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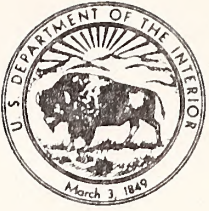


UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SALMON DISTRICT

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salmon District
Box 430
Salmon, Idaho 83467

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We have forwarded for your review and comment the Draft Challis Plan Amendment and Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement for four Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) in the Challis Planning Unit, Salmon District, Idaho. This draft has been prepared by a team of resource specialists from the Bureau of Land Management.

Utilizing existing inventory data and identified significant issues, the team has identified and analyzed impacts which could result if the lands involved were designated by Congress as wilderness and the impacts if Congress decided against a wilderness designation. Also considered are several alternatives which would divide two of the WSAs into areas with some wilderness and some non-wilderness.

A public hearing is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 30, 1982, to receive oral and written testimony on the document. The hearing will be held at the Northgate Inn in Challis, Idaho. In order for us to prepare a preliminary list of testifiers, please contact the Salmon District office by June 28, 1982. If a large number of persons wish to testify, a time limit may be required. If you have any further questions about the hearing, please call Dave Wolf, EIS team leader, at (208) 756-2201.

Further written comments are invited. To be considered in the preparation of the final Plan Amendment and EIS, they must be received on or before August 2, 1982. Oral and written comments will receive equal consideration in preparing the final statement. Written comments should be submitted to:

District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Box 430
Salmon, Idaho 83467

We look forward to your comments on this effort. We thank you for your past and future help in our efforts to manage public lands in the best interests of all concerned.

Sincerely,

Jerry Goodman
Acting District Manager

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CHALLIS PLAN AMENDMENT

AND

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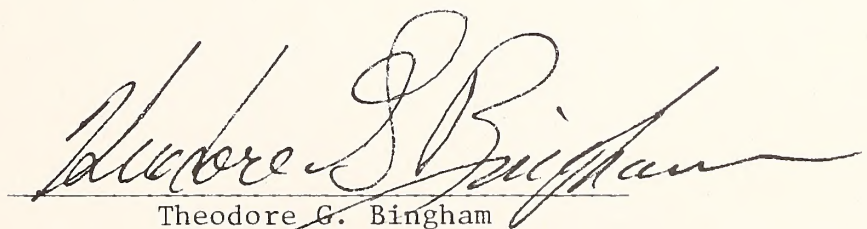
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IDAHO

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Theodore G. Bingham". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Theodore G. Bingham
Acting State Director

Public Review of the Statement

There will be copies of this draft environmental impact statement available for review at the following places.

Challis City Library
Challis, ID 83226

Custer County Agricultural Agent
Box 160
Challis, ID 83226

Salmon Public Library
Box 897
Salmon, ID 83467

Lemhi County Agricultural Agent
Box A
Salmon, ID 83467

Soil Conservation Service
Box 550
Salmon, ID 83467

BLM Offices

State Office
550 W. Fort Street
Boise, ID 83724

Coeur d'Alene District
Box 1889
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Shoshone District
Box 2B
Shoshone, ID 83352

Boise District
3948 Development Ave.
Boise, ID 83705

Burley District
200 South Oakley Highway
Burley, ID 83318

Idaho Falls District
940 Lincoln Road
Idaho Falls, ID 83401

Salmon District
Box 430
Salmon, ID 83467

CHALLIS PLAN AMENDMENT AND

WILDERNESS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(X) Draft () Final Environmental Impact Statement

1. Type of Action () Administrative (X) Legislative

2. Responsible Agencies:

a. Lead Agency: Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management;

b. Cooperating Agencies: None

3. Abstract: The Challis Plan Amendment and Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement analyzes four Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) in the Challis Planning Unit, Salmon District, Idaho, to determine resource impacts which could result from designation or non-designation of these WSAs as wilderness. WSA 46-11, Corral-Horse Basin, 48,500 acres, is recommended as non-suitable for wilderness. WSAs 46-14, Jerry Peak, 46,150 acres, and 46-14a, Jerry Peak West, 13,530 acres, have been recommended as suitable for wilderness designation. A recommendation for WSA 46-13, Boulder Creek, 1,930 acres, has been deferred to allow joint study with the adjacent U.S. Forest Service, Rare II Area, 04-551, White Cloud-Boulder.

4. Comments must be received by: AUG 02 1982

5. Send comments to and for further information contact:

Dave Wolf - Team Leader
Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 430
Salmon, Idaho 83467

Telephone (208) 756-2201

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SUMMARY

This Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analyzes the environmental impacts resulting from designating or not designating three Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) as wilderness. The proposed action recommends a non-suitable, no wilderness designation for one WSA, 46-11, 48,500 acres, and a suitable wilderness designation for two WSAs, 46-14, 46,150 acres, and 46-14a, 13,530 acres. For a fourth WSA, 46-13, 1,930 acres, a recommendation has been deferred to allow joint study with the Forest Service's RARE II Area 04-551. The total acreage involved in the four WSAs is 110,110 acres.

Each of the three WSAs has as alternatives all wilderness and no wilderness/no action. Two of the WSAs have a partial alternative(s) splitting each WSA into both suitable and non-suitable portions. The wilderness alternative recommends all three WSAs for designation. The no wilderness/no action alternative would remove the interim management restrictions and reinstate the existing Challis MFP decisions. The partial alternatives were developed due to the existence of roads or substantial jeep trails within the WSAs which could be considered more appropriate boundary lines.

The two most significant issues developed in the scoping process were: 1) the amount of designated wilderness lands appropriate within the State of Idaho; and 2) the effects that a wilderness designation would have on existing uses, particularly livestock grazing. Designation of any or all of the three WSAs would not contribute significantly to the amount of wilderness lands in the state. Designation of any of the three would however add a unit containing the Rocky Mountain Forest Province/Sagebrush Steppe ecosystem (Bailey-Kuchler M3110-49) to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Impacts to the livestock grazing program would be minimal because: 1) livestock use is specifically allowed for in the Wilderness Act; and 2) the existing allotment management plans and planned range improvements will be fully in effect and implemented prior to final action on wilderness suitability.

INTRODUCTION

Purpose and Need

The purpose of this plan Amendment and EIS is to amend the Challis Management Framework Plan (MFP) and to evaluate four Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) in the Challis Planning Unit, Salmon District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to determine resource impacts which could result from designation or non-designation of these WSAs as wilderness.

The Challis Grazing Environmental Statement (ES), November 1978, and Challis MFP, March 1979, were completed before the Wilderness Inventory and did not consider potential wilderness designations.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 requires the Secretary of the Interior to inventory public lands and to identify those areas possessing wilderness characteristics as defined in the Wilderness Act of 1964. The wilderness inventory of the Challis Planning Unit was completed in January 1980. The State Director's Final Inventory Decision (Appendix 1) identified four WSAs:

46-11 Corral-Horse Basin	48,500 acres*
46-13 Boulder Creek	1,930 acres*
46-14 Jerry Peak	46,150 acres*
46-14a Jerry Peak West	13,530 acres*

*Most accurate figures available. Revised from inventory figures.

The wilderness inventory was conducted in two phases - initial and intensive. The Initial Inventory eliminated areas which obviously lacked the required wilderness characteristics. The Intensive Inventory then evaluated the remaining areas to see if they did in fact meet the basic wilderness characteristics of size, naturalness, and an outstanding opportunity for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. The inventory documents are on file in the Salmon District, Bureau of Land Management, Salmon, Idaho.

WSA's will be studied individually or collectively through the BLM Resource Management Planning (RMP) process to analyze all values, resources, and uses within the areas. The study findings, including public participation, determine whether these areas will be recommended as suitable or unsuitable for designation as wilderness. Determining an area's suitability or non-suitability for preservation as wilderness, means determining whether the area is more suitable for wilderness designation or more suitable for other uses.

During the period of the review and until final action is taken, the Secretary is required to manage the WSAs so as not to impair their suitability for preservation as wilderness. WSAs are managed according to the BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands under Wilderness Review (IMP). This policy prohibits activities which might impair a WSA's wilderness characteristics. Any impairment of a WSA's wilderness characteristics would constrain the Secretary, President, or Congress from making a wilderness recommendation/decision based on characteristics existing at the time of WSA designation. Thus, management under the IMP could delay or modify development oriented decisions already incorporated into the original Challis MFP.

Two methods exist by which this delay can be resolved:

- 1) Make wilderness recommendations when the Challis plan is revised;
- 2) Amend the existing Challis MFP.

Reports on all wilderness study areas must be completed by October 21, 1991. Only Congress can designate an area as wilderness. In order to minimize uncertainty regarding land uses and resource conflicts, the Secretary has established several goals for completing wilderness studies. First, all wilderness studies will be completed by the BLM no later than the end of Fiscal Year 1987. Second, wilderness study areas with significant resource conflicts or contained in recently completed management plan areas will be scheduled for early completion within the overall 1987 completion goal. The four WSAs in the Challis Planning Unit are scheduled for study completion in 1982.

A revised Challis Plan is not scheduled until 1989 and the EIS process requires one to two years. This would miss the BLM's goal for Challis wilderness study completion. It would also keep some lands under IMP years longer than necessary. A wilderness amendment and EIS, could be ready for the Secretary by the end of 1982.

To avoid unnecessary delays in prior decision implementation and to keep pace with the BLM's wilderness study schedule, an amendment to the Challis MFP is needed.

At the conclusion of the amendment and EIS process, a Wilderness Study Report (WSR) will be prepared that addresses all WSAs in the planning unit, presenting the results of the study and containing the BLM's wilderness recommendations. The study report will draw from the planning documents, the EIS and the results of public participation.

