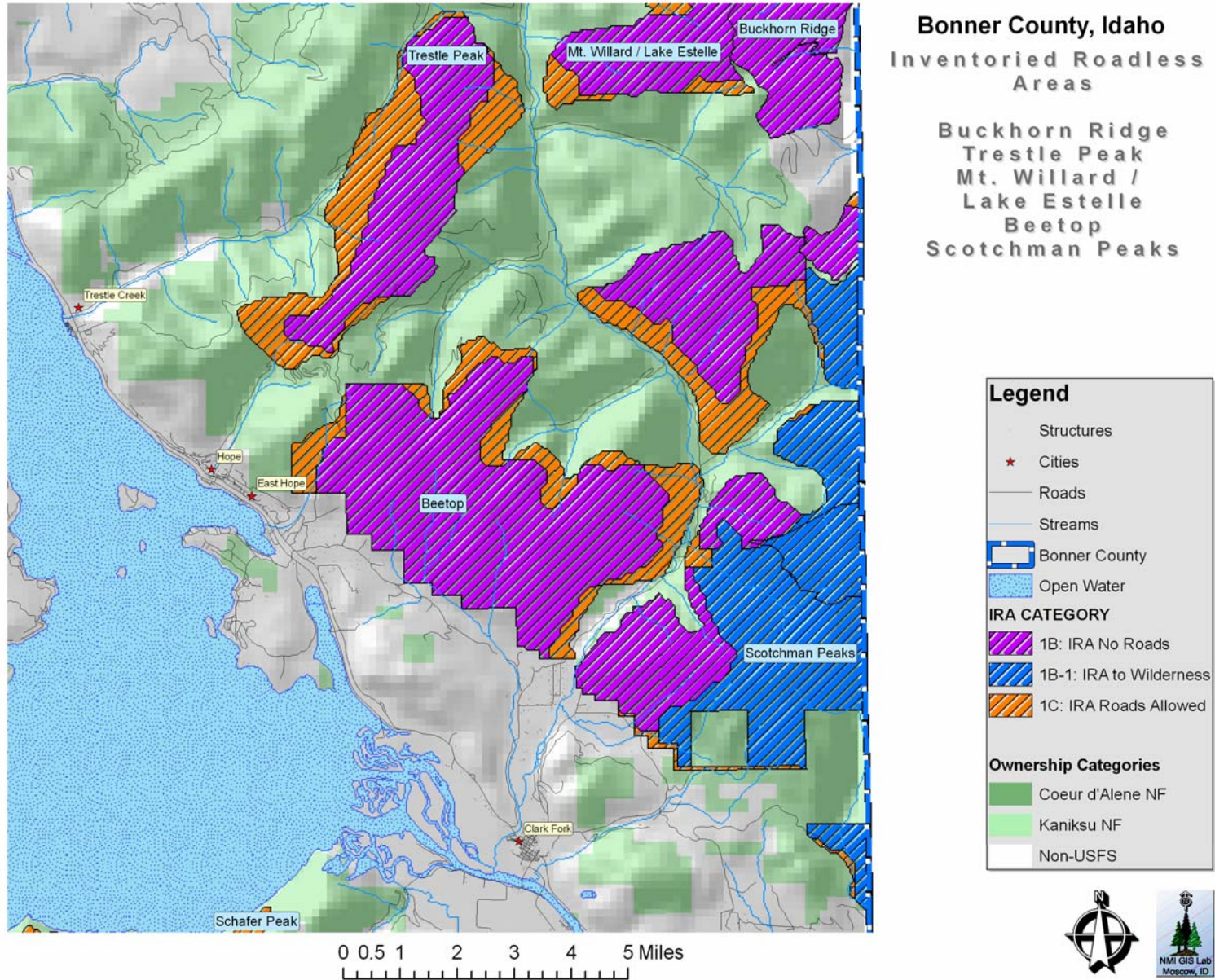
**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

**Figure 1.4. IRAs: Blacktail Mountain, Schafer Peak, Packsaddle.**



**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

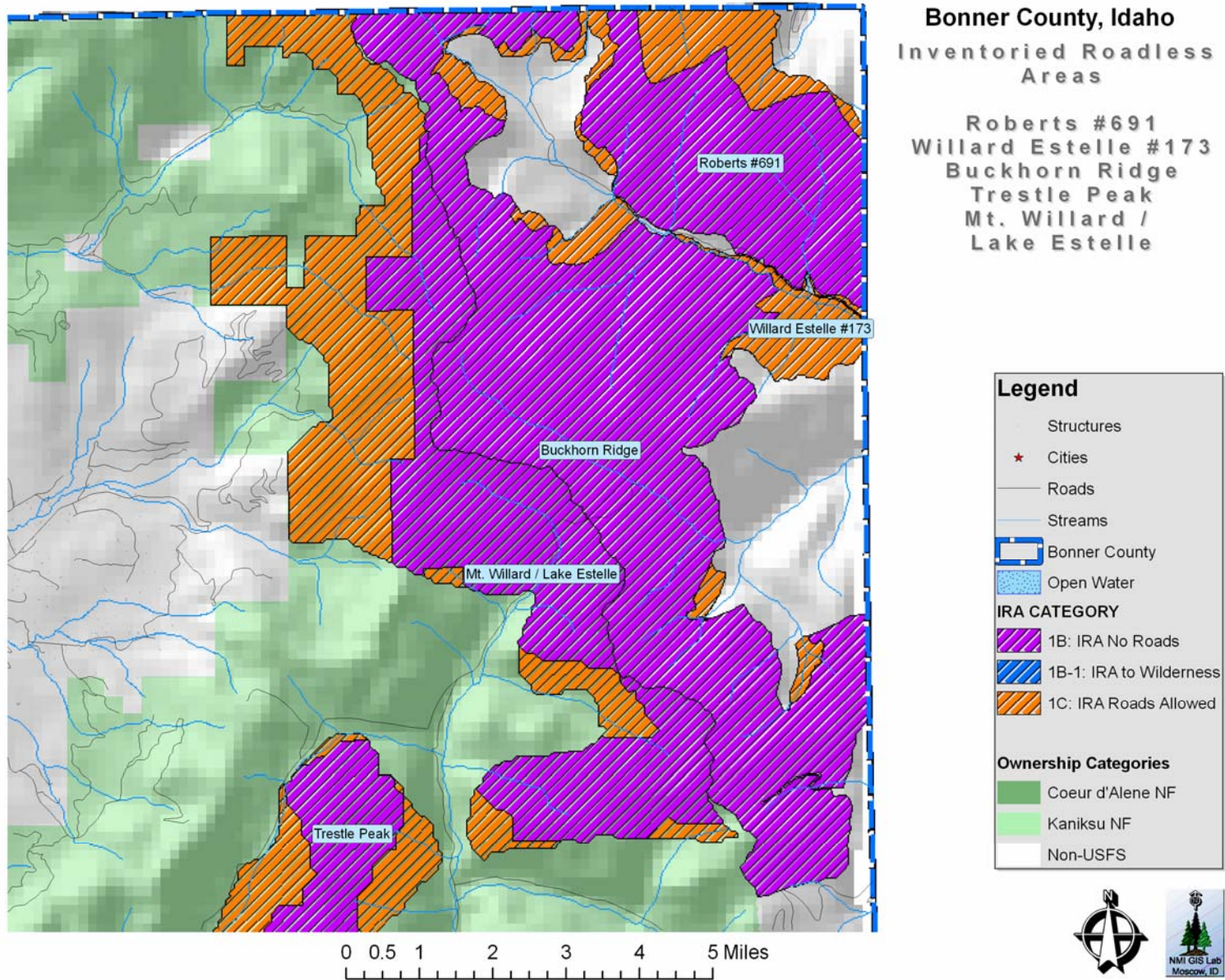
**Figure 1.5. IRAs: Buckhorn Ridge, Trestle Peak, Mt. Willard / Lake Estelle, Beetop, Scotchman Peaks.**





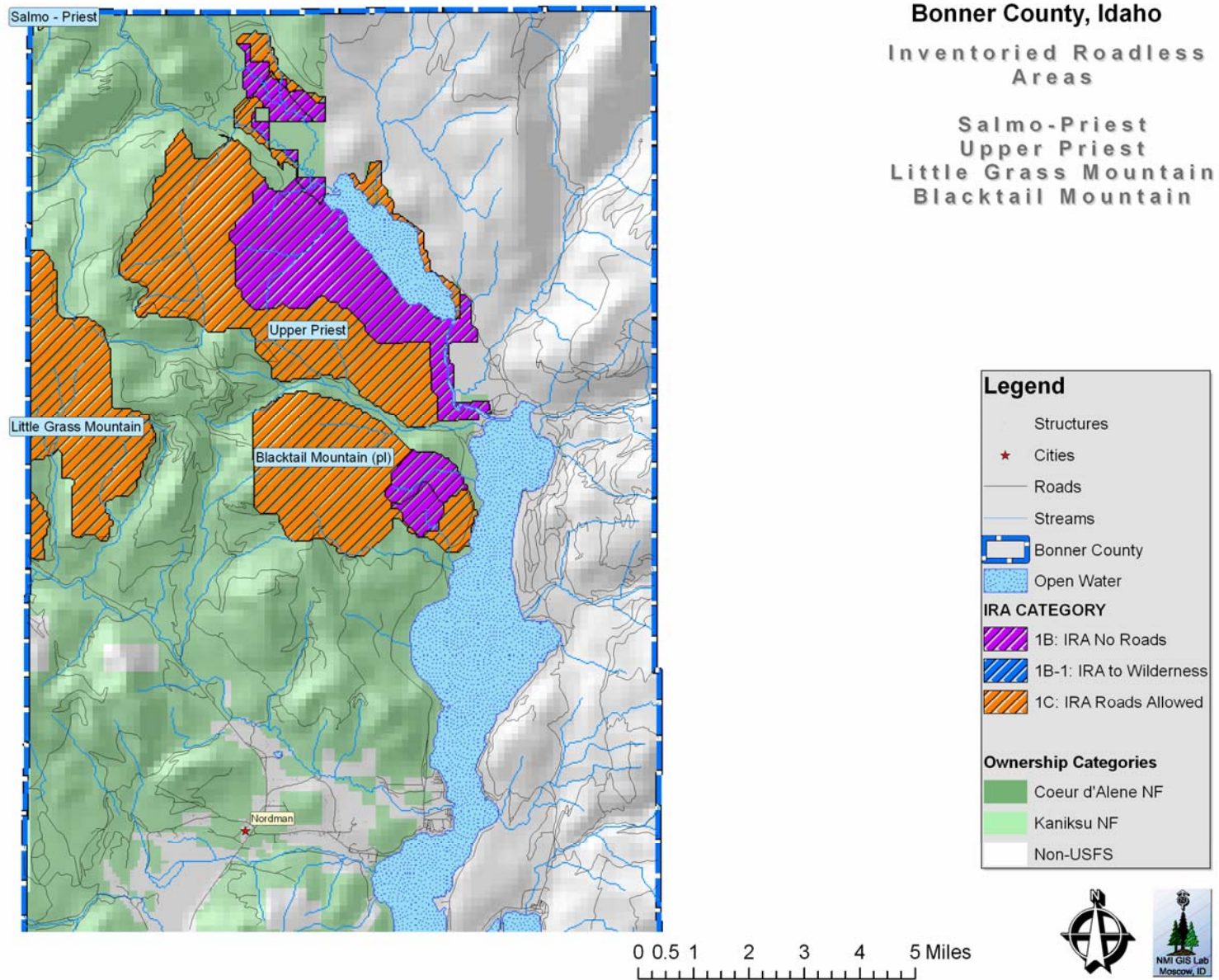
**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

**Figure 1.6. IRAs: Roberts #691, Willard Estelle, Buckhorn Ridge, Trestle Peak, Mt. Willard / Lake Estelle.**



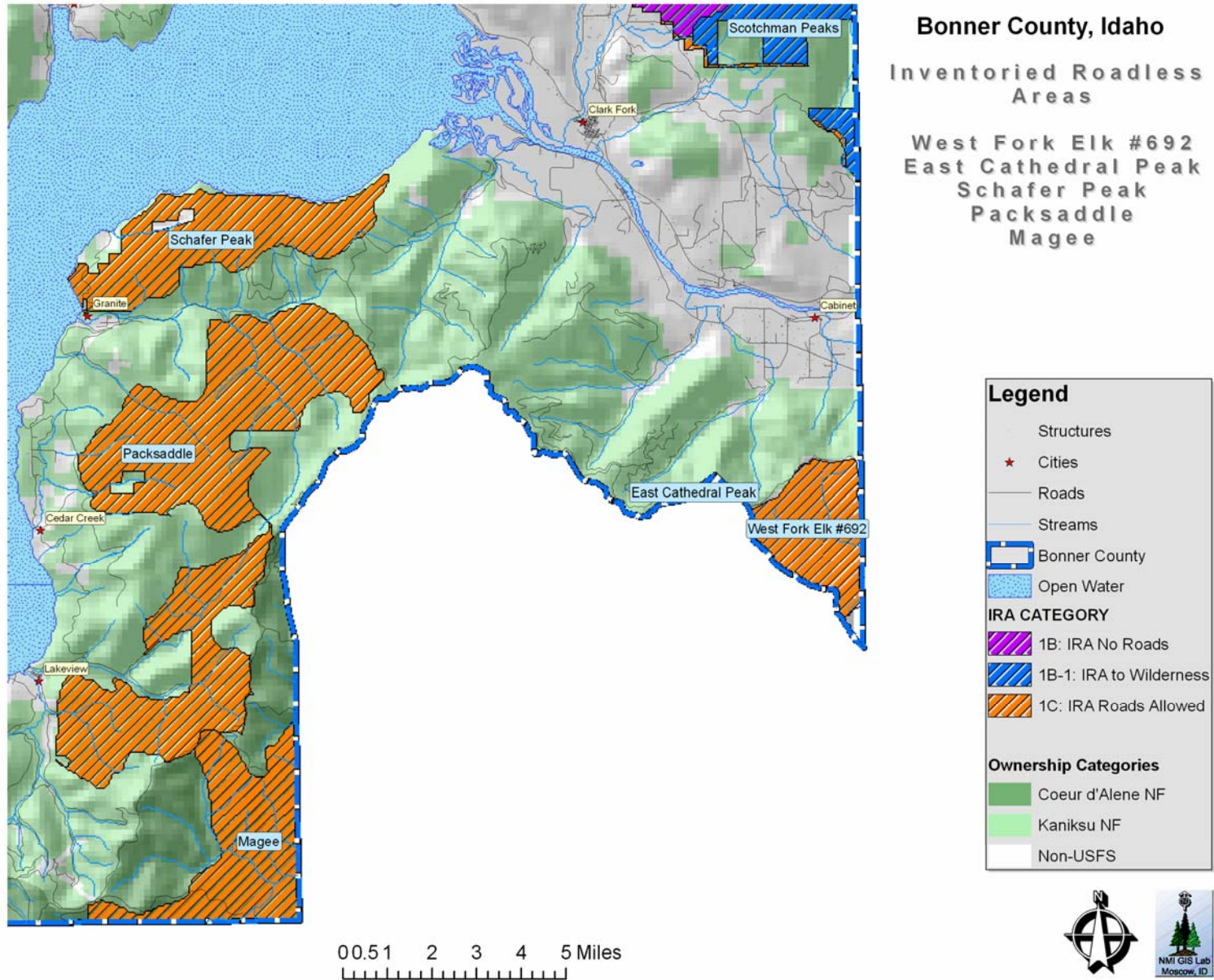
**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

**Figure 1.7. IRAs: Salmo-Priest, Upper Priest, Little Grass Mountain, Blacktail Mountain.**



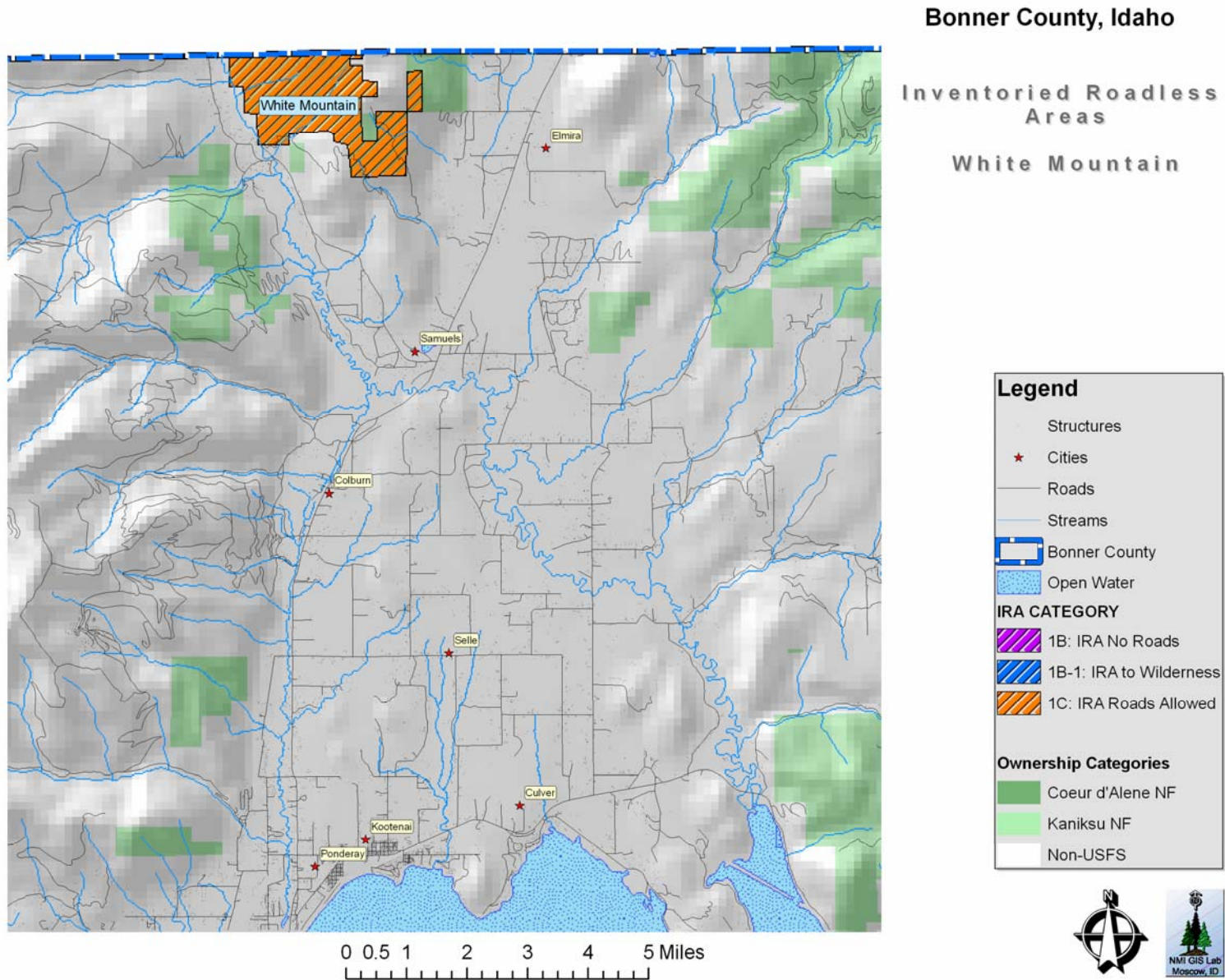
**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

**Figure 1.8. IRAs: West Fork Elk, East Cathedral Peak, Schafer Peak, Packsaddle, Magee.**



**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

**Figure 1.9. IRAs: White Mountain.**



**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

Bonner County contains all or part of 18 different IRA's: BeeTop, Blacktail Mountain PL, Blacktail Mountain SDPT, Buckhorn Ridge, East Cathedral Peak, Little Grass Mountain, Magee, Mt. Willard/Lake Estelle, Willard Estelle, Packsaddle, Roberts, Salmo-Priest, Schafer Peak, Scotchman Peak, Trestle Peak, Upper Priest, West Fork Elk, White Mountain. Of these IRA's, all are in the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

In the original Forest Planning process in the late 1980's all forest lands were assigned a set of management areas. These areas could overlap on the same acre of land. These management areas were assigned general prescriptions or goals to be achieved. The management goals apply to the lands within IRA's. Often multiple management areas exist within an IRA. To help the County Commissioners and the public at large understand the original Forest Plan management prescriptions for each IRA they have been summarized below. The table below lists: the official name of the roadless area; its category; the management area prescriptions by which that area of the IRA was to be managed; other forest plans by which portions of the IRA may be managed if the IRA crosses National Forest Boundaries; and other counties in which the IRA may reside if it crosses county lines.

The definitions for the IRA Category were derived by reading each individual management prescription and placing its recommendations regarding roads into one of three categories, 1B, 1B-1, 1C.

- 1B: IRA where road construction or reconstruction is not allowed by management prescription
- 1B-1: IRA where road construction or reconstruction is not allowed by management prescription, area is recommended as wilderness in Forest Plan (as of Jan 2001)
- 1C: IRA where road construction or reconstruction is allowed by management prescription

The management area prescriptions are located after the table and were summarized from the original Forest Plan document. To review the prescriptions in their complete original format refer to the individual forest and request the original Forest Plan document. Many of these documents are available online.