Following study completion, recommendations are made as to whether the wilderness study areas are suitable or unsuitable for designation as wilderness. A mineral survey will be conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Bureau of Mines (BM) for any area recommended as suitable.

Location

The four WSAs are located in the East Fork of the Salmon River drainage (Map 1) about 25 miles south of Challis, Idaho. Three of the WSAs are adjacent to the Challis National Forest or the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (see Maps 2 and 3).

Planning Process

The Challis MFP was completed under the MFP process. This Amendment and EIS is being prepared utilizing the new RMP guidelines, as required by the RMP regulations.

The first three steps of the RMP process, Identification of Issues, Development of Planning Criteria, and Inventory and Data Collection, are completed prior to writing the plan amendment and EIS. Identification of issues was accomplished through the receipt of public comment through mailings and a public meeting. The final issues were published in the Federal Register on June 12, 1981. The Wilderness Study Policy describes basic planning criteria to use in wilderness studies. No additional criteria were developed. Inventory and data needs were minimal since the existing Challis Grazing EIS and the Wilderness Inventory contain current information on all resources.

Conformance Statement

The Proposed Action is not in conformance with the Challis MFP, which did not include wilderness in its multiple use analysis. Only the portions of the Proposed Action which recommend wilderness are not in conformance. A final no-wilderness decision would leave the existing MFP unchanged.

Relationship of Alternatives to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Requirements

The Alternatives (including the proposed action) considered in this EIS all achieve the requirements of NEPA and other environmental laws and policies. Each of the alternatives is designed to use practicable means to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony. In this concept, there are no significant differences among the alternatives considered herein.

PLANNING ISSUES AND CRITERIA

Major Issues and Concerns

Background

The first step of the Amendment/EIS process is the identification of significant issues. This was initiated by receiving comments from the public; from Federal, State and local governments; and from interest groups concerning resource needs, uses, development, and protection opportunities. The District Manager, using this input along with records of resource conditions, trends, needs, and problems, developed a list of issues.

Significant Issues

- 1) Idaho residents have strong feelings about the amount of wilderness lands in the state. Wilderness proponents cite the need to protect remaining high quality natural areas and the need to offset lands being developed. Proponents of full resource utilization feel that Idaho has as much designated wilderness as the state can afford and that too much land is "locked up" and unavailable for multiple use and development.
- 2) The specific effects that a wilderness designation would have on existing uses, i.e., grazing, hunting, ORV, mining, wildlife management, etc. are of particular concern to local residents.
- 3) Effects of new wilderness designations which are perceived as "locking up" public land areas. This especially relates to mineral exploration and development.
- 4) The State of Idaho has indicated it will insist on exchange or purchase of state sections surrounded by wilderness lands. Their concerns center around access to and continued revenue production from state lands.
- 5) Feasibility of joint BLM and Forest Service study of WSA 46-13 and the adjacent RARE II Area 04-551 White Cloud-Boulder.

Some of the above issues are not strictly environmental related concerns normally found in EISS. They do, however, all relate to the Wilderness Study Policy, Planning Criteria or Quality Standards and are issues to be considered.

Public Participation

An intensive effort has been made to involve the public, other agencies, industry, and special interest groups. Appendix 2 outlines the public participation plan. The mailing list is on file at the Salmon District Office.

Planning Criteria and Quality Standards

Background

The Wilderness Study Policy (Federal Register 2/3/82) identifies two Planning Criteria and six Quality Standards for use in planning efforts involving wilderness. Planning Criteria guide amendment development and provide parameters for analysis and decision making. Quality Standards foster consistency in documenting the rationale for wilderness recommendations and ensure that other resource considerations are being adequately addressed.

Planning Criteria

All BLM wilderness recommendations - both "suitable for preservation as wilderness" and "non-suitable" - will be justified on the basis of the following criteria:

Criterion No. 1 Evaluation of Wilderness Values

Consider the extent to which each of the following components contributes to the overall value of an area for wilderness purposes.

a. Mandatory wilderness characteristics: The quality of the area's mandatory wilderness characteristics - size, naturalness, and outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

b. Special features: The presence or absence, and the quality of the optional wilderness characteristics, i.e. ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

c. Multiple resource benefits: The benefits to other multiple resource values and uses which only wilderness designation of the area could ensure.

d. Diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System: Consider the extent to which wilderness designation of the area under study would contribute to expanding the diversity of the National Wilderness Preservation System from the standpoint of each of the factors listed below:

- 1) Expanding the diversity of natural systems and features, as represented by ecosystems and landforms.
- 2) Assessing the opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation within a day's driving time (five hours) of major population centers.
- 3) Balancing the geographic distribution of wilderness areas.

The analysis should consider, in separate categories, all Federal and State lands designated as wilderness, officially recommended for wilderness, and under wilderness study.

Criterion No. 2 Manageability:

The area must be capable of being effectively managed to preserve its wilderness character.

Quality Standards for Analysis and Documentation

The following are the six quality standards for analysis and documentation that must be met in all wilderness EIS's and wilderness study reports.

Standard No. 1: Energy and Mineral Resource Values

Recommendations as to an area's suitability or non-suitability for wilderness designation will reflect a thorough consideration of any identified or potential energy and mineral resource values.

Standard No. 2: Impacts on Other Resources

Consider the extent to which other resource values or uses of the area would be foregone or adversely affected as a result of wilderness designation.

Standard No. 3: Impact of Nondesignation on Wilderness Values

Consider the alternative use of land under study if the area is not designated as wilderness, and the extent to which the wilderness values of the area would be foregone or adversely affected as a result of this use.

Standard No. 4: Public Comment

The BLM's wilderness study process will consider comments received from interested and affected publics at all levels - State, local, regional, and national. Wilderness recommendations will not be based on a vote-counting majority rule system. The BLM will develop its recommendations by considering public comment in conjunction with a full analysis of a WSA's multiple resource and socioeconomic values and uses.

Standard No. 5: Local and Regional Socioeconomic Effects

The BLM will give special attention to any significant socioeconomic effects, as identified through the wilderness study process, which wilderness designation of the area would have on local communities or surrounding regions.

Standard No. 6: Consistency with Other Plans

The BLM will fully consider and document the extent to which the recommendation is consistent with officially approved and adopted resource-related plans of other Federal agencies, State and local governments, as required by BLM planning regulations.

PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Alternative Development

Each of the four WSAs has been treated and analyzed as a separate entity. The Proposed Action as stated below consists of individual preferred alternatives (one for each WSA) combined into one statement. Alternatives to the combined Proposed Action are created by substituting the individual WSA's preferred alternative with any of the other alternatives for that WSA.

The Wilderness Study Policy lists four alternatives to consider in the analysis of each WSA:

- 1) All Wilderness
- 2) No Wilderness
- 3) No Action
- 4) Partial Wilderness

The significant issues suggest a fifth alternative of:

- 5) Joint USFS/BLM Study

Alternatives Considered but Dropped From Review

Partial wilderness alternatives for WSAs 46-13 (Boulder Creek) and 46-14a (Jerry Peak West) were not considered as the small size and configuration of these two areas makes partial divisions infeasible.

Joint USFS/BLM study does not apply to WSA 46-11 (Corral-Horse Basin) which has no USFS boundary in common or to WSAs 46-14 (Jerry Peak) and 46-14a (Jerry Peak West) which are not adjacent to Forest Service RARE II areas.

WSA 46-13

WSA 46-13 (1,930 acres) is adjacent to the Forest Service's RARE II Area 04-551 White Cloud-Boulder (281,948 acres) (Map 4). A cooperative agreement between the BLM and U.S. Forest Service covering wilderness studies of adjacent BLM WSAs and USFS Further Planning Areas was signed in 1981. Due to WSA 46-13's small size it will be included in the Forest Service's study of area 04-551. Therefore, it would be inappropriate to develop a recommendation other than joint study in this amendment and EIS. Since this decision has already been made administratively, WSA 46-13 will not be discussed further.

Summary and Range of Alternatives Analyzed

Listed below are the alternatives analyzed for each of the WSAs.

Table 1

Alternatives Analyzed

WSA 46-11 Corral-Horse Basin

Wilderness (W)*
No Wilderness/No Action (N)
Partial, Protection (P)

WSA 46-14 Jerry Peak

Wilderness (W)
No Wilderness/No Action (N)
Partial Wilderness Options
1. Partial, Protection (P1)
2. Partial, Balance (P2)
3. Partial, Production (P3)

WSA 46-14a Jerry Peak West

Wilderness (W)
No Wilderness/No Action (N)

*W - All Wilderness

N - No Wilderness

P - Partial Alternatives (Options P1, P2, P3)

The Proposed Action, All Wilderness, and No Wilderness Alternatives described below are only 3 of the 30 possible combined alternatives. Appendix 3 lists all of the alternatives.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action (Map 5), a combination of the individual WSAs preferred alternatives, recommends one WSA (46-11) as non-suitable and two WSAs (46-14 and 46-14a) as suitable for wilderness designation.

WSA 46-11, Corral-Horse Basin, 48,500 acres, is recommended as non-suitable for wilderness designation. The three principal factors in this recommendation are: (1) Large investments in range management improvements and the intensity of livestock grazing overshadow the wilderness value of the WSA, (2) manageability as a wilderness would be very difficult, and (3) the WSA lacks outstanding solitude.

WSAs 46-14, Jerry Peak, 46,150 acres, and 46-14a, Jerry Peak West, 13,530 acres, are recommended as suitable for wilderness designation. Principal factors in recommending both of these WSAs are: (1) minimal impacts to existing or planned uses, (2) quality of the wilderness characteristics, and (3) manageability of the WSAs as wilderness.