**Table 1.1. IRA summaries in Bonner County.**

<b>Inventoried Roadless Area (IRA)</b>	<b>IRA Category</b>	<b>Idaho Panhandle National Forest Management Areas</b>	<b>Adjacent National Forest Management Areas</b>	<b>Other Counties in which this IRA is Located</b>
BeeTop	1B 1C	10,12,13,14 2, 9		
Black Mountain PL	1B 1C	10,12,13,14 1,4,9		
Black Mountain SDPT	1C	1,4,9		
Buckhorn Ridge	1C	2,9		Boundary, Lincoln (Montana)
East Cathedral Peak	1B 1C	10,12,13,14 1,4,9		Shoshone
Little Grass Mountain	1C	1,4,7,9		Pend Orelle (Washington)
Magee	1C	4,6,19		Shoshone, Kootenai

**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

**Table 1.1. IRA summaries in Bonner County.**

<b>Inventoried Roadless Area (IRA)</b>	<b>IRA Category</b>	<b>Idaho Panhandle National Forest Management Areas</b>	<b>Adjacent National Forest Management Areas</b>	<b>Other Counties in which this IRA is Located</b>
Mt. Willard/Lake	1B	10,12,13,14		Boundary
Estelle	1C	2,9,19		
Willard Estelle	1C			
Packsaddle	1C	1,6,4,9		
Roberts	1B			Boundary
	1C			
Salmo-Priest	1B	10,12,13,14		Boundary
	1B-1	11		
	1C	2,7		
Schafer Peak	1C	1,4,9		
Scotchman Peak	1B	10,12,13,14		
	1B-1	11		
	1C	2,3		
Trestle Peak	1B	10,12,13,14		
	1C	2,9		
Upper Priest	1B	10,12,13,14		
	1C	1,2,3,7,9		
West Fork Elk	1C			Shoshone, Sanders (Montana)
White Mountain	1C	1,4		Boundary

**Management Area Prescriptions**

**Panhandle National Forest Management Area Prescriptions**

The following descriptions of Management Areas occurring within the IRA’s on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest have been summarized from the 1987 Panhandle National Forest Plan. This is not a complete recreation of the original document; instead it is an overview and summary of the pertinent information relating to the current management for each area designation. References to appendices or other segments of the Forest Plan directly correspond to the original 1987 document available in pdf format at <http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/eco/manage/forestplan/index.html#fp>.

**Management Area 1 Timber Production**

**Goals:**

Manage those lands suitable for timber production for the long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products and:

- provide cost effective timber production
- protect soil productivity
- meet or exceed state water quality standards
- provide wildlife habitat
- provide opportunities for dispersed recreation
- meet visual quality objectives

## INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY

### Recreation:

Manage primarily for roaded modified and Recreation roaded natural Recreation Opportunity Management Spectrum (ROS) classes. Maintain a diversity of recreation opportunities. The Emerald Creek Garnet area will be managed to provide a unique recreation rockhound experience and in accord with its current management direction.

### Wildlife and Fish

Road use will be based on needs identified in project level planning. Utilize road use restrictions to enhance wildlife habitat except as needed for timber management activities. Maintain approximately 25,000 acres to support viable populations of old-growth dependent species.

### Range

Utilize available forage for livestock consistent with demand, cost efficiency and wildlife needs.

### Timber

Timber management regimes will be based upon analysis of the site specific objectives, considering among other items, cost efficiency and cost effectiveness. Even-aged regeneration systems will generally be used, with uneven-aged systems applied in special cases, such as meeting retention and partial retention visual quality objective. Intermediate harvests will be used to meet timber management goals. Planting will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives as prescribed in the stand Silvicultural Prescription. Reforestation of currently nonstocked lands (and rehabilitation of cull and stagnated stands will be based upon analysis of cost efficiency and resource goals and objectives of the specific site. Precommercial thinning will be used in conjunction with the level of management intensity.

### Water and Soil

Soil and Water Refer to Best Management Practices.

### Facilities

Utilize the lowest standard road meeting transportation objectives compatible with resource protection requirements and area management goals.

### Protection

Silvicultural methods and cultural practices which reduce the development and/or perpetuation of pest problems will be given priority. Prescribed fire will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives as prescribed in the stand Silvicultural Prescription. Use initial attack strategies (confine, contain and control) appropriate to achieve the best benefit:cost (least cost + net value change) based commercial timber values.

## Management Area 2 Timber/ Grizzly Bear

### Description

Management Area 2 consists off lands designated for timber production within identified grizzly bear habitat. The management area is located in the northern third of Idaho Pan handle National Forests, along the Selkirk Crest and the eastern boundary of the Forest.

Topography, elevation and vegetation are similar to Management Area 1. Landownership is predominately National Forest with some intermingled private lands on the east slopes of the Selkirk Crest. Included within this management area in units too small to display are 5,300 acres of non-forest lands or land not capable of producing industrial products. Visual sensitivity varies from low to high.

## INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY

### Goals

Manage identified grizzly bear habitat to support a recovered grizzly bear population while providing for the long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products and;

- provide cost effective timber production
- protect soil product city
- meet or exceed state water quality standards
- reduce the potential for bear/human conflicts
- provide opportunities for dispersed recreation consistent with grizzly bear habitat requirements
- meet visual quality objectives

### Recreation

Manage primarily for roaded modified and roaded natural ROS classes. Maintain a diversity of recreation opportunities. Restrictions may be necessary to reduce bear/human conflicts. Manage trails to avoid areas of critical grizzly bear habitat. Trail use restrictions may be necessary to reduce bear/human conflicts.

### Wildlife and Fish

Road use will be based on needs identified in project level planning. Additional restrictions and seasonal vehicle closures as needed to assure grizzly bear habitat. Maintain approximately 6,000 acres to support viable populations of old-growth dependent species. Manage grizzly bear habitat in accordance with Interagency Grizzly Bear Guidelines and approved recovery plans. Evaluate cumulative effects of management practices within each bear unit. Silvicultural treatments will be used to improve grizzly habitat and aid in achieving the grizzly bear recovery goal. Implement grizzly bear information/education efforts with permittees, user groups contractors, employees and local communities.

### Range

Utilize available forage for livestock commensurate with demand, cost efficiency and wildlife needs. No increase in permitted AUM's or livestock numbers and sheep grazing will not be permitted.

### Timber

Timber management regimes will be based upon analysis of the site specific objectives, considering among other items, cost efficiency and cost effectiveness. Timber harvest scheduling will be used to maintain grizzly bear security within each bear unit.

Even-aged regeneration systems will generally be used, with uneven-aged systems applied in special cases, such as meeting retention visual quality objective. Intermediate harvests will be used to meet timber management goals.

Planting will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives as prescribed in the stand Silvicultural Prescription. Reforestation of currently nonstocked lands (and rehabilitation of cull stagnated stands) will be based upon analysis of cost efficiency, cost effectiveness and resource goals and objectives of the specific site.

Precommercial thinning will be used in conjunction with the level of management intensity.



## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

### **Water and Soil**

Refer to Best Management Practices

### **Facilities**

Utilize the lowest standard road meeting transportation objectives compatible with resource protection requirements and area management goals.

### **Minerals**

Operating plans and permits will emphasize road closures and grizzly bear mitigation needs such as coordination and scheduling activities with other resource users.

### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Silvicultural methods and cultural practices which reduce the development and/or perpetuation of pest problems will be given priority.

Prescribed fire will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives as prescribed in the stand Silvicultural Prescription. Broadcast burning is the preferred method of site preparation for those areas needed for bear forage.

Use initial attack strategies (confine, contain and control) appropriate to achieve the best benefit/cost (least cost plus net value charge) based on commercial timber values and grizzly bear habitat needs.

## **Management Area 3-Grizzly Bear/Big Game Winter Range**

### **Description**

Management Area 3 consists of lands designated for timber production within identified grizzly bear habitat and big game winter range. It is located in the lower slopes of the Upper Priest River, Moyie River, and the Boulder Creek areas.

### **Goals**

Manage identified grizzly bear habitat to support the Idaho Panhandle National Forest' share of a recovered grizzly bear population (25 animals) while providing sufficient winter forage to support projected big game populations through scheduled timber harvest and:

- Provide long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products
- Provide cost effective timber production
- Protect soil productivity
- Meet or exceed state water quality standards
- Reduce the potential for wildlife/human conflict
- Provide opportunities for dispersed recreation consistent with wildlife habitat needs
- Meet visual quality objectives (VQO)

### **Recreation**

Manage primarily for roaded modified and roaded natural ROS class. Maintain a diversity of recreation opportunities. Restrictions may be necessary to reduce bear/human conflicts. Manage trails to avoid areas critical to grizzly bear recovery. Trail use restrictions may be necessary to reduce bear/human conflicts.

## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

### **Wildlife and Fish**

Road use will be based on needs identified in project level planning. Additional restrictions and seasonal closures as needed to assure grizzly bear security.

Manage grizzly bear habitat in accordance with Interagency Grizzly Bear Guidelines and approved recovery plans.

Silvicultural treatments will be used to improve grizzly bear habitat and aid in achieving bear recovery goal.

Maintain sufficient acres to support viable populations of old-growth dependent species.

### **Range**

Utilize available forage for livestock consistent with demand, cost efficiency, and wildlife needs. Sheep grazing not permitted.

### **Timber**

Timber management regimes will be based upon analysis of the site specific objectives considering among other items, cost efficiency and cost effectiveness. Timber harvest will be used to maintain grizzly bear security within each bear unit and provide big game winter range requirements.

Even-aged regeneration systems will generally be used; uneven-aged systems may be applied in special cases.

Intermediate harvests will be used to meet timber management goals.

Planting will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives.

### **Water and Soil**

Will follow state BMP's.

### **Facilities**

Utilize the lowest standard road meeting transportation objectives compatible with resource protection requirements and area management goals.

### **Minerals**

Operating plans and permits will emphasize road closures and grizzly bear mitigation needs.

### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Biological control will be given priority.

Prescribed fire will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives as prescribed in the stand Silvicultural Prescription.

Use initial attack strategies (confine, contain, control) appropriate to achieve the best cost benefit ratio based on commercial timber, grizzly bear habitat, and whitetail deer winter range values.

## **Management Area 4-Timber Production/Big Game Winter Range**

### **Description**

Management area 4 consists of lands designated for timber production within big game winter range. The lands are generally below 4,000 feet in elevation and are predominantly southern exposures. Slopes area moderate to steep. Winter ranges for elk, whitetail deer, and/or moose are included in

## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

this management area. A portion of the Emerald Creek Garnet area is included within this management area.

### **Goals**

Manage big game winter range to provide sufficient forage to support projected big game habitat needs through scheduled timber harvest and permanent forage areas and:

- Provide long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products
- Provide cost effective timber production
- Protect soil productivity
- Meet or exceed state water quality standards
- Provide opportunities for dispersed recreation consistent with wildlife habitat needs
- Meet visual quality objectives

### **Recreation**

Manage primarily for roaded modified and roaded natural ROS classes. Motorized use is generally restricted to designated routes. Within critical habitat components motorized recreation use may be restricted to provide needed wildlife security.

Maintain a diversity of recreation opportunities. The Emerald Creek Garnet area will be managed to provide a unique recreation rockhound experience and in accord with its current management direction.

### **Wildlife and Fish**

Road use will be based on needs identified in project level planning. Closures will be made as needed to meet wildlife habitat needs.

Maintain sufficient old-growth acres to support viable populations of species dependent on such stand conditions.

Timber harvest scheduling will be used to provide big game winter range requirements.