A non-suitable final decision for WSA 46-11 would not require any amendments to the Challis MFP. Suitable decisions for WSAs 46-14 and 46-14a would require the following MFP amendments: 1) Deletion of Timber harvest or thinning decisions on 743 acres in 46-14 and 400 acres in 46-14a, 2) Class I Visual Management classification would become permanent, and 3) The Off-Road Vehicle Plan would have to be modified to reflect wilderness restrictions.

Wilderness Alternative

This alternative represents the selection of Alternative W - Wilderness as the preferred alternative for each of the three WSAs. This alternative would recommend 108,180 acres as suitable for wilderness designation.

Suitable final decisions for these WSAs would require the following MFP amendments: 1) Deletion of timber harvest or thinning decisions on 1,250 acres in 46-11, 743 acres in 46-14 and 400 acres in 46-14a, 2) Class I Visual Management classification would become permanent, and 3) The Off-Road Vehicle Plan would have to be modified to reflect wilderness restrictions.

No Wilderness Alternative

This alternative represents the selection of Alternative N - No Wilderness as the preferred alternative for each of the three WSAs. This alternative would recommend 108,180 acres as non-suitable for wilderness designation. No amendments to the existing MFP would be required.

No Action Defined

This alternative proposes continuation of present levels of resource use and management, the condition expected to exist in the future if the current resource use and management direction (without regard to the IMP for lands under wilderness review) were to continue as documented in the existing MFP and if the WSAs were not designated as wilderness.

In this EIS the No Action and the No Wilderness alternatives are the same. Therefore, No Action is not discussed further as a separate alternative.

Comparative Impacts Summaries

Tables 2, 3 and 4 briefly compare the major impacts of each alternative for WSAs 46-11, 46-14, and 46-14a.

Table 2
 Comparative Impacts Summary
 WSA 46-11 Corral-Horse Basin

	<u>Alt. N - No Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. W - Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. P - Partial, Protection</u>
Alternative Status	Preferred alternative		
Acreeage	48,500	48,500	No Wilderness - 6,275 Wilderness - 42,225
Soil and Water	Negative impacts to soil stability due to expected increases in ORV use.	Increased soil stability and decreased erosion due to elimination of ORV use.	Alt. W benefits to 42,225 acres. Alt. N impacts to 6,275 acres.
Forest Resources	No impact	3,405 acres (21,792 MBF) of commercial timber unavailable for harvest. This represents 8.6% of the commercial timber acreage in Challis Unit.	Same as Alt. W
Visual Resources	Challis MFP VRM Classes (II, III and IV) replace temporary Class I.	VRM Class I designation becomes permanent.	Class I designation for 42,225 acres.
Cultural Resources	No impact	Site access would be more difficult. No site damage by vehicles would occur.	No impacts to 6,275 acres. Reduced access to 42,225 acres.
Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species	Chinook salmon would be affected by lowered stream quality due to ORV soil disturbance. Rare plant species could be impacted by ORV use.	Impacts to Chinook salmon and rare plants reduced by elimination of vehicle use.	Alt. W benefits to 42,225 acres Alt. N impacts in 6,275 acres.

Table 2 (cont.)
MSA 46-11 Corral-Horse Basin

	<u>Alt. N - No Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. W - Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. P - Partial, Protection</u>
Wild Horses	No impact	No impact	No impact
Wildlife	Expected increases in ORV use would influence stress levels, distribution, abundance and habitat quality. Transfer of ORV use to new areas avoided.	Elimination of ORV use eliminates influence to stress levels, distribution, abundance and habitat quality. Transfer of ORV use to new areas a possibility.	Alt. N impacts to 6,275 acres. Alt. W benefits to 42,225 acres.
Wilderness Characteristics	Adverse impacts would occur gradually and cumulatively. Roadless character of the area could eventually be lost.	Wilderness characteristics would be retained.	Wilderness characteristics retained in 42,225 acres. Eventual loss of characteristics in 6,275 acres expected.
Recreation	No impact	Vehicle dependent activities eliminated. Uses dependent on natural undeveloped lands would be enhanced.	No impact to 6,275 acres. Impacts similar to Alt. W on 42,225 acres.
Minerals	No impact	Subject to valid existing rights, wilderness is withdrawn from appropriation under the mining laws as of Jan. 1, 1984 or date of designation if later.	No impacts to 6,275 acres. Withdrawal possible on 42,225 acres as in Alt. W.

Table 2 (cont.)
WSA 46-11 Corral-Horse Basin

	<u>Alt. N - No Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. W - Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. P - Partial, Protection</u>
Range Management	No impact	No real impact. New improvements will be constructed prior to final action. Livestock use continues as detailed in AMPs.	Similar to Alt. W
Social and Economic Conditions	No impact	No impact to existing economy or lifestyle. Possible benefits of future mineral development would be foregone.	No impact to 6,275 acres. Future benefits of development foregone for 42,225 acres.
Diversity in the National Wilderness System	No impact	Would add 48,500 acres representing ecosystem M3110-49 to the System.	Would add 42,225 acres representing ecosystem M3110-49 to the System.
Geographic Distribution of Wilderness	No impact	Would increase designated wilderness lands available to Boise residents by 1.5%.	Would increase designated wilderness lands available to Boise residents by 1.3%.

Table 3
Comparative Impacts Summary
WSA 46-14 Jerry Peak

Alternative Status	Alt. N No Wilderness	Alt. W Wilderness	Alt. P1 - Partial, Protection	Alt. P2 - Partial, Balance	Alt. P3 - Partial, Production
Alternative Status		Preferred Alternative			
Acreeage	46,150	46,150	No Wilderness 4,250 Wilderness 41,900	No Wilderness 17,050 Wilderness 29,100	No Wilderness 36,650 Wilderness 9,500
Soil and Water	Negative impacts to soil stability due to expected increases in ORV use.	Increased soil stability and decreased erosion due to elimination of ORV use.	Alt. N impacts to 4,250 acres. Alt. W benefits to 41,900 acres.	Alt. N impacts to 17,050 acres. Alt. W benefits to 29,100 acres.	Alt. N impacts to 36,650 acres. Alt. W benefits to 9,500 acres.
Forest Resources	No impact	6,265 acres (26,940 MBF) of commercial timber unavailable for harvest. This represents 16% of the commercial timber acreage in the Challis Planning Unit.	Same as Alt. W	Same as Alt. W	2,075 acres of commercial timber unavailable for harvest. This represents 5% of the commercial timber acreage in the Challis Planning Unit.
Visual Resources	Challis MFP VRM Classes (II, III and IV) replace temporary Class I.	VRM Class I designation becomes permanent.	Class I designation for 41,900 acres.	Class I designation for 29,100 acres.	Class I designation for 9,500 acres.
Cultural Resources	No impact	Site access would be more difficult. No site damage by vehicles would occur.	No impact to 4,250 acres. Reduced access to 41,900 acres.	No impact to 17,050 acres. Reduced access to 29,100 acres.	No impact to 36,650 acres. Reduced access to 9,500 acres.

Table 3 (cont.)
WSA 46-14 Jerry Peak

	Alt. N No Wilderness	Alt. W Wilderness	Alt. P1 - Partial, Protection	Alt. P2 - Partial, Balance	Alt. P3 - Partial, Production
Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species	Chinook salmon would be affected by lowered stream quality due to ORV soil disturbance. Rare plant species could be impacted by ORV use.	Impacts to Chinook salmon and rare plants reduced by elimination of vehicle use.	Alt. W benefits to 41,900 acres. Alt. N impacts on 4,250 acres.	Alt. W benefits to 29,100 acres. Alt. N impacts on 17,050 acres.	Alt. W benefits to 9,500 acres. Alt. N impacts on 36,650 acres.
Wild Horses	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact
Wildlife	Expected increases in ORV use would influence stress levels, distribution, abundance and habitat quality. Transfer of ORV use to new areas avoided.	Elimination of ORV use eliminates influence to stress levels, distribution, abundance and habitat quality. Transfer of ORV use to new areas a possibility.	Alt. N impacts to 4,250 acres. Alt. W benefits to 41,900 acres.	Alt. N impacts to 17,050 acres. Alt. W benefits to 29,100 acres.	Alt. N impacts to 36,650 acres. Alt. W benefits to 9,500 acres.
Wilderness Characteristics	Adverse impacts will occur gradually and cumulatively. Roadless character of the area could eventually be lost.	Wilderness characteristics will be retained.	Wilderness characteristics retained in 41,900 acres. Eventually loss of characteristics in 4,250 acres expected.	Wilderness characteristics retained in 29,100 acres. Eventually loss of characteristics in 17,050 acres expected.	Wilderness characteristics retained in 9,500 acres. Eventually loss of characteristics in 36,650 acres expected.
Recreation	No impact	Vehicle dependent activities eliminated. Uses dependent on natural undeveloped lands would be enhanced.	No impact to 4,250 acres. Impacts similar to Alt. W on 41,900 acres.	No impact to 17,050 acres. Impacts similar to Alt. W on 29,100 acres.	No impact to 36,650 acres. Impacts similar to Alt. W on 9,500 acres.