Prescribed fire may be used to increase forage in open areas.

Maintain needed thermal cover areas adjacent to forage areas.

Species specific habitat needs will be emphasized within identified winter range for each species.

### **Range**

Available forage in excess of wildlife needs may be made available for livestock use.

### **Timber**

Timber management regimes will be based upon analysis of the site specific objectives consistent with big game winter range needs. Even-aged regeneration systems will generally be used on south and west slopes to stimulate forage production. Uneven aged and intermediate treatments may be used to meet specific management needs. Rotations may be adjusted to provide additional forage.

Planting will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives.

### **Water and Soil**

Will follow state BMP's.

## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Silvicultural methods and practices which reduce the development and/or perpetuation of pest problems will be given priority.

Prescribed fire will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives as prescribed in the stand Silvicultural Prescription. Use prescribed fire on forage areas to meet existing and projected big game populations.

Use initial attack strategies (confine, contain, control) appropriate to achieve the best cost benefit ratio based on commercial timber, grizzly bear habitat, and whitetail deer winter range values.

### **Facilities**

Utilize the lowest standard road meeting transportation objectives compatible with resource protection requirements and area management goals.

## **Management Area 5-Big Game Winter Range**

### **Description**

Management area 5 consists of important big game winter range in the southern portion of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. The lands are moderate to steep with southern exposures and below 4,000 feet elevation along the breaks of the St. Joe River drainage. The majority of the land is environmentally unsuited for timber production.

### **Goals**

Manage big game winter range to provide sufficient forage and cover to support projected big game populations through permanent forage areas and:

Meet or exceed state water quality standards

Provide opportunities for dispersed recreation consistent with wildlife habitat needs

Meet visual quality objectives (VQO)

### **Recreation**

Manage toward roaded natural and semi-primitive ROS experience. Motorized use will generally be restricted to designated routes. Within critical habitat components motorized vehicle use may be restricted to provide needed wildlife security.

### **Wildlife and Fish**

Forage areas should be permanent openings, primarily on south and west aspects, maintained by prescribed burning and/or mechanical methods. Maintain thermal cover primarily on benches and ridges.

Local and collector roads will be classed as intermediate with seasonal vehicle closures during big game use periods.

### **Range**

Available forage in excess of wildlife needs may be made available for livestock use.

### **Timber**

Timber harvest will be used to maintain or improve winter range. Forest land is classed as unsuitable for timber production.

## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

### **Water and Soil**

Will follow state BMP's.

### **Facilities**

Collector roads will be limited to that necessary to access adjacent areas. All other roads will be temporary, except as necessary to manage the winter range.

### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Biological control will be given priority.

Identify specific areas where prescribed fire will be beneficial and cost effective in achieving the objectives of the management area.

Confine, contain, and control fires within the management area based on big game winter range values.

## **Management Area 6-Timber Production/Elk Summer Range**

### **Description**

Management area 6 consists of lands designated for timber production and within important elk summer range habitats. The area is predominantly timbered and has fewer roads than average. It is characterized by areas frequented by elk during the spring and summer season.

### **Goals**

Manage elk summer range to provide sufficient habitat to support projected big game populations and:

- Provide for the long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products
- Provide adequate elk security areas through management techniques such as long-term area closures between harvest entries
- Provide cost effective timber production
- Protect soil productivity
- Meet or exceed state water quality standards
- Provide opportunities for dispersed recreation consistent with elk summer range habitat needs
- Meet visual quality objectives (VQO)

### **Recreation**

Manage for roaded natural and semi-primitive ROS experience. The area is open to motorized use. Within critical habitat components motorized recreational use may be restricted to enhance wildlife habitat use.

### **Wildlife and Fish**

Special emphasis will be given to the maintenance, protection and enhancement of key habitat components (including security, moist sites, wet meadows, thermal cover, salt licks, wallows, etc.).

## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

Productive forest land within key habitat components will be classed as unsuitable for timber production.

Seasonal road closures may be necessary to provide security.

### **Range**

Available forage in excess of wildlife needs may be made available for livestock use.

### **Timber**

Timber management regimes will be based upon analysis of the site specific objectives consistent with elk summer range requirements. Even-aged regeneration systems will generally be used on south and west slopes to stimulate forage production. Uneven aged and intermediate treatments may be used to meet specific management needs. Harvest periods may be limited to provide identified elk habitat security.

Planting will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives.

Precommercial thinning will be used in conjunction with the level of management intensity on prime timber lands and where it enhances elk summer range.

### **Water and Soil**

Will follow state BMP's.

### **Facilities**

Utilize the lowest standard road meeting transportation objectives compatible with resource protection requirements and area management goals.

### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Silvicultural methods and practices which reduce the development and/or perpetuation of pest problems will be given priority.

Prescribed fire will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives.

Confine, contain, and control fires within the management area based on elk summer range values.

## **Management Area 7-Caribou Management**

### **Description**

Management area 7 consists of lands designated for caribou management within identified caribou habitat. Elevation of this area is generally above 4,300 feet. It represents all exposures, variable topography and vegetative composition/structure. Grizzly bear habitat is also contained within this management area.

### **Goals**

Manage caribou habitat to provide a proper mix of seasonal habitats needed to support the National Forest's share of recovered Selkirk woodland caribou population and:

- Growth and production of commercially valuable wood products, when consistent with management area goal
- Where overlap occurs, provide grizzly bear habitat
- Protect soil productivity
- Meet or exceed state water quality standards

## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

- Provide opportunities for dispersed recreation consistent with wildlife habitat needs
- Reduce the potential for caribou and/or grizzly bear conflicts with human activities.
- Provide cost effective timber production consistent with caribou habitat
- Meet visual quality objectives (VQO)

### **Recreation**

Manage for roaded natural and where possible toward semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized recreation.

Restrict motorized use when needed to protect caribou.

Seasonal closures of some or all uses may be needed to protect caribou or grizzly bears.

### **Wildlife and Fish**

Provide seasonal habitat requirements in accordance with the Caribou Habitat Management Guidelines and approved recovery plans.

Retain and manage established caribou travel corridors that occur in mature timber.

Manage grizzly bear habitat in accordance with Interagency Grizzly Bear Guidelines and approved recovery plans.

Collector and local roads generally closed to vehicles with physical barriers preferred. Arterial roads and additional seasonal closures may occur as needed to protect caribou.

### **Range**

Utilize available for livestock consistent with demand cost efficiency and wildlife needs.

### **Timber**

Timber management regimes will be based upon analysis of the site specific analysis of caribou habitat needs. Both even-aged and uneven aged regeneration systems will be used dependent on site specific caribou habitat requirements. Existing all-aged old-growth cedar/hemlock stands are to be retained. Harvest scheduling will be used to provide security within grizzly habitat.

Planting will be used as needed to meet silvicultural and caribou habitat management objectives.

Precommercial thinning will be used in conjunction with the level of management intensity and caribou habitat.

### **Water and Soil**

Will follow state BMP's.

### **Minerals**

Operating plans and permits will emphasize road closures and caribou habitat mitigation needs.

### **Facilities**

Road construction through old-growth cedar/hemlock stands should be limited to those instances in which no other reasonable access to stands to be harvested is possible.

### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Biological control will be given priority.

## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

Prescribed fire will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives.

Confine, contain, and control fires within the management area to prevent loss of all coniferous species in all size classes.

### **Management Area 9-Unsuitable Lands**

#### **Description**

Management area 9 consists of areas of non-forest lands, lands not capable of producing industrial products, lands physically unsuited for timber production, and lands capable of timber production but isolated by the above type lands or nonpublic ownership. Both grizzly bear and caribou habitat overlap with this management area. Maintaining the existing visual situation of these areas in an unchanged condition is a major concern.

#### **Goals**

Manage National Forest lands to maintain and protect existing improvements and resource productive potential and meet visual quality objectives.

#### **Recreation**

This area will be managed for roaded natural or semi-primitive ROS recreation experience. Maintain existing improvements. Trail construction in this area is only to access other areas. Existing trails will generally be open.

#### **Wildlife and Fish**

Maintain existing structural improvements.

#### **Range**

Maintain existing range improvements.

#### **Timber**

Salvage and firewood, and miscellaneous products removal may occur from existing access. No scheduled harvest will occur. Forest lands are classified as unsuitable for timber production.

#### **Water and Soil**

Will follow state BMP's.

#### **Minerals**

Roads may be constructed for mineral activities where construction is the next logical step in the development of the mineral resource.

#### **Facilities**

No local road construction is planned. Construction of arterials and collectors permitted as needed to access adjacent areas.

#### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Biological control will be given priority.

Prescribed fire will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives.

Confine, contain, and control fires within the management area, except in caribou habitat where fires will be confined, contained, and controlled to prevent loss of all coniferous species in all size classes.



## INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY

### Management Area 10-Recreation

#### Description

Management area 10 consists of a cross section of National Forest lands that have high value for semi-productive recreation. These areas are in blocks of 2,500 acres or more and are part of the roadless resource of the Idaho Panhandle National Forest, with areas scattered throughout the forest.

Landownership is predominately National Forest except for Grandmother Mountain, which is mixed ownership with BLM, state of Idaho, and private.

Some of these areas, such as Stevens Lake, may have existing primitive roads that penetrate the area, to provide access or jump off points for recreational use. Some grizzly bear and caribou habitat are included in this management area.

The following is a list of individual areas within this management area:

Crooked Crown	Parker Canyon
Lost Creek	Long Canyon
Grandmother Mountain	St. Joe Lake
Mt. Pend Orielle	Stevens Lake
Bee Top	Little North Fork Clearwater
Trestle Peak	Selkirk Crest Additions
Lightning Mountain	Goat Mountain
Savage Creek	East Cathedral

#### Goals

Manage the individual areas to provide a semi-primitive recreation experience and:

- Manage those existing roads to provide access for and dispersal of recreation users
- Growth and production of commercially valuable wood products, when consistent with management area goal
- Manage big game winter range to maintain or enhance forage production
- Provide for low public access fisheries
- Meet visual quality objectives (VQO)

#### Recreation

A variety of trail uses will be provided in areas designated semi-primitive, except for the direct access to and from the area around Lake Darling, Gem Lake, and Moose Lake on the Sandpoint District which are closed to motorized vehicles. Also closed to motorized use are Parker Canyon, Long Canyon, and the St. Joe Lake area.

Within grizzly bear and caribou habitat, recreation use may be restricted to provide needed wildlife security during periods of use.

## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

### **Wildlife and Fish**

Allow prescribed burning on existing forage areas and/or revegetate to preferred wildlife forage species.

Manage grizzly bear habitat in accordance with Interagency Grizzly Bear Guidelines and approved recovery plans.

### **Range**

Utilize available for livestock consistent with demand cost efficiency and wildlife needs.

### **Timber**

No regulated timber harvest. The area is classed as unsuitable for timber production.

### **Water and Soil**

Will follow state BMP's.

### **Minerals**

Exploration without roads will be encouraged. Roads may be constructed for mineral activities where construction is the next logical step in the development of the mineral resource.