Table 3 (cont.)
WSA 46-14 Jerry Peak

	<u>Alt. N No Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. W Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. P1 - Partial, Protection</u>	<u>Alt. P2 - Partial, Balance</u>	<u>Alt. P3 - Partial, Production</u>
Minerals	No impact	Subject to valid existing rights, wilderness is withdrawn from appropriation under the mining laws as of Jan. 1, 1984 or date of designation if later.	No impacts to 6,275 acres. Withdrawal possible on 42,225 acres as in Alt. W.	No impacts to 17,050 acres. Withdrawal possible on 29,100 acres as in Alt. W.	No impacts to 36,650 acres. Withdrawal possible on 9,500 acres as in Alt. W.
Range Management	No impact	No real impact. New improvements will be constructed prior to any final action. Livestock use continues as detailed in AMPs.	Similar to Alt. W and Alt. N	No real impact as in Alt. W and Alt. N	No impact to most of the area - 36,650 acres. No real impacts to 9,500 acres.
Social and Economic Conditions	No impact	No impact to existing economy or lifestyle. Possible benefits of future mineral development would be foregone.	No impact to 4,250 acres. Future benefits of development foregone for 41,900 acres.	No impact to 17,050 acres. Future benefits of development foregone for 29,100 acres.	No impact to 36,650 acres. Future benefits of development foregone for 9,500 acres.
Diversity in the National Wilderness System	No impact	Would add 46,150 acres representing ecosystem M3110-49 to the system.	Would add 41,900 acres representing ecosystem M3110-49 to the system.	Would add 29,100 acres representing ecosystem M3110-49 to the system.	Would add 9,500 acres representing ecosystem M3110-49 to the system.
Geographic Distribution of Wilderness	No impact	Would increase designated wilderness lands available to Boise residents by 1.5%.	Would increase designated wilderness lands available to Boise residents by 1.3%.	Would increase designated wilderness lands available to Boise residents by .9%.	Would increase designated wilderness lands available to Boise residents by .3%.

Table 4
Comparative Impacts Summary
WSA 46-14a Jerry Peak West

	<u>Alt. N - No Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. W - Wilderness</u>
Alternative Status		Preferred alternative
Acreage	13,530	13,530
Soil and Water	If private landowners allow access to public lands, negative impacts to soil stability and stream quality could occur.	Increased soil stability and decreased erosion due to elimination of ORV use.
Forest Resources	No impact	900 acres (2,700 MBF) of commercial timber unavailable for harvest. This represents 2.3% of the commercial timber acreage in the Challis Planning Unit.
Visual Resources	Challis MFP VRM Classes (II, III and IV) replace temporary Class I.	VRM Class I designation becomes permanent.
Cultural Resources	No impact	Site access would be more difficult. No site damage by vehicles would occur.
Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species	Chinook salmon would be affected by lowered stream quality due to ORV soil disturbance. Rare plant species could be impacted by ORV use.	Impacts to Chinook salmon and rare plants reduced by elimination of vehicle use.
Wildlife	ORV use would influence stress levels, distribution, abundance and habitat quality. Transfer of ORV use to new areas avoided.	Elimination of ORV use eliminates influence to stress levels, distribution, abundance and habitat quality. Transfer of ORV use to new areas a possibility.

Table 4 (cont.)
WSA 46-14a Jerry Peak West

	<u>Alt. N - No Wilderness</u>	<u>Alt. W - Wilderness</u>
Wilderness Characteristics	Adverse impacts would occur gradually and cummulatively. Roadless character of the area could eventually be lost.	Wilderness characteristics would be retained.
Recreation	No impact	Vehicle dependent activities eliminated. Uses dependent on natural undeveloped lands would be enhanced.
Minerals	No impact	Subject to valid existing rights, wilderness is withdrawn from appropriation under the mining laws as of Jan. 1, 1984 or date of designation if later.
Range Management	No impact	No real impact. New improvements will be constructed prior to final action. Livestock use continues as detailed in AMPs.
Social and Economic Conditions	No impact	No impact to existing economy or lifestyle. Possible benefits of future mineral development would be foregone.
Diversity in the National Wilderness System	No impact	Would add 13,530 acres representing ecosystem M3110-49 to the system.
Geographic Distribution of Wilderness	No impact	Would increase designated wilderness lands available to Boise residents by .4%.

AREA SPECIFIC ANALYSES

WSA 46-11 Corral-Horse Basin

Location, Size and Land Status

WSA 46-11 Corral-Horse Basin is located in Custer County, Idaho, 20 miles south of Challis in the East Fork Salmon River drainage. The Spar Canyon, Dry Gulch, East Fork, and Road Creek Roads roughly outline the unit boundaries (Map 3). The WSA contains 48,500 acres of BLM lands. The WSA includes three sections of State lands and 40 acres of private land which are not included in the WSA acreage. The WSA also borders or nearly surrounds five other state sections.

The Shoshone and Bannock Indians of the Fort Hall Reservation, Idaho, through the treaty of Fort Bridger, on July 3, 1868 and ratified by the United States Senate on February 16, 1869, ceded lands to the United States.

A follow up agreement with the Shoshone and Bannock Indians, concluded February 5, 1898, ratified June 6, 1900 (31 Stat. 672), in Article IV of the act to ratify the agreement (31 Stat. 674), states as follows:

'So long as any of the lands ceded, granted, and relinquished under this treaty remain part of the public domain, Indians belonging to the above mentioned tribes, and living on the reduced reservation, shall have the right, without any charge therefore to cut timber for their own use, but not for sale, and to pasture their livestock on said public lands, and to hunt thereon and fish in the streams thereof.'

These rights continue to exist on all of WSA 46-11.

Alternatives

Alternative N - No Wilderness/No Action (Map 6)

This alternative recommends all of WSA 46-11 as non-suitable for wilderness designation. The existing Challis MFP decisions would remain in effect. Interim management would remain in effect until the area is released from WSA status by a final wilderness decision.

Alternative W - Wilderness (Map 6)

This alternative proposes that all of WSA 46-11, 48,500 acres, be recommended as suitable for wilderness designation. Actions required to implement this alternative and effectively manage the area as wilderness upon designation by Congress would include:

- 1) Closure of the unimproved section of the Broken Wagon Road from Broken Wagon Summit west to the Gossi Spring Road junction;
- 2) Closure of the unimproved Horse Basin road;

- 3) Closure of the area to motorized vehicle use;
- 4) Initiation of exchange or purchase actions for all or portions of seven state sections (2,895 acres) and three private parcels (102 acres).

Alternative P - Partial, Protection (Map 6)

This alternative recognizes the Broken Wagon Road as a substantial travel route which should form the northeast boundary of the area; 6,275 acres are dropped from the area, leaving 42,225 acres recommended for wilderness designation.

Actions required to implement this alternative and effectively manage the area as wilderness upon designation include:

- 1) Closure of the unimproved Horse Basin Road;
- 2) Closure of the remaining 42,225 acres to motorized vehicle use;
- 3) Initiation of exchange or purchase actions for all or portions of six state sections (2,595 acres) and two private parcels (56 acres).

Affected Environment

The area in which the WSA is located was intensively described and analyzed in the Challis Unit Resource Analysis (URA) and the Final Supplemental EIS on the Revised Range Program for the Challis Planning Unit. These documents should be referenced for extensive discussions of the environmental elements.

Climate

The air flow in the WSA is from the west in the summer and the northwest in the winter. The Salmon River Range to the west, the White Cloud Peaks, and the Pioneer and Sawtooth Ranges to the southwest, tend to shelter lower elevations from both winds and precipitation. Precipitation varies from 6" to 8" annually in lower elevations to 13" to 15" at the higher elevations.

Summer weather is characterized by clear conditions during most of each day, with cumulus clouds common in the late afternoons and evenings. There are infrequent severe thunderstorms. Relative humidity is low, usually 25 percent or less.

Winter days are usually clear or partly cloudy. Winter snows can cover the elevations above 7,200 feet from November to as late as the first week of July.

Air Quality

There are no air quality monitoring stations in or near the WSA. From casual observation, air quality is excellent. Because the unit is isolated from industrial centers, there is rarely evidence of industrial smoke or haze. On rare occasions there is smoke from controlled burning of slash or from forest or range fires. All BLM lands are designated as Class II air quality areas (1977 Clean Air Act Amendments). Any reclassification of air quality is the prerogative of the State.

Soil and Water Resources

The major soils in the WSA are residual (developed in place) from weathered sedimentary bedrock (limestones and quartzites). There is a small percentage of alluvial soils (deposited by running water) and a small percentage of Challis volcanics (basalt and other tuffaceous materials).

Management problems associated with the soils in the WSAs are related to the geology. Most of the soils have fine textured surface with gravels and stones on the surface. Off Road Vehicle (ORV) disturbance of these areas is hazardous to streams and soil productivity because of increased erosion and sediment deposition. The water holding capacity for most of the area is medium to high. The major soils are rated by the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) as having severe erosion potential because of fine textures and steep slopes. About 25 percent of the WSA has less than 20 inches of soil over bedrock and any soil loss in these areas would be extremely hazardous for future vegetative cover. These soils also have low water holding capacity for plant growth. Problems of overland flow and sediment transportation into streams are pronounced during occasional summer thunderstorms.

Approximately two-thirds of the sediment loss is estimated to be geologic erosion. Stream flows exhibit marked seasonal variations, with highest flows occurring during the May to June period, originating as snow melt.

Surface water quality in the area is considered good, except during spring runoff and during the summer high-intensity storm runoff when sediment production is highest. Water quality degradation from point sources has not occurred, primarily due to the lack of large population centers and industry. The State of Idaho has classified the East Fork of the Salmon River as a Special Resource Water.

Vegetation

The dominant vegetation type is sagebrush-grass with small areas of conifer vegetation occurring in the high elevations.

On south slopes up to 7,500 feet, the big sage-bluebunch wheatgrass association or community is most common. On north slopes up to 7,500 feet elevation, sagebrush-Idaho fescue may dominate. Many associations are characterized by the dominance of a single sagebrush species or subspecies along with associated grasses and forbs. Others have an understory of various grass and forb species in a mixture with other shrubs.

Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species

Terrestrial

No threatened, endangered, or sensitive terrestrial species are known to occur within the EIS area.

Aquatic

The Chinook salmon is on the State's sensitive species list and is being considered for Federal threatened and endangered status.

Plant

During the BLM's 1976 vegetation/soils inventory, 12 plant species were given special emphasis due to their threatened or endangered status. Four species were positively identified.

Social and Economic Conditions

The economy of Challis and Custer County is based largely upon agriculture, retail trade, tourism, mining, and government activity.

Challis, county seat and largest town, is distant from Idaho's major population centers and major transportation systems. All of Custer County is considered rural, and population density is low.

Historic use of the BLM lands in the WSA has been primarily livestock grazing. These lands are important spring, summer, and/or fall pastures for adjacent private ranches. These ranges are critical to the economic success of the local ranchers who could not afford to purchase or lease equal areas of private pasture land. Other direct commodity production activities in the WSA has been very limited. The communities of Challis and Clayton receive secondary benefits through the provision of goods and services to recreationists, hunters, fishermen, and others who visit the WSA.

In 1970, 35 percent of the Custer County employment was involved in agriculture and fisheries as opposed to 13 percent statewide. Mining and construction provided 11 percent of the area's employment. By the first quarter of 1981, agricultural employment was down to 11 percent while mining and construction comprised 37 percent of the work force.

The recent opening of the Cyprus Molybdenum Mine near Clayton has brought 1,041 workers (Salmon Recorder Herald 9/10/81) into the area and significantly altered the traditional employment structure. Private lands between Challis and Clayton and up the East Fork are being taken out of agricultural production and converted to homesites or held by non-farm investors for future speculation and development.

Forest Resources (Map 7)

Approximately 8 percent (4,265 acres) of WSA 46-11 is covered with timber. Most of the timbered lands are on the eastern edge of the area, north and south of Anderson Peak. Table 5 details the types of timbered areas inventoried and the value of the harvestable timber. The Challis MFP decisions allocated 500 acres of old growth timber for logging and 750 acres for commercial and precommercial thinning. Special treatment areas are not harvestable under current logging methods.

Table 5
Forest Resources WSA 46-11

Intensive Management Acres	1,250
Special Treatment Acres	2,155
Deferred Acres	<u>160</u>
Total Commercial Acres	3,565
Non-commercial Acres	<u>700</u>
Total Timbered Acres	4,265*

3,405 harvestable commercial acres x 6.4 MBF/Acre = 21,792 MBF

21,792 MBF x \$15/MBF = \$326,880

*Challis Planning Unit URA. Volumes (MBF) of planned cuts are unavailable.

Visual Resources

The WSA has retained a natural visual aspect due to limited man-caused alterations to the basic elements (form, line, color, and texture) of the landscape. Existing range improvements are subordinate to the natural landscape. Constructed roads which border the WSA and unimproved jeep trails are the most evident results of man's activities.

The WSA is presently managed as a Class I Visual Resource Management (VRM) area due to its WSA status (temporary designation). Class I provides primarily for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The designations made in the Challis MFP for the area are Classes I, II, or III along the travel routes and Class IV in the less visible areas. Classes II, III, and IV allow developments which alter the visual character of the landscape.

Cultural Resources

WSA 46-11 contains 25 recorded cultural resource sites. Four of these sites are included in the Challis Archaeological Spring District, a group of spring related sites that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Wild Horses

This WSA is a major portion of the Challis wild horse herd home range. Approximately 60 percent of the herd is located in this area year-round. Roundups have left an estimated 260 horses in the area with 150 adult horses as the eventual goal. The wild horse capture facility at Anderson Ranch is located adjacent to this WSA.

Wildlife

Terrestrial

Antelope are common from spring through fall, deer utilize the area during the winter and spring, and elk use the eastern edge of the area winter and spring. Coyotes and golden eagles are the most common predators. The area is historic bighorn sheep range.

Sage grouse are abundant, particularly in Corral Basin. Chukars are common and blue grouse can be found along most streams, particularly those near or in timber stands. Non-game species are typical for the elevations and vegetation types present.

Aquatic

Sport fishes present include rainbow and cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden, whitefish, steelhead and Chinook salmon. The last two species are anadromous and are essentially restricted to the East Fork of the Salmon River. Juveniles of these two species undoubtedly use some tributaries to the East Fork. The Chinook salmon is on the state sensitive species list and is directly or indirectly involved with the area. The Chinook salmon is particularly sensitive to stream quality and sedimentation levels.

Wilderness Characteristics

See Other Analysis as Required section and the State Director's Challis Wilderness Inventory Decision (Appendix 1).

Recreation

General

Recreational use in WSA 46-11 is dispersed throughout the unit with no identified concentrated use areas. Major dispersed activities include, sightseeing (principally along Spar Canyon Road), rockhounding, wildlife viewing (including wild horses), and hunting.

Present visitor use levels are low but are expected to increase greatly as new residents of the fast growing Challis-Clayton area look for recreation areas. Nearby areas and recreation sites have already experienced problems with new ORV activity and semi-permanent "campers."

Hunting and Fishing

WSA 46-11 lies within the State of Idaho's Game Management Unit 36A. Big game species hunted in the unit include deer (antlered only), elk, black bear, mountain lion, and mountain goat. WSA 46-11 does not contribute significantly to the big game season as most animals are on the higher adjacent hills until later in the year. The area is quite popular for upland bird hunting. Fishing is limited to small areas along Road Creek.

Off Road Vehicle Use

Most ORV use in the WSA occurs as the result of other activities - hunting, livestock management, or public lands administration. ORV use as a principal activity is minor at present. No ORV management plan is in existence for this WSA.

Developed Sites

There are no developed recreation sites in the WSA.

Geology and Minerals

Geology

Geologically, this area is underlain by a faulted and deformed sequence of sedimentary and metamorphic rocks of Paleozoic age. Felsitic tuff, lava, and ash of the Challis volcanics thought to originate from the Twin Peaks Caldera, cover much of the older rock in this area. Because the Challis volcanics cover and mask prospective mineral bearing rock types, the EIS area has had very little mineral exploration in the past. No minerals listed in the National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Minerals have been located in the WSA. A mineral survey and report prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Bureau of Mines will accompany the final EIS if this WSA is recommended for wilderness designation.

Locatable Minerals

Presently only two lode claim groups have been staked in WSA 46-11. One is located in the northern portion of the WSA in Section 32, T. 11 N., R. 19 E. According to the Challis URA, portions of sections 32 and 33 have potential resources of uranium.

A second claim area identified through BLM mining records is located in the NE1/4 of Section 30, T. 11 N., R. 21 E. This area has no known mineralogy according to BLM records. Geologically the area is made up of white knob limestone which is a fossiliferous limestone with quartz stringer, through it. Field examination yielded no visible mineralization in hand specimens.

Also in WSA 46-11 is a deposit of travertine located in Section 6, T. 10 N., R. 21 E. No current mining claims are staked on this area even though travertine has shown to be valuable in the past. The quality of this deposit is not known, but it was of sufficient grade to be quarried for flux at the Clayton smelter sometime between 1880 and 1902.

Salable Minerals

Salable minerals include sand and gravel, borrow and fill, and building stone. The area has very little high quality sand and gravel. The best gravels occur in stream channels of Spar Canyon, Road Creek, and the East Fork of the Salmon River.

Challis volcanics can be used as borrow and fill, but because of little demand for this product, no foreseeable need for this material is anticipated. Challis volcanics that possess special fracturing traits have been used as building stone. Because the Challis volcanic unit is so common in Custer County, no foreseeable shortage of building stone is anticipated.

Leasable Minerals

According to the USGS the area has no value for geothermal resources. The BLM's URA indicates the area within Ranges 20 and 21 East may have undiscovered oil and gas resources. Geologically this area is underlain by thick sediments that could contain oil and gas. All of the WSA is covered by oil and gas leases.

Range Management

WSA 46-11 includes portions of two grazing allotments - Warm Springs and San Felipe - and the Sand Hollow area (3,900 acres) which is closed to grazing due to highly erosive soils (Map 8). Both allotments are managed under rest-rotation grazing systems.

Table 6 summarizes the acreages, management treatments, seasons of use, and the livestock animal unit months (AUMs) in these allotments.

Table 6

Grazing Allotments Associated with WSA 46-11

Allotment	Federal Acres	Acres in WSA 46-11	Management Treatment	Season of use	Total AUMs in Allotment
Warm Springs	62,076	17,000	Rest-rotation	5/16-10/31	3,573
San Felipe	81,316	27,600	Rest-rotation	5/11-10/15	3,788
Ungrazed	3,900	3,900	N/A	None	0
		48,500			

The Challis Grazing ES and the subsequent Allotment Management Plans (AMP) detailed specific management actions and range improvements to be installed to manage use of rangelands for protection, maintenance and improved condition of the basic vegetation. A 15 year program was designed to improve range conditions through vegetative manipulations, additional range improvements, and temporarily reduced grazing (AUM) levels. Table 7 summarizes existing improvements in the WSA and Table 8 lists the planned improvements. Some improvements are being delayed due to funding limitations.