### **Facilities**

No roads will be built within the management area except for those few cases where primitive roads may be constructed to improve the semi-primitive recreation experience.

Maintain administrative facilities such as lookouts and guard stations.

### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Biological control will be given priority.

Prescribed fire will be used as needed to meet silvicultural objectives.

Confine, contain, and control fires within the management area.

Dozers will not be used for fire suppression without the forest supervisor's approval.

## **Management Area 11 Existing and Proposed Wilderness**

### **Description:**

Management Area 11 consists of the existing and proposed wilderness areas on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. This area includes the IPNF's portions of the existing (9,440 acres) and proposed (17,600 acres) Salmo-Priest Wilderness, proposed (23,900 acres) Scotchman Peaks proposed Mallard-Larkins (78,500 acres) area and all of the proposed Selkirk Crest (26,700 acres) area.

### **Goals:**

Manage the classified Salmo-Priest Wilderness to protect wilderness characteristics pending completion of the specific management direction. Manage those lands proposed for wilderness to protect their wilderness characteristics pending a Congressional decision and:

- Provide opportunities for public use, enjoyment and understanding of the wilderness resource
- Provide opportunities for a primitive and semi-primitive recreation experience

## INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY

### **Recreation:**

Management practices will follow the guidelines for the preservation visual quality objectives.

Until classification: Provide for inventory, and protection of cultural resources.

Within grizzly bear and caribou habitat, recreation use and access may be restricted to provide needed wildlife security during use periods.

Motorized use may be permitted until classification where use has been established and where such use will not significantly reduce wilderness potential, except within bounds of Mallard-Larkins Pioneer Area, the St. Joe Wild River Area and Upper Priest River.

Manage for a semi-primitive and primitive ROS experience in a natural appearing environment.

### **Wilderness:**

Upon classification, specific management direction will be written for each area and incorporated into the Forest Plan as an amendment.

Visitor use and distribution will be determined and managed to a level compatible with the wilderness resource to prevent loss of solitude or unacceptable depreciation of the wilderness qualities.

Existing structures will be protected until historic values and long-term needs are evaluated in the specific wilderness management direction.

Emphasis on-site personal contact, provide off-site interpretation.

### **Wildlife and Fish:**

Using prescribed fire with both planned and unplanned ignitions to maintain brushfields which may be beneficial to wilderness values in key wildlife winter range areas if other resource values are adequately protected.

### **Range:**

No new allotments.

### **Timber:**

Timber harvest will not be permitted. Forest lands classed as unsuitable for timber production.

### **Minerals:**

All mineral and energy related activities must comply with reasonable conditions for maintaining the wilderness resource unimpaired for future use and enjoyment of its wilderness character, but consistent with the use of the land for mineral location, development, or other activities. Upon classification the lands are not open to locatable or leasable mineral entry, subject to valid existing rights.

### **Lands:**

Acquire lands as they become available.

### **Facilities:**

Trail construction may be permitted and will be accomplished with minimal disturbance of the natural environment.

No new roads will be built. Roads at the boundaries of these areas will be managed, maintained, and modified as necessary to meet overall transportation objectives in an environmentally sound manner.

## INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY

### Protection:

Insects and disease conditions will be monitored and evaluated within wilderness areas. If conditions pose a significant threat to lands outside wilderness areas, control measures may be taken, with biological control given priority.

Identify specific areas where prescribed fire may be beneficial and cost effective in achieving the objectives of the management area.

Allow fire to play a natural role in the wilderness ecosystems – consistent with any applicable language in the enabling legislation.

Use appropriate suppression response to suppress fires, to protect life and prevent property loss, and to prevent fires from spreading to adjacent areas – in conjunction with specific management direction.

Determine if Class II Air Quality designation is appropriate for wilderness management purposes.

### Management Area 12 National Wild and Scenic Rivers

#### Description:

Management Area 12 consists of those portions of the St. Joe and Priest River and adjacent lands classified and proposed for classification as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The St. Joe River is presently classified as a Wild River from St. Joe Lake to Spruce Tree Campground and a Recreation River from Spruce Tree Campground to its junction with the North Fork of the St. Joe. The Upper Priest River above Upper Priest Lake is proposed as a Wild River. The adjacent lands involve a corridor approximately one quarter mile on either side of the above named rivers.

#### Goals:

Manage the rivers and their immediate environments to preserve their free flowing condition. The St. Joe River is to be managed in accordance the Development and Management Plan (Appendix Z available upon request). The Upper Priest River portion will be managed to preserve its Wild River attributes pending Congressional decision and:

- Maintain and improve big game winter range habitat within the recreation section of the St. Joe River
- Provide opportunities for a full spectrum of river related recreational experiences
- Maintain existing water quality and protect important fish habitat
- Meet visual quality objectives

#### Recreation:

Refer to the specific management direction contained in the Development and Management Plan for the St. Joe Wild and Scenic River. Manage the Upper Priest River portion to preserve its wild river attributes until Congress decides its status under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Within the corridor of the Upper Priest River and the St. Joe Wild River the VQO is preservation.

Within the corridor of the St. Joe Recreation River the VQO is retention.

Within the Upper Priest Wild River uses will be limited to non-motorized except on established roads.

#### Wilderness:

Reference proposed wilderness area standards and guidelines for portions within wilderness areas. Approximately 12,100 acres are within proposed wilderness areas.

## **I N V E N T O R I E D   R O A D L E S S   A R E A   S U M M A R Y**

### **Wildlife:**

Within the Upper Priest Wild River and the Wild River portion of the St. Joe, allow natural successional changes. Vegetative manipulations including prescribed fire will be used to maintain and enhance big game winter ranges within the recreation portion of the St. Joe.

### **Range:**

No new grazing allotments.

### **Timber:**

No regulated timber harvest. Unregulated harvest permitted in accordance with the Development and Management Plan for the St. Joe River. Forest lands classed as unsuitable for timber production.

### **Water and Soil:**

Refer to Best Management Practices.

### **Minerals:**

Upon classification, mineral activity will be subject to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Rivers classified as wild are withdrawn from mineral entry, subject to valid existing rights.

### **Lands:**

Acquire lands or scenic easements as they become available.

No additional permanent facilities will be allowed in Wild River corridor except as provided for mining.

### **Facilities:**

No new roads will be allowed in the Wild River portion. Road construction within the recreation section shall conform to direction provided in the Development and Management Plan.

Permanent roads generally open.

### **Protection:**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Biological control will be given priority.

Identify specific areas where prescribed fire may be beneficial and cost effective in achieving the objectives of the management area.

Confine, contain and control fires in this management area according to the fire protection standard applicable to the contiguous management area.

Increase law enforcement activity during use periods.

## **Management Area 13 Special features**

### **Description:**

Management Area 13 consists of areas and sites with special attributes or features meriting special management. Included in this management area are areas and sites previously classified including: botanical, scenic landmarks and historic sites. Area guidelines will be followed for future sites placed on the National historic and landmark programs, as well as for areas classified as special areas.

## INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY

### Goals:

Manage classified natural landmark, special areas and cultural resource sites for educational, scientific, and recreational purposes. Cultural resource sites will be managed in accordance with their classification objectives and goals and:

- Provide opportunities for access and use of areas by handicapped persons

### Recreation:

Camping and picnic sites will be developed adjacent to access points at Development Level 3-4. Harden sites as needed to prevent site damage.

For Visitor's Information Service (VIS) facilities the preferred Development Level is 2-3. Use level 4-5 only as needed to protect the sites.

Internal development within Natural History Areas will be for site protection only to Development Level 1-2. Facilities on historic sites will be related to site protection and interpretation.

Maintain diverse opportunities appropriate to the classification or theme for that tract.

Provide interpretation for visitor enhancement and site management that does not violate site integrity. Consider on-site, off-site and/or living interpretation.

Evaluate significant natural history sites and areas for inclusion in the National landmark program.

Develop specific management direction for individual areas and incorporate into the plan as appendices.

Manage to maintain the significant specimens or group exhibits of plants, plant groups or plant communities related to area's botanical features.

Manage to preserve the outstanding or unique natural beauty which warranted the classification.

Manage and treat fossils subject to Antiquities Act provisions. Manage to preserve and interpret significant specimens.

Manage cultural resources to ensure properties and records are protected from unauthorized and inappropriate uses. Manage as a nonrenewal resource to retain their integrity.

Manage trails to mitigate conflicting uses. Maintain to appropriate standard. Provide for handicapped at key areas. Classify qualifying trails as National Recreation Trails. Access generally is non-motorized.

Emphasize a moderate level of development and maintenance of key cultural resource sites. Identify and pursue opportunities for interpretation and enhancement.

Within this management area, the visual quality objectives are retention on approximately 5,600 acres and partial retention on 2,300 acres.

### Fish and Wildlife:

Allow compatible practices as identified in area specific management direction.

### Range:

Range management may occur where compatible with area objectives. Give preference to recreation stock where conflict for livestock forage occurs.

### Timber:

No regulated timber harvest, productive timber land classified as unsuitable for timber production.

## INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY

### **Minerals:**

Withdraw areas as needed.

### **Lands:**

Generally no conflicting uses will be permitted.

Acquire available lands having a significant impact on goals of the specific area.

### **Facilities:**

Local roads are preferred to accomplish area goals. Other roads are not generally compatible.

Generally manage as constant service roads.

### **Protection:**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Biological control will be given priority.

In the Northwest Peaks Scenic area, identify specific areas where prescribed fire may be beneficial and cost effective in achieving the objectives of the management area.

Fires will be controlled at the smallest size possible.

Fire Supervisor's approval is required for use of dozers.

## **Management Area 14 RNA's**

### **Description:**

Management Area 14 consists of areas to be utilized for scientific research and includes the existing and candidate Research Natural Areas (RNA's) and experimental forests.

### **Goals:**

Provide areas for non-manipulative research, observation, and study of undisturbed ecosystems which typify forest, shrubland, grassland, alpine, aquatic, and geologic types.

Provide areas for manipulative research. Specific exceptions to forest standards included in Chapter II are to be identified in the research project plan and approved by the Station Director.

### **Research:**

Specific management direction, including research activities, for individual areas will be incorporated into this plan as amendments.

### **Recreation:**

Experimental Forests: Manage for roaded natural ROS experience subject to research needs.

RNA: Manage for a visual quality objective of preservation.

Experimental Forest: Manage of adopted VQO, subject to research needs.

RNA: Existing trails can be maintained; no new trails are permitted.

### **Wildlife and Fish:**

RNA: No habitat improvement permitted.

Experimental Forests: Practices to be identified in research project plan.

## INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY

### **Timber:**

No timber management practices except as identified in research project plans. Firewood permits and salvage sale permitted through consultation with Research Director on Experimental Forests. Forestland is classed as unsuitable for timber production.

### **Water and Soil:**

Experimental Forests: Exceptions to General Standards and Guidelines may occur for research purposes.

### **Facilities:**

RNA: No new road construction or reconstruction.

Experimental forest: Maintenance and closure as agreed upon with Station Director.