Table 7
Existing Improvements WSA 46-11

Allotment	Springs	Waterholes	Pipeline Miles	Fence Miles	Reservoirs
Warm Springs	7	4	1	19	0
San Felipe	<u>3</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	10	21	8	33	2

Table 8
Planned Range Improvements WSA 46-11

Allotment	Improvement	Completion
Warm Springs	Fence, Rye Grass	1981
	Fence, Bear Wallow	1981
	Spring, Two Mountain	1981
	Brush Control, Anderson	1981
	Pipeline, Rye Grass	1982
	Fence, Train Spring	1982
	Spring, Match Spring	1982
	Spring, Little Forest	1982
	Spring Little Ranch #1	1982
	Burn, Bear Wallow	1982
	Spring Little Ranch #2	1982
	Burn, Corral	1982
	Burn, Broken Wagon	1982
	San Felipe	Fence, Broken Wagon Drift
Spring, Anderson Peak		1981
Spring, Round Up		1981
Fence, Anderson Peak		1981
Spring, Horse Basin #1		1981
Seep, Camp		1981
Fence, Dry Gulch		1981
Pipeline, Timber		1982
Fence, Horse Basin		1982
Spring, Bench		1982
Snow Fence, Horse Trap		1982
Seep, Little Willow		1982
Spring, Lower Douglas		1982
Burn Road Creek	1982	

Other Analysis As Required

Evaluation of Wilderness Values

Quality of the Area's Mandatory Wilderness Characteristics.

1) Size

WSA 46-11's size of 48,500 acres is substantially larger than the 5,000 acres minimum size requirement. The WSA stands as an individual area not dependent on adjacent lands for size integrity.

2) Naturalness

The WSA presents the visitor with a general appearance of naturalness. As a whole the area is not particularly distinguishable from the lands around it; however, lands to the north, east, and west show the imprints of man more than WSA 46-11 (WSA 46-14 is to the south.)

The majority of the human imprints are fences and waterholes associated with range management activities (Map 8). The fences tend to blend into the natural landscape when viewed from more than one-half mile. They present a minor barrier and an obvious human imprint when contacted directly.

Most of the waterholes and spring developments are so old that they appear to be natural features. Imprints exist in the form of jeep trails used as access to springs, water troughs, and pipelines for maintenance checks. The Broken Wagon "road" is the most significant single impact.

The horse trap at Anderson Ranch is the only significant outside activity which impacts the WSA. The wing fences and runways extend from the trap into the WSA.

No particular area in the WSA is subject to a concentration of imprints as they are dispersed throughout. Alternative P recognizes the Broken Wagon Road as an impact which should be used as a wilderness boundary.

All of the existing impacts, including the Broken Wagon Road, will rehabilitate themselves naturally if vehicles are removed from the area.

The overall influence of human imprints on the naturalness of the area, as perceived by the average visitor, is minimal due to the wide dispersal of low impact developments.

3) Solitude

The intensive inventory determined that the WSA offered solitude primarily due to the its large size. The solitude offered was not rated outstanding.

The unit's topography is characterized by low rolling ridges separating wide interior basins. Vegetation is primarily sagebrush and grass; therefore, topographic and vegetative screening is not of particularly good quality.

Outside sights and sounds are present in the form of bordering roads and private ranches. These are not significantly imposing but they do lessen the feeling of solitude.

4) Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The intensive inventory identified this WSA as possessing outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation due to the size, a lack of man-made or natural barriers, and the absence of developments in or near the area. Possible activities include hiking, backpacking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, photography, bird watching, or sightseeing.

The WSA lacks any significant feature which could be called a focal or destination point for visitors.

Quality of the Area's Optional Wilderness Characteristics

The WSA is part of the Challis Wild Horse Range and offers excellent wild horse viewing. The wild horses are an introduced element in the WSA whose status is determined more by legislation than by management direction. They presently add to a feeling of "wildness" of the area.

Multiple Resource Benefits Which Only Wilderness Designation Can Ensure

No multiple resource benefits have been identified which could not also be realized through utilization of existing management authorities.

Diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System

1) Expanding the diversity of natural systems and features, as represented by ecosystems and land forms.

WSA 46-11 is located in the Rocky Mountain Forest Province/Sagebrush Steppe ecosystem. This is ecosystem M3110-49 in the Bailey-Kuchler system (Map 9) (see Bailey R.G.-Kuchler, A.W., 1966, Potential Natural Vegetation of the United States, USDI, Geological Survey).

The Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. in Montana is the only area in the National Wilderness Preservation System which contains ecosystem M3110-49. Table 9 lists the designated areas, administratively endorsed areas, and other study areas containing ecosystem M3110-49. Idaho BLM WSAs 46-14 and 46-14a also contain ecosystem M3110-49 and are recommended as suitable for wilderness. None of the other BLM areas has yet received a final recommendation. WSA 46-11 is the largest WSA containing ecosystem M3110-49 under consideration for wilderness designation.

Table 9

Ecosystem M3110-49

Designated Wilderness

<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Agency</u>
WR-036	Red Rock Lakes N.W.R.	MT	Fish & Wildlife

Administratively Endorsed Wilderness Study Areas

A4503	Lemhi (Addition)	ID	USFS
N4201	Pioneer Mountains	ID	USFS
01008	East Pioneer	MT	USFS
NP-913	Dinosaur N.M.	CO/UT	NPS

Other Wilderness Study Areas

E4613	Palisades (East)	ID	USFS
M4945	Italian Peak Middle	ID	USFS
N1549	Madison North	MT	USFS
S1549	Madison South	MT	USFS
S4610	West Slope Tetons (South)	WY	USFS
01006	West Pioneer	MT	USFS
CO-010-001	Bull Canyon	CO	BLM
CO-010-002	Willow Creek	CO	BLM
CO-010-003	Skull Creek	CO	BLM
CO-010-208	West Cold Springs	CO	BLM
CO-010-214	Diamond Breaks	CO	BLM
CO-010-224	Dinosaur N.M.	CO	BLM
CO-010-224A	Dinosaur Adjacent-N	CO	BLM
CO-010-226	Dinosaur Adjacent-N	CO	BLM
CO-010-228	Dinosaur Adjacent-N	CO	BLM
CO-010-229D	Dinosaur Adjacent-N	CO	BLM
CO-010-230	Cross Mountain	CO	BLM
ID-31-14	Appendicitis Hill	ID	BLM
ID-31-17	White Knob Mountains	ID	BLM
ID-32-3	Hawley Mountain	ID	BLM
ID-45-1	Goldburg	ID	BLM
ID-46-11	Corral-Horse Basin	ID	BLM
ID-46-14	Jerry Peak	ID	BLM
ID-46-14A	Jerry Peak West	ID	BLM
ID-47-4	Borah Peak	ID	BLM
MT-076-022	Hidden Pasture Creek	MT	BLM
MT-076-026	Bell/Limekiln Canyons	MT	BLM
MT-076-028	Henneberry Ridge	MT	BLM
UT-080-414	Daniel's Canyon	UT	BLM
00N4B	XXXXXX	CO	BLM

2) Assessing the opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation within a day's driving time (five hours) of major population centers.

Only one population center or Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA), Boise, Idaho, is within a day's drive (five hours) of the WSA. Table 10 lists the areas and acres of designated wilderness and administratively endorsed wilderness within a day's drive of this SMSA (see Appendix 4 for a listing of individual areas). Boise has eight wilderness areas totalling to 3,141,553 acres available to its residents (Map 10). However, significant portions of the River of No Return Wilderness (2,230,149 acres) are more than a day's drive due to the indirectness of mountain highways. Twelve additional areas containing 800,601 acres have been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. 144 areas (4,419,707 acres) are being studied by the BLM and Forest Service for possible wilderness designation.

WSA 46-11 Corral-Horse Basin as a designated wilderness would increase the opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation in a wilderness setting for Boise residents by 1.5 percent.

Table 10

Wilderness/SMSA Interactions

SMSA		Boise
Population (1980)		173,036
Designated Wilderness		
within a day's drive		
US Forest Service - areas		7
acres		3,099,310
National Park Service - areas		1
acres		42,243
Total	areas	<u>8</u>
	acres	3,141,553
Administratively endorsed		
wilderness within a day's drive		
U.S. Forest Service - areas		11
acres		781,601
Fish and Wildlife Service - areas		1
acres		19,000
Total	areas	<u>12</u>
	acres	800,601
Other Study Areas within a days drive		
U.S. Forest Service - areas		20
acres		3,623,659
BLM - areas		124
acres		796,048
Total	areas	<u>144</u>
	acres	4,419,707

3) Balancing the geographic distribution of wilderness areas.

Idaho contains six designated wilderness areas (Table 11) including the largest wilderness area in the contiguous 48 states, the 2.2 million acre River of No Return Wilderness. The 3,801,250 acres in these six areas amount to 7 percent of the acreage in the State of Idaho. The concentration of wilderness areas in central Idaho and westcentral Montana is noticeable on Map 11.

Table 11

Idaho Wilderness Areas

<u>Status</u>	<u>No. Areas</u>	<u>Total Acres</u>
Designated Wilderness		
U.S. Forest Service	5	3,758,007
National Park Service	1	43,243
Total	<u>6</u>	<u>3,801,250</u>
Administratively Endorsed Wilderness Study Areas		
U.S. Forest Service	20	1,035,674
National Park Service	1	22,217
Total	<u>21</u>	<u>1,057,891</u>
BLM WSAs	67	1,710,707
U.S. Forest Service Further Planning Areas	11	640,924
<u>Manageability</u>		

WSA 46-11 could be managed as a wilderness area. However, due to the numerous vehicle access points and gentle terrain, many miles of fence, signing and constant patrolling would be necessary to effectively eliminate vehicle use. If the partial protection alternative were selected, a fence would need to be constructed along the Broken Wagon Road.

The dominant use of the area is for livestock grazing which is legally compatible with wilderness preservation. The two identified mining claims are located on the northern edge of the WSA and have not yet been noticeably prospected.

Acquisition of some State and private lands bordering or included in the WSA would be required to effectively manage the area, and establish more logical boundary lines. Access disputes concerning included lands would be avoided.

Environmental Consequences

Alternative N - No Wilderness

Soil and Water Resources

Increased motorized recreation and creation or expansion of trails and roads would have negative impacts to soil stability through erosion and compaction. Stream quality would decrease through increased sedimentation. Most of the WSA would be open to unrestricted vehicle use when the IMP ceased to apply.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management.

Forest Resources

Timber cutting on 1,224 acres could proceed as planned. Impacts from planned and future cutting could eliminate naturalness characteristics due to road construction and visual evidence of man-caused vegetative manipulation.

Visual Resources

The temporary Class I VRM designation would be removed and the original Challis MFP VRM Class II, III, and IV designations used to evaluate management actions. Developments constructed under Class II, III, and IV guidelines could alter the area so that the natural aspect of the landscape would be lost.

Cultural Resources

Existing management practices and policies would continue.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Increased ORV use could impact the Chinook salmon by increasing soil disturbance and erosion and lowering stream quality. ORVs could crush threatened or endangered plant species as new areas are utilized.

Wild Horses

Existing herd management plans would continue.

Wildlife

Increases in ORV use could significantly influence stress levels, distribution, abundance (in some cases) and habitat quality of terrestrial wildlife. ORV use can influence stream sedimentation levels which affect habitat quality for resident and anadromous fish. A no wilderness designation could have a positive effect by allowing ORV use, avoiding transfer of human activity to critical ranges outside the area.

Wilderness Characteristics

A no wilderness designation for WSA 46-11 should have no immediate effects on the existing wilderness characteristics (naturalness, outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation). Most of the planned range improvements (see Range Management) will be completed under the non-impairment guidelines of the IMP prior to a final wilderness/no wilderness decision.

Adverse impacts to wilderness characteristics particularly naturalness caused primarily by increased off road vehicle use would occur slowly and cumulative as new jeep trails are established, old trails become roads, new improvements are constructed, and existing improvements are maintained. Most vehicle use will continue to be a secondary activity associated with uses such as hunting, mineral exploration, and range management. Opportunities for primitive unconfined recreation will become less than outstanding as the area is slowly developed and becomes less primitive in nature.

The roadless character of the area would eventually be lost.

Recreation

No impacts to existing recreational uses.

Minerals

The area would be open to mineral exploration and development in accordance with existing law and policy.

Range Management

Range management would continue under existing policies and plans.

Social and Economic

No impacts to the economy and social conditions would occur as the result of a no wilderness decision.

Alternative W - Wilderness

Soil and Water Resources

Positive impacts to soil would occur through increased soil stability, reduced erosion and increased stream quality by elimination of ORVs and closure of access routes.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management.

Forest Resources

Naturalness of the timbered lands would be retained by eliminating timber harvesting. Utilization of the available 3,405 acres (21,792 MBF) of commercial timber would be foregone. This 3,405 represents 8.6 percent of the 39,500 commercial acres available in the Challis Planning Unit (Challis URA).

Visual Resources

The wilderness area would be permanently designated Class I. No developments or activities which create contrast within the characteristic environment would be allowed.

Cultural Resources

Some benefits would be realized due to the elimination of vehicle access in the wilderness area. Access to cultural sites would be more difficult, possibly reducing site vandalism. Sites would not suffer damage by vehicles.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Chinook salmon and threatened or endangered plant species would be enhanced by elimination of vehicle use and the associated ground disturbance.

Wild Horses

Existing herd management plans would continue. Use of helicopters for horse roundups may be permissible but no new landing areas would be constructed (None are planned).

Wildlife

The most significant benefit to wildlife from a wilderness designation would be the elimination of vehicular access into the areas. This would make a considerable reduction in the amount of human activity and the attendant problems it creates for wildlife. WSA 46-11 would be influenced greatly since there is currently an abundance of access and it is relatively close to Challis.

If the potential for mining and exploration is eliminated or significantly reduced from 1983 on (see Minerals) it would certainly help assure perpetuation of the existing fauna and its habitat.

Stabilization of most of the existing "roads" plus possible elimination or reduction in future mining should produce long-term stream sedimentation reductions. This would be of considerable benefit to both resident and anadromous fish populations.

There is a remote possibility that deer populations could exceed carrying capacity in the future. If that occurs, lack of vehicle access could prevent timely herd reductions. Wilderness designation of WSA 46-11 could, by displacement of non-wilderness activities, increase human activities outside the wilderness boundaries. This could be extremely damaging to wintering big game species on areas like Antelope Flat (antelope), Willow Creek Summit (deer and elk), and Morgan Creek (bighorn sheep).

Wilderness Characteristics

Wilderness characteristics would be retained. Closure of the area to motorized vehicles would enhance solitude and naturalness.

Recreation

Recreation activities which are dependent on motorized vehicles would be significantly affected. ORV use would be eliminated. Other activities - sightseeing, hunting, hiking, and collecting - would be affected indirectly. Users would not be able to drive directly to destination points. Some foot or horse travel might be required.

Minerals

As specified in the Wilderness Act of 1964, exploration, mining, and mineral leasing activities are allowed in designated wilderness areas until December 31, 1983, subject to reasonable regulations governing ingress and egress.

Subject to valid existing rights, effective January 1, 1984, the minerals in 46-11 if designated wilderness would be withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the mining laws and from disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral leasing. Utilization of mineral resources, now undiscovered, would be foregone.

Range Management

Livestock grazing will continue as specified in Section 4 d. 4 of the Wilderness Act of 1964. AMPs developed through the Grazing EIS process will continue to identify the grazing systems and levels of use for the allotments included in the wilderness area.

The wilderness designation would affect the methods used to construct and maintain improvements. Since most of the planned improvements (Table 5) in this WSA will most likely be constructed under the IMP before final designation action occurs, there would be little impact to the planned range program. Future improvement work could be done by hand labor rather than mechanically. Horse or foot travel could replace vehicles for range monitoring, livestock moving, salt block placements, etc.

Fences constructed for wilderness management could significantly alter the existing allotment pasture boundaries.

Social and Economic Conditions

The designation of WSA 46-11 as wilderness would not significantly affect the local economy and the rural ranch-oriented life style which now exists in most of Custer County, particularly in the East Fork drainage. Mineral resources not discovered by December 31, 1983, or the date of wilderness designation (if later) would be unavailable for development. Jobs and economic input which mineral exploration and/or development could produce would be foregone.

Alternative P - Partial, Protection

Soil and Water Resources

Decreased soil erosion and compaction and increased stream quality would result due to closure of the designated wilderness to all ORV use.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management.

Forest Resources

See Alternative W - Wilderness

Visual Resources

Class I designation would be given to the designated wilderness (42,225 acres) with a return to the Challis MFP VRM classes for the no wilderness area (6,275 acres).

Cultural Resources

Benefits would be as in Alternative W to the area retained as wilderness, with no impact to the no wilderness area.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Impacts would be avoided for the area designated as wilderness. Plant species in the no wilderness area could be impacted as detailed in Alternative N.

Wild Horses

Since the majority of the horses are within the area recommended for wilderness, the impacts are similar to those for Alternative W.

Wildlife

Impacts would be most similar to Alternative W since 45,225 acres of the WSA would still be recommended for wilderness designation. Vehicle use on the Broken Wagon Road could considerably affect wildlife within the wilderness in this open area.

Wilderness Characteristics

Wilderness characteristics would be retained in 42,225 acres and impacted as in Alternative N - No Wilderness in 6,275 acres.

Recreation

The 42,225 acres recommended for wilderness would be affected as described in Alternative W. The 6,275 acres recommended for no wilderness would not be impacted.

Minerals

The no wilderness area would be open to exploration and development as described in Alternative N. The wilderness portion of the WSA would be subject to the 1983 cutoff as detailed in Alternative W.

Range Management

No wilderness impacts would occur in 6,275 acres as described in Alternative N and wilderness impacts as in Alternative W to 42,225 acres. If a fence were to be built along the Broken Wagon Road the allotment management would be altered by division of a pasture.

Social and Economic Conditions

No significant impact would occur in the 42,225 acres of designated wilderness, with no impacts to the no wilderness 6,275 acres.

Relationship Between Short-term Use of the Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-term Productivity

Implementation of the preferred alternative or either of the alternatives would not involve losses to the long-term productivity of the environment.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

Implementation of the preferred alternative or either of the alternatives would constitute a long-term commitment of resources because of a commitment to a management system. However, designation as wilderness, can be rescinded by Congress so that none can be considered an irreversible or an irretrievable commitment of the resources.

Preferred Alternative

Alternative N - No Wilderness is the preferred alternative for WSA 46-11 Corral-Horse Basin.

Evaluation of wilderness values (Criterion No. 1) established that WSA 46-11 meets the mandatory wilderness characteristics but lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude. Multiple resource benefits which would occur upon wilderness designation could also be realized by management actions instituted under no wilderness management.

Wilderness designation of WSA 46-11 would add a large area of ecosystem M3110-49 to the national wilderness system. This ecosystem is minimally represented in wilderness at present. WSAs 46-14 and 46-14a, located south of 46-11, also represent ecosystem M3110-49 and both are recommended for wilderness designation. As wilderness, WSA 46-11 would not add significantly to the amount of wilderness lands available to Idaho residents. Manageability (Criterion No. 2) of WSA 46-11 as a wilderness would be possible but would require substantial fencing and patrol to control access.

Energy and mineral resources were not a factor in selecting a preferred alternative since none are known to exist although conversely, little exploration has taken place. Wilderness values could be lost gradually as the area is impacted by expected increases in recreational use.