### **Minerals:**

RNA: Common variety minerals will not be sold. No surface occupancy will be used for leasing activities. Areas recommended for withdrawal as needed.

Experimental Forests: Areas withdrawn from entry.

### **Lands:**

Not available for disposal.

RNA: Non-occupancy permits compatible with area objectives will be allowed.

Experimental Forests: Permits compatible with research needs permitted.

### **Protection:**

RNA: Insect & Disease: Generally no control measures will be undertaken unless epidemic populations exist and adjacent lands are threatened. Control generally on adjacent lands only.

Experimental Forests: Control may be used when compatible with research needs.

Experimental Forests Prescribed Fire practices are to be identified in the research project plans.

Confine, contain and control fires to prevent fire loss of trees. Coordinate fire protection with research.

## **Management Area 19**

### **Description**

Management Area 19 consists of a cross section of National Forest lands which have a high value for semi-primitive recreation as well as timber production. Many of the values found in Management Area 10 occur here as well. Timber harvest would be allowed with limited roading of the area. The areas range from dense forest to brush fields to open rocky ridge tops.

### **Goals**

Manage the semi-primitive recreation setting in a near-natural appearing condition and:

- manage wildlife habitat and the timber resource through scheduled low levels of timber harvest with minimum standard interior roads
- protect soil productivity
- provide a semi-primitive environment and elk security areas through road standards and management of long term road closure



## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

- meet or exceed state water quality standards
- meet visual quality objectives

### **Recreation**

Manage toward a semi-primitive recreation experience where the recreationist can find a setting that is near-natural in appearance. Vegetative alterations are small in size and number, dispersed and not obvious. Low interaction between user groups, but there may be some evidence of other users. Minimum standard interior roads that are usually revegetated, some being used as trails, will be encountered. Motorized recreation vehicles will be allowed where they do not conflict with wildlife and other resources needs.

Manage for a recreation trail system that utilizes low standard roads and trails to provide a circulation pattern for the semi-primitive recreation experience. Trail heads with minor facilities can be constructed and maintained.

Manage for approximately 15,500 acres of retention VQO's and 31,900 acres of partial retention VQO's. Existing areas that do not meet the VQO's will be brought up to standard when it is cost effective to do so.

The area in the foreground from system trails will be managed for retention VQO. The remainder of the area will be managed for a partial retention VQO.

Road use will be based on needs identified in project level planning. Seasonal closures as needed to provide big game security.

Allow prescribed burning on existing forage areas and/or revegetate to preferred wildlife forage species.

### **Timber**

Timber management regimes will be based upon analysis of site-specific objectives consistent with the recreation and visual quality objectives. Uneven-aged regeneration systems will generally be used, with even-aged systems applied in areas where it is appropriate.

Timber management may be with an extended rotation age, resulting in less than optimum timber outputs.

### **Water and Soil**

Refer to Best Management Practices

### **Facilities**

Utilize the lowest standard interior road, generally 12 feet wide with vertical cut slopes where appropriate. Smaller harvest equipment may have-to be used. Arterial and collector roads at or near the boundaries of these areas will be provided and managed to accomplish overall transportation objectives in an environmentally sound manner.

Road use will be based on needs identified in project level planning. In areas open to motorized recreational vehicle use, roads identified in the Trail Management Plan as being needed for primitive road use will be maintained for 4-wheel drive recreation vehicles.

Maintain administrative facilities such as lookouts and guard stations.

### **Minerals**

Roads may be constructed for mineral activities where construction is required for the development of the mineral resource.

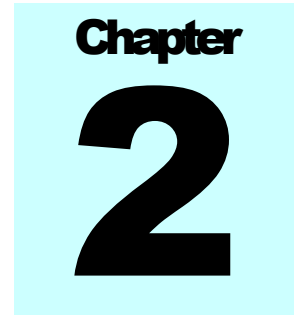
## **INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA SUMMARY**

### **Protection**

Integrated pest management will be used where needed to meet management area objectives. Biological control will be given priority.

Identify specific areas where the role of fire may be beneficial and cost effective in achieving the objectives of the management area.

Confine , contain and control fires within the management area, not within an approved prescription.



## Public Involvement and Comments

In order to facilitate public input on Inventoried Roadless Areas in Idaho, Counties containing or affected by the management of Inventoried Roadless Areas were asked to hold a public information meeting as well as collect written public comment. Summaries of those meetings and the written public record follow. In addition, the draft of this document was available at the County Courthouse for public review approximately two weeks prior to the County Commission's formal adoption of their recommendations to Governor Kempthorne.

### Public Meetings

Bonner County held two public meetings to facilitate information regarding the Inventoried Roadless Areas in Bonner County. Formal information was presented by North Idaho County Commissioners and representatives from the Forest Service. There was also time allotted at the meetings for members of the public to make oral statements. Attendees were encouraged to provide written comment to the County.

#### December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Public Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

Ken Fischman	Mark Spreugel
Barry Rosenberg	Lanie Johnson
Molly O'Reilly	Philip Hough
John Finney	Mike Sudnickvoch

Marcia went on the record as to what is going to be discussed and why the meeting is being held.

John Cantemesa – Shoshone County Commissioner – Give History of Roadless designation starting in 1972. Issue is managing the roadless areas. This is not about primitive areas. Most of these areas already have roads in them. Deadline for comments by March 15.

Introduction of Dan Denning and Dick Kramer

Dick Kramer presentation. Since 2002 process of roadless plan. June 2002 first meeting. 250 public meetings. Maps were reviewed and history given.

Kathy Murphy – Priest Lake Ranger District – Mirrored Dick's statement.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

Dan Denning – Presented what the Boundary County Commissioners did. They chose to look at and come up with a prescription that would manage all. Fire, disease, catastrophic events. They looked at the broader issue. By picking apart each one, it just gets bogged down.

Ken Fishmann 703 A Street, Sandpoint – Concerned. Areas hunt, fish, kayak and want to pass them on to children and grand children. Particularly interested in Scotchman's Peak. Long Canyon interest in Boundary County. Would like to preserve as much as possible in a roadless state.

Mark Springle 00 Selkirk Conservation Alliance – Maintain existing areas, no more road construction. Priest River. Roadless highest integrity, best wildlife, best vegetative state. Decisions are far into the future. Gave a print out of a study.... Long term best interests.

Laney Johnson – 703 A Street, Sandpoint – Thinks there should be a limit to adding new roads. The areas become sorely abused. Can't take them back once they are built.

Phil Hough – Friends of Scotchman's Peak and plan society. Statement made roadless area have roads. He was told they were told only a very few, in any. MA5 does not define as narrowly what is allowed and what is not allowed. 29,000 acres in a certain section is in Kootenai County. Fully functioning areas are within the IRA. Further development will stunt Idaho Forests.

Less than 2% is over 2 miles from a road. Be continued to be recommended as wilderness. Road maintenance budget has been greatly reduced.

Barry Rosenberg – 487 Greenwood Rd., Priest Lake – Another group leader – didn't get the name. Same interest as Mark Springle. Roadless areas remain unlogged, and are about 1/3 of Idaho Forest. MA5 designation doesn't really protect roadless area. It permits logging and roads to be built.

The fire in Boundary County that Dan Denning was speaking of was caused by a logging project. Let's leave a legacy for our children.

Molly O'Reilly – President of Kinickinick Chapter. Native plant chapter. Yukon to Yellowstone corridor in North Idaho is vital to native species. Still discovering new plants. Maintain all current roadless areas as roadless. We are losing the battle with noxious weeds wherever there are roads.

John Finney – Selle Road, Sandpoint. Outdoor recreationist. Been involved in the draft plan. Recognizes multiple uses. Fishing, Logging, Snowmobiling, Hiking, Etc.

Mike Sudnickvoch – 383 Nordman, Idaho – 5A designation – we need management tool to go in a deal with diseases. Priest Lake is very dependent upon snow activities, including snowmobiles. Concerned that people are trying to come in and tell us how to live. Social and economic issues.

Dick Kramer – How many miles? Nine to ten thousand miles of roads

Kathy Murphy – Provide feedback in regards to presenting info. MA 5 has specific trigger points associated.

Commissioners question Dick and Kathy

Laney – Where do we send our written comments?

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

Mr. Rosenberg – How are you going to manage forests without roads? How did they become the best of all environmental issues? Also, takes offense at those who say non-natives don't have best interest in mind. As a 30 year resident, he will never be a native, but has logged, environmental work, consulting work, etc. He hopes to have Bonner County future as a best interest.

Mollie – What different should people say if they wanted something different than MA5?

Kathy – Look at 87 plan and ask if that reflects what the interest are in Bonner County that you want to give back to governor. Then you would have to hand that in to the governor as a change.

Commissioner Young – We need to come to the consensus of all one voice.

Mike Sudnockvoch – Management process over fire and disease. Native fish question. What did we have 500 years ago? Noxious weeds 500 years ago may be a native plant now. He feels these radical groups are trying to set up more wilderness, but he is greatly opposed to any more wilderness.

Linda – Any recommended wilderness acreage area in Bonner County? There is an addition area in Boundary County.

Mark – Interior Columbia Basin. Ice Bump Study – Most healthy roadless area. Least healthy roadless area.

Ken Fishmann – Road for certain people holding – Stimpson Logging. Rider on the Bill right now, mining companies will be able to make a claim or turn a mining claim around and sell to private people. Would roads have to be made to connect to those places.

Dick can't keep track of all the riders.

Kathy Murphy – What is that use and how is it reasonable to recognize use. Not a given a road could be built, or couldn't be built.

Another public hearing. Possibly a Thursday afternoon. January 12<sup>th</sup>. Would still get a couple of days.

IN NOTICE WE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGE WRITTEN COMMENTS. EMAIL RIGHT IN NOTICE

Karl moves to continue to January 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Joe second. All in favor. The motion passed.

Minutes respectfully presented by Becky Witte, Deputy Clerk, Bonner County Commissioners.

**January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Public Meeting Minutes**

In attendance:

Larry Gerow  
Bill Bennett  
Susan Drumheller  
Richard Benscoter  
Greg Linton

Neal Leen  
Gretchen Ward  
Dale Gill  
Jeff Connolly

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

Commissioner Young was acting Chair and gave input regarding the issue at hand. It will be specific to the roadless issue.

Dick Kramer from the Forest Service gave a presentation. He spoke to the meeting process and they have had over 250 meetings. The roadless area is a legal word. In '79 it was identified as large areas that were mainly roadless. They are being asked to determine how they are supposed to manage them. Many of these lines are still roadless, but many districts have roads in them. The line is still being carried in 2006 where these areas have been established, and the map shows how they are currently being managed, and how they are proposed to be managed. Discussed MA1, MA3, MA4, MA10. Used the Bee Top area to show the way it works and the changes being made. Helicopter harvesting was suggested as an alternative.

Kathy concurred with Dick.

Historically the Forest Service Road and the type of road MA5 would be. Commissioner Dye requesting he clarify this. There were roads called Capital Investment Roads regarding timber sales. The MA5 roads are roads built for timber harvest, and then those roads are obliterated.

Process of getting a road put in was discussed.

Larry Gerough – Highway 57, Priest River – Business supported by timber. Upset about the caribou area.

Neil – Echo's Larry's views. Use forest rather than block up.

Gretchen Ward – Roadless rule was correct when Pres. Clinton enacted it. Two-thirds of the people supported that rule when set up. Roads are inlands for species to invade and upset the balance. She feels forest needs to be protected from vehicles. 532 Marion, Sandpoint.

Susan Drumheller – Idaho Conservation League – 218 Cedar St, Sandpoint – League works toward clean air, clean water and conservation of wildlife. Process is not to close roads, it is just in regards to new roads. Or trail closures. League supports consistent approach to management. Oppose road building for commercial activity. Except fuel reduction in wildlife areas through helicopter management. Preserving roadless area strikes a balance. Helps preserve areas. More roads means more maintenance cost. Take care of the roads we already have. Protect water quality for irrigation, fishing, boating. Roadless areas provide refuge to endangered species. 80% fires are within roaded areas. Mark Springle was stopped by the road slide and had a presentation he wanted to give you. Powerpoint presentation.

Dale Gill – 443 S Camp Bay Road – Keep the word roadless as the politicians know what the term means. Back in the 70's when they did the clear cut area in Salmo. Take into consideration of basic ecology circumstances. Clean air, clean water, clean soil. Want to be provided with a good life. You don't get it back once you start using it. Economic growth can lead to air pollution, water pollution, erosion. Save as much wilderness as possible. Scotchman Peak are should remain as wilderness as possible. Think in terms of the quality of life.

Karl Dye mentioned 25% of the timber harvest goes back into maintenance road. Speaks on the Craig Widen bill.

Richard Benscotter – Reeder Bay – Opposed to non-motorized areas. Don't feel necessary or would be an improvement. Opposed to increased wilderness area. When cutting off areas where people

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

go. You take away large areas where people can disperse. Keeps people close. Timber area has dropped to zilch. Lost areas to grizzly bear area. Suppose to get it back when grizzlies return. Hasn't happened. Spoke on the Caribou issue. Misconception. More timber here than in the 1920's.

Jeff Connolly – 4<sup>th</sup> St, Priest River, ID. Changes area scary. Has been a logger his whole life. Issues are creeping up on them, but they are fighting back. The forest plan is a good starting point. Each wilderness area must be scrutinized. The local managers and public input should be to manage the areas. Huge roadless areas above Priest Lake. Not advocating roading these areas, but this has to be looked at. We have gotten away from the multiple use.

Bob Winhausen – 510 Mountain View Dr. – when Butch Otter proposed selling public lands, and 80% of people who responded in the Idaho Spokesman, opposed. Story of wilderness area designation in the Sierra's.

Sunny Linton – 75 New Valley Loop, Priest River, ID – Logging family. Believes in public use of forest service land. Did a lot of Priest Lake logging. Hasn't done hauling in Priest Lake area or in the Bonners Ferry area. In the last year, he has hauled stuff over clear cut areas from 30 years ago. Doesn't think clear cutting harms the wildlife.

Larry Gerrough – regarding taxes County & State receives from harvesting timber.

Dick Kramer – Funding question from Gretchen. Not enough money to do what is necessary.

Kathy – Maintenance of roads was historically done through the harvest off of forest service land i.e. timber, mining, etc.

Dick – Summary comment – Desires and plans of the land is always discussed. Premises since 1905, driven by public comment, science.

Commissioner Young closing statement as far as what we are hearing in these meetings. Board will receive written testimony until January 31, 2006.

Commissioner Dye presented closing statement.

Commissioner Dye moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Young vacated the Chair and seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.

## Summary of Written Comments

The following is a full summary of the written comments received by Bonner County. Copies of the full public record of comments are available at the Bonner County Courthouse and the Office of Species Conservation in Boise, Idaho.

### Summary of general comments received by Bonner County

Table 2.1 summarizes comments received by Bonner County that are not specific to a national forest or an Inventoried Roadless Area. These comments typically focus on the commenter’s general opinion on the management of roadless areas in Idaho.

**Table 2.1. General public comments received by Bonner County.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	Summarized Comment
Jim Wigginton	Nordman, Id		Bonner County	Wants greater access/use on all roadless areas.
Ron Marak	Nordman, Id	Priest Lake Trails & Snowmobile Club	Bonner County	Keep all Idaho National Forests open to motorized use.
Lanie Johnson	Sandpoint, Id		Bonner County	Maintain as much public land is possible in a roadless condition.
Ken & Mary Jo Haag	Sandpoint, Id		Bonner County	Protect the forests in the state in which they now exist.
Gretchen Ward	Sandpoint, Id		Bonner County	Supports Clinton’s roadless rule.
Brian & Janice Odenthal	Nordman, Id		Bonner County	Keep roadless areas open for multiple use and fire protection.
Jim & Doris Miller	Spokane, Wa		Bonner County	Roadless areas should be open to motorized vehicles. No more wilderness.
Randy Buehler	Coolin, Id		Bonner County	Keep the roads open, so the public can enjoy the mountains.
Jeff Berglund			Bonner County	Roadless issue is running people out of the woods to benefit the environmental lockup mentality.
Charles Thomas	Cavanuagh Bay, Id	Priest Lake Trails & Snowmobile Club	Bonner County	Keep the roads open and do not create anymore roadless areas.
Bart Triesch	Priest Lake, Id		Bonner County	Keep the forests open for snowmobile use.
Linda Gustin	Priest Lake, Id		Bonner County	Too many roadless areas near Priest Lake. Snowmobiling does not harm wildlife.
Floyd & Judy Holmes	Priest Lake, Id		Bonner County	Roadless areas should be open to motorized vehicles. No more wilderness.
Philip J. Hough	Sagle, Id		Bonner County	Preserve the roadless areas.
Shawn Keough	Coeur d’ Alene, Id	Associated Logging Contractors	Bonner County	Oppose more no-use designations. Agrees w/ current IPNF plan, but want to maintain flexibility for forest managers.
Craig Hill			Bonner County	Keep our public lands open for public access and multiple use.
Forrest Magers	Priest Lake, Id		Bonner County	Keep USFS roads open. Caribou are just an excuse to close roads.
Angelique Waldron	Priest Lake, Id		Bonner County	Keep the roads open, so the public can enjoy the mountains.
Ken Fischman	Sandpoint, Id		Bonner County	No more roads on public lands in Idaho.

### Summary of comments specific to Bonner County

Table 2.2 summarizes comments received by Bonner County that are not specific to a national forest or Inventoried Roadless Areas; however, they do reflect the commenter’s opinion on the general management of Inventoried Roadless Areas in Bonner County, Idaho.



**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

**Table 2.2. Public comments specific to Bonner County.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	Summarized Comment
Gerrie Buehler	Priest Lake, Id		Bonner County	Keep the roads around Priest Lake open for public access.
Molly O'Reilly	Sandpoint, Id	Kinnikinnick Chapter of the Native Plant Society	Bonner County	Maintain roadless areas with the highest standards of protection.
Mark Sprengel	Priest River, Id	Selkirk Conservation Alliance	Bonner County	All roadless areas in Bonner County should protected from road construction or other intrusive activities.
Carol Jenkins	Sagle, Id		Bonner County	Protect roadless areas in Bonner County.
Tom Holman			Bonner County	Does not support additional roadless areas in Bonner County.

**Summary of comments specific to the Idaho Panhandle National Forest**

Table 2.3 summarizes the public comment received by Bonner County regarding the general management of non-specific Inventoried Roadless Areas on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

**Table 2.3. Public comments specific to the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	National Forest	Summarized Comment
Mike Murray	Sagle, Id		Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Protect remaining roadless areas for their pristine nature, particularly on Plowboy Mountain.
Julie A. Dalsaso	Coeur d' Alene, Id		Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Unroaded areas should be protected from further roading & timber harvest.

**Summary of comments on Specific Inventoried Roadless Areas on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest**

The following tables are the summaries of comments received by Bonner County that are specific to an Inventoried Roadless Area. All of the Inventoried Roadless Areas commented on in this section are located in the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

**Beetop IRA**

**Table 2.4. Comments Received Specific to Beetop IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	National Forest	Inventoried Roadless Area	Summarized Comment
Neil & Ann Wimberley	Hope, Id		Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Beetop	Beetop has much cultural, historical, and scenic value. Preserve and protect it as a roadless area

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

**Table 2.4. Comments Received Specific to Beetop IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	National Forest	Inventoried Roadless Area	Summarized Comment
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Beetop	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**Blacktail Mountain (sdpt) IRA**

**Table 2.5. Comments Received Specific to Blacktail Mountain (sdpt) IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	National Forest	Inventoried Roadless Area	Summarized Comment
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Blacktail Mountain	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.
David Hall	Moscow, Id		Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Blacktail Mountain	Part of public watershed. Should be closed to motor vehicles.

**Blacktail Mountain (pl) IRA**

**Table 2.6 Comments Received Specific to Blacktail Mountain (pl) IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	National Forest	Inventoried Roadless Area	Summarized Comment
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Blacktail Mountain	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

**East Cathedral Peak IRA**

**Table 2.7 Comments Received Specific to East Cathedral Peak IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	National Forest	Inventoried Roadless Area	Summarized Comment
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	East Cathedral Peak	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**Little Grass Mountain IRA**

**Table 2.8 Comments Received Specific to Little Grass Mountain IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	National Forest	Inventoried Roadless Area	Summarized Comment
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Little Grass Mountain	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**Magee IRA**

**Table 2.9 Comments Received Specific to Magee IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

Name	Comment Origin	Organization	Received By	National Forest	Inventoried Roadless Area	Summarized Comment
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Magee	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

**Packsaddle IRA**

**Table 2.10 Comments Received Specific to Packsaddle IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Packsaddle	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**Salmo-Priest IRA**

**Table 2.11 Comments Received Specific to Salmo-Priest IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Salmo Priest	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**Schafer Peak IRA**

**Table 2.12 Comments Received Specific to Schafer Peak IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Schafer Peak	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

**Scotchman Peaks IRA**

**Table 2.13 Comments Received Specific to Scotchman Peaks IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Dale C. Gill	Spokane, Wa		Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Scotchman Peaks	Change designation to wilderness.
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Scotchmen Peaks	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**Trestle Peak IRA**

**Table 2.14 Comments Received Specific to Trestle Peak IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Trestle Peak	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**Upper Priest IRA**

**Table 2.15 Comments Received Specific to Upper Priest IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Upper Priest	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS**

**West Fork Elk IRA**

**Table 2.16 Comments Received Specific to West Fork Elk IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	West Fork Elk	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**White Mountain IRA**

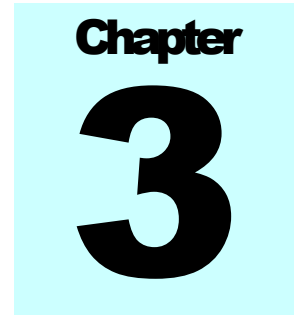
**Table 2.17 Comments Received Specific to White Mountain IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	White Mountain	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.

**Mount Willard - Lake Estelle IRA**

**Table 2.18 Comments Received Specific to Mount Willard - Lake Estelle IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment Origin</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received By</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Inventoried Roadless Area</b>	<b>Summarized Comment</b>
Jonathan Oppenheimer	Boise, Id	Idaho Conservation League	Bonner County	Idaho Panhandle	Mount Willard – Lake Estelle	All IRAs in Bonner County should be amended to maintain unroaded values. MA's 1,2,3,4,6,7, and 19 changed to prohibit road construction and commodity extraction. MA's 10,11,12,13, and 14 should remain in current designations.



## **Position of Bonner County Commissioners**

The Bush Administration has invited states to petition the federal government regarding the management of Inventoried Roadless Areas. Governor Kempthorne has taken up the offer and will submit recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture to be placed in the Federal Register.

Once a state has developed and submitted its petition, and the petition is accepted by the Secretary, the Forest Service will work with the state to develop and publish a subsequent state-specific rulemaking for Inventoried Roadless Areas that addresses management requirements proposed by the petitioning state.

The Governor tasked each county to come up with recommendations for Inventoried Roadless Areas in the county and submit those recommendations to his office by March 1<sup>st</sup> 2006.

After holding public meetings, taking public comments and reviewing the current management plans for roadless areas, the Bonner County Commissioners have drafted recommendations for the Governor regarding the desired future conditions of Inventoried Roadless Areas in the county.

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

### **Bonner County Commission Recommendations**

The Bonner County Commissioners, after holding two public hearings and receiving written testimony concerning the proposed designations for current Inventoried Roadless Areas in the National Forest have decided to support the latest version of the new Forest Management Plan and its protection for roadless areas under the MA-5 backcountry designation.

Public comments ranged from asking for all public lands to be open to all recreation and management activities, to asking for all human activities to be restricted. There were very few comments on specific areas within the forest and most comments were general in nature.

After hearing and seeing the public involvement undertaken by the local ranger districts and the compromises they have reached between the local recreation, environmental and industry groups, the Commissioners did not hear any significantly new testimony that would warrant a position varying from that of the Forest Service. It appears that the proposed MA-5 designation, for a majority of the previously Inventoried Roadless Areas, will result in no significant changes in the method that these areas are managed. That would include no increase in permanent road-building activities, the ability to access and use any currently open roads and/or trails for motorized and non-motorized uses, but would also allow management activities to occur to enhance forest health.

The Commission further supports the designation and management of the Scotchman's Peak Wilderness Area. Its steep slopes, remote valleys, grizzly bear habitat and possession of the highest point in Bonner County all support inclusion as wilderness.

Designation as wilderness or MA-5 for the remaining Inventoried Roadless Areas in Bonner County will be the culmination of over 25 years of study under the original RARE2 plan.

In conclusion, the Bonner County Board of Commissioners would like to add their support for the increase in timber sale volumes from Federal Lands in Bonner County. With the impending end of Craig Wyden funding for our school districts and county road and bridge budgets, we realize that the only way to maintain our road system at current levels without raising taxes is to increase timber revenues under the 25% plan. We feel that revenues could be increased while still following all NEPA, Clean Air and Water, Endangered Species and Forest Management Acts.



**Resolution of Adoption**

**Resolution No. 06-16  
Commissioners of Bonner County, Idaho  
Adopting Forest Service Roadless Recommendation**

This resolution adopted by the Bonner County Board of Commissioners declares support of the Bonner County Inventoried Roadless Area Recommendations, which includes a summary of the National Forest Inventoried Roadless Areas in the County, a summary of public involvement and comments, and recommendations by this Board of County Commissioners.

WHEREAS, The Bonner County Board of Commissioners have held public informational meetings and recorded oral public statements and comments; and

WHEREAS, The Bonner County Board of Commissioners have collected and reviewed written public comment on future proposed management of Inventoried Roadless Areas in Bonner County and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, The Bonner County Board of Commissioners have reviewed the management prescriptions of Inventoried Roadless Areas in Bonner County detailed in current National Forest Plans and summarized in the Bonner County Inventoried Roadless Area Recommendations document; and

WHEREAS, The Bonner County Board of Commissioners have developed and reviewed the recommendations including no significant increase in road-building activities, the ability to access and use any currently open roads and/or trails for motorized and non-motorized uses, and allow management activities to occur to enhance forest health and access; and


WHEREAS, the impending end of Craig Wyden funding for our school districts and county road and bridge budgets, the Board realizes the only way to maintain the Bonner County road system at current levels without raising taxes is to increase timber revenues under the 25% plan, while still following all NEPA, Clean Air and Water, Endangered Species and Forest Management Acts; and

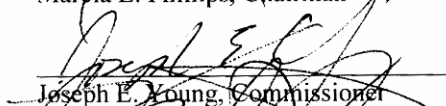
WHEREAS, the designation and management of the Scotchman's Peak Wilderness Area, with its steep slopes, remote valleys, grizzly bear habitat and possession of the highest point in Bonner County all support inclusion as wilderness.

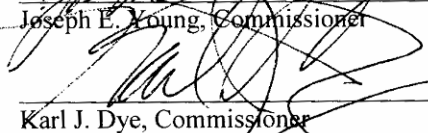
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bonner County Board of Commissioners do hereby adopt and support the Bonner County Inventoried Roadless Area Recommendations, as the Bonner County recommendations to the Governor of the State of Idaho, for a State of Idaho petition to the USDA Secretary for rulemaking regarding Inventoried Roadless Areas in Idaho.

Passed and approved this 22nd Day of February 2006

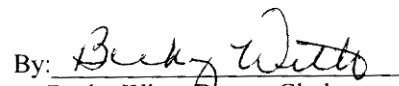
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, BONNER COUNTY, IDAHO

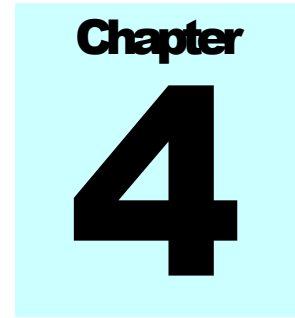
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marcia L. Phillips, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph E. Young, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karl J. Dye, Commissioner

ATTEST: Marie Scott, Clerk

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Becky Witte, Deputy Clerk



## Supporting Information

### Board of County Commissioners

- Chairman Marcia Phillips, District I
- Joseph Young, District II
- Karl Dye, District III

Bonner County Courthouse  
 215 South First Avenue  
 Sandpoint, Idaho 83864  
 208-265-1438

### Preparers

#### Northwest Management, Inc.

The following personnel participated in the formulation, compilation, editing, and analysis of this report.

**Table 4.1. Preparers.**

Name	Affiliation	Role
William E. Schlosser, Ph.D.	Northwest Management, Inc.	<b>Project Manager</b> , Regional Planner, Natural Resource Economist
Vincent P. Corrao, B.S.	Northwest Management, Inc.	Resource Management Specialist, Principal in Charge
Vaiden E. Bloch, M.S.	Northwest Management, Inc.	GIS Analyst, Resource Appraiser
Tera R. King, B.S.	Northwest Management, Inc.	Technical Services Associate
Toby R. Brown, B.S.	Northwest Management, Inc.	Technical Services Associate
Adrienne Oryhon, B.S.	Northwest Management, Inc.	Technical Services Associate

**Table of Tables**

Table 1.1. IRA summaries in Bonner County..... 10  
 Table 2.1. General public comments received by Bonner County..... 37  
 Table 2.2. Public comments specific to Bonner County. .... 38  
 Table 2.3. Public comments specific to the Idaho Panhandle National Forest..... 38  
 Table 2.4. Comments Received Specific to Beetop IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. .... 38  
 Table 2.5. Comments Received Specific to Blacktail Mountain (sdpt) IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. .... 39  
 Table 2.6 Comments Received Specific to Blacktail Mountain (pl) IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.39  
 Table 2.7 Comments Received Specific to East Cathedral Peak IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. 40  
 Table 2.8 Comments Received Specific to Little Grass Mountain IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest.40  
 Table 2.9 Comments Received Specific to Magee IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. .... 40  
 Table 2.10Comments Received Specific to Packsaddle IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. .... 41  
 Table 2.11 Comments Received Specific to Salmo-Priest IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. .... 41  
 Table 2.12 Comments Received Specific to Schafer Peak IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. .... 41  
 Table 2.13 Comments Received Specific to Scotchman Peaks IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest... 42  
 Table 2.14 Comments Received Specific to Trestle Peak IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest..... 42  
 Table 2.15 Comments Received Specific to Upper Priest IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest..... 42  
 Table 2.16 Comments Received Specific to West Fork Elk IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. .... 43  
 Table 2.17 Comments Received Specific to White Mountain IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest..... 43  
 Table 2.18 Comments Received Specific to Mount Willard - Lake Estelle IRA, Idaho Panhandle National Forest. .... 43  
 Table 4.1. Preparers. .... 47

**Table of Figures**

Figure 1.1. Location Map of Bonner County ..... 1  
 Figure 1.2. Inventoried Roadless Areas in Northern Idaho..... 2  
 Figure 1.3. Inventoried Roadless Areas in Bonner County..... 3  
 Figure 1.4. IRAs: Blacktail Mountain, Schafer Peak, Packsaddle. .... 4  
 Figure 1.5. IRAs: Buckhorn Ridge, Trestle Peak, Mt. Willard / Lake Estelle, Beetop, Scotchman Peaks.... 5  
 Figure 1.6. IRAs: Roberts #691, Willard Estelle, Buckhorn Ridge, Trestle Peak, Mt. Willard / Lake Estelle.6  
 Figure 1.7. IRAs: Salmo-Priest, Upper Priest, Little Grass Mountain, Blacktail Mountain..... 7  
 Figure 1.8. IRAs: West Fork Elk, East Cathedral Peak, Schafer Peak, Packsaddle, Magee..... 8  
 Figure 1.9. IRAs: White Mountain. .... 9

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

This plan was developed by Northwest Management, Inc., under contract with the Idaho Association of Counties, working with the Board of County Commissioners in Bonner County.

**Citation of this work:**

Schlosser, W.E., T.R. King, T.R. Brown, and A.L. Oryhon (compiled by). 2006. Bonner County Inventoried Roadless Area Recommendations. March 1, 2006. Moscow, Idaho. Pp 49.

---

Last Page of Document



**Northwest Management, Inc.**  
233 East Palouse River Drive  
PO Box 9748  
Moscow ID 83843

208-883-4488 Telephone  
208-883-1098 Fax  
[NWManage@consulting-foresters.com](mailto:NWManage@consulting-foresters.com) e-Mail  
<http://www.Consulting-Foresters.com/> Internet

**To Obtain Additional Copies  
of this document contact:**

Commissioners  
215 S. First Ave.  
Sandpoint, ID 83864  
Phone: 208-265-1438  
Fax: 208-265-1460  
Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm

Ver 20060301

(Remainder Intentionally Blank)