Other resource uses and social and economic conditions would not be significantly affected by a wilderness designation. The significant investment in range improvements and the level of livestock usage (AUMs) in the area does however indicate the high quality of the range resource. This high value range resource indicates that non-wilderness multiple use management may be the best use for this area.

WSA 46-14 Jerry Peak

Location, Size and Land Status

WSA 46-14 Jerry Peak is located in Custer County, Idaho, 25 miles south of Challis in the East Fork of the Salmon River drainage. The area is bordered by Road Creek, Herd Creek, and Pecks Canyon roads and the Challis National Forest (Map 3). The WSA contains 46,150 acres of BLM land. The WSA contains one section of State of Idaho lands which is not included in the above acreage. The WSA also borders six other state sections.

The Shoshone and Bannock Indians of the Fort Hall Reservation, Idaho, through the treaty of Fort Bridger, on July 3, 1868 and ratified by the United States Senate on February 16, 1869, ceded lands to the United States.

A follow up agreement with the Shoshone and Bannock Indians, concluded February 5, 1898, ratified June 6, 1900 (31 Stat. 672), in Article IV of the act to ratify the agreement (31 Stat. 674), states as follows:

'So long as any of the lands ceded, granted, and relinquished under this treaty remain part of the public domain, Indians belonging to the above mentioned tribes, and living on the reduced reservation, shall have the right, without any charge therefore to cut timber for their own use, but not for sale, and to pasture their livestock on said public lands, and to hunt thereon and fish in the streams thereof.'

These rights continue to exist on all of WSA 46-14.

Alternatives

Alternative N - No Wilderness/No Action (Map 12)

This alternative recommends all of WSA 46-14, 46,150 acres, as non-suitable for wilderness designation. The existing Challis MFP decisions would remain in effect. Interim management would remain in effect until the area is released from WSA status by final action on wilderness suitability.

Alternative W - Wilderness (Map 12)

This alternative proposes a suitable wilderness recommendation for the 46,150 acres in WSA 46-14. Actions required to implement a wilderness designation and insure manageability of the wilderness include:

- 1) Closure of the unimproved roads from Road Creek south to the North Fork Sage Creek and Pecks Canyon;
- 2) Closure of the unimproved road on the ridge between Mosquito and Lake Creeks;
- 3) Closure of the jeep trail east from the Upper Lake Creek campground;

- 4) Closure of the area to motorized vehicle use;
- 5) Closure and minor rehabilitation of the Mosquito Creek road;
- 6) Initiation of exchange or purchase action for all or portions of six State sections (2,701 acres).

Partial Wilderness Alternatives

Partial, Protection P1 (Map 12)

This alternative delineates the Road Creek - North Fork Sage Creek road as a significant intrusion forming the eastern boundary of WSA 46-14. There are 41,900 acres recommended as suitable for wilderness designation and 4,250 acres recommended as non-suitable. Both parts of the area would remain under Interim Management until a final wilderness decision is made.

Actions required to implement this alternative and insure manageability upon wilderness designation of a portion of the WSA include:

- 1) Closure of the unimproved road on the ridge between Mosquito and Lake Creeks;
- 2) Closure of the jeep trail east from the Upper Lake Creek campground;
- 3) Closure of the designated wilderness area to motorized vehicle use;
- 4) Closure and minor rehabilitation of the Mosquito Creek road;
- 5) Initiation of exchange or purchase actions for all or portions of five State sections (3,623 acres).

The non-suitable area would be managed according to the existing Challis MFP after the final wilderness decision has been made.

Partial, Balance P2 (Map 12)

This alternative delineates the Road Creek - North Fork Sage Creek and Mosquito Creek roads as significant intrusions and boundaries in the east and northwestern sections respectively. There are 29,100 acres recommended as suitable for wilderness designation and 17,050 acres recommended as non-suitable. All of the area would remain under interim management until the final wilderness decision has been made.

Actions required to implement this alternative and insure manageability upon wilderness designation of a portion of the WSA include:

- 1) Closure of the unimproved road on the ridge between Mosquito and Lake Creeks;

- 2) Closure of the jeep trail east from the Upper Lake Creek campground;
- 3) Closure of the designated wilderness area to motorized vehicles;
- 4) Initiation of exchange or purchase actions for all or portions of three State sections (1,560 acres).

The non-suitable area would be managed according to the existing Challis MFP after the final wilderness decision has been made.

Partial, Production P3 (Map 12)

This alternative views the two dead-end roads, Herd Lake and Sawmill Canyon, as significant intrusions dividing the WSA. The suitable wilderness area would be limited to the lands south of these roads to the National Forest boundary. There are 9,500 acres recommended as suitable for wilderness designation and 36,650 acres recommended as non-suitable. All of the area would remain under interim management until the final wilderness decision has been made.

Actions required to implement this alternative include:

- 1) Closure of the designated wilderness area to motorized vehicle use;
- 2) Initiation of an exchange or purchase action for one State section (640 acres).

The non-suitable area would be managed according to the existing Challis MFP after the final wilderness decision has been made.

Affected Environment

The area in which WSA 46-14 is located was intensively described and analyzed in the Challis Unit Resource Analysis (URA) and the Final Supplemental EIS on the Revised Range Program for the Challis Planning Unit. These documents should be referred to for extensive discussions of the environmental elements of the WSA.

Climate

Air Quality

Soil and Water Resources

Vegetation

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Social and Economic Conditions

See WSA 46-11 Affected Environment

Forest Resource (Map 7)

Approximately 14 percent (7,375 acres) of WSA 46-14 is timbered area. Table 12 summarizes the maximum forest resources available in the WSA. The Challis MFP identified 743 acres of commercial and precommercial thinning. This cutting will occur in the Sawmill Canyon area which has been logged in the past. Special treatment acres are not harvestable under current logging methods. In Bear Creek (T. 9 N., R. 20 E. Sections 8 and 17) there is mistletoe infestation. Without treatment, either natural (fire) or man-caused (logging), the mistletoe will eventually spread throughout the stand and kill it.

Table 12
Forest Resources WSA 46-14*

Intensive Management Acres	4,020
Special Treatment Acres	<u>2,245</u>
Total Commercial Acres	6,265
Non-Commercial Acres	<u>1,110</u>
Total Timbered Acres	7,375
Commercial Acres	
6,265 x 4.3 MBF/Acre =	26,940 MBF
26,940 MBF x \$15/MBF =	\$404,100

*Challis Planning Unit URA. Volumes (MBF) of planned thinnings are unavailable. Volumes in Sawmill Canyon are not included, data is unavailable.

Visual Resources

The WSA has retained a natural visual aspect due to limited man caused alterations to the basic elements (form, line, color, and texture) of the landscape. Existing range improvements are subordinate to the natural landscape. Constructed roads which border and enter the area and unimproved jeep trails are the most evident results of man's activities.

The WSA is presently managed as a Class I VRM area due to its WSA status. Class I provides primarily for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The designations made in the Challis MFP for the area are Class I, II, or III along the travel routes and Class IV in the less visible areas. Classes II, III, and IV allow developments which alter the visual character of the landscape.

Cultural Resources

WSA 46-14 contains 23 recorded cultural sites.

Wild Horses

Wild horses utilize the area north of the ridge dividing Lake Creek and Road Creek. Recent roundups have reduced the number of horses to about 20 which is the planned number of adult horses for the area.

Wildlife

Terrestrial

Antelope are common spring through fall, deer utilize the area during the winter and spring, and elk use the eastern and southern edges of the area winter and spring. Coyotes and golden eagles are the most common predators. The area is historic bighorn sheep range.

Sage grouse and chukars are common. Blue grouse can be found along most streams especially those near or in timber stands.

Aquatic

Sport fishes present include rainbow and cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden, whitefish, steelhead and Chinook salmon. The last two species are anadromous and are essentially restricted to the East Fork of the Salmon River and Herd Creek. Juveniles of these two species undoubtedly use some tributaries to the above mentioned streams. The Chinook salmon is on the state sensitive species list and is directly or indirectly involved with the area. The Chinook salmon is particularly sensitive to stream quality and sedimentation levels.

Wilderness Characteristics

See Other Analysis as Required section and the State Director's Challis Wilderness Inventory Decision (Appendix 1).

Recreation

General

Recreation use in WSA 46-14 is concentrated around Herd Lake. This is the only lake in the area accessible by vehicle and it receives moderate use year-round by sightseers, picnickers, hunters, and fishermen. Low levels of dispersed use occur along Road Creek and in Sawmill Canyon.

Present visitor use levels are expected to increase greatly as new residents of the fast growing Challis-Clayton area look for areas in which to recreate. Nearby areas and recreation sites have already experienced problems with new ORV activity and semi-permanent "campers."

Hunting and Fishing

WSA 46-14 lies within the State of Idaho Game Management Unit 36A. Big game species hunted in the unit include deer (antlered only), elk, black bear, mountain lion, and mountain goat.

The area receives a significant portion of its yearly visitor use during the hunting season, especially at the Upper Lake Creek campground.

Herd Lake and Lake Creek are popular fishing areas. Herd Lake is popular as an ice fishing site.

Off Road Vehicle Use

Most ORV use in the WSA occurs as the result of other activities - hunting, livestock management or public lands administration. ORV use as a principal activity is minor at present. No ORV management plan is in effect for this area.

Developed Sites

There are three developed sites contiguous to the WSA - Herd Lake Overlook, Herd Lake Campground, and Upper Lake Creek Campground. The Herd Lake sites receive moderate use while the Upper Lake Creek site receives low usage.

Geology and Minerals

Geology

See 46-11 Geology

Locatable Minerals

None have been identified.

Salable Minerals

Salable minerals include sand and gravel, borrow and fill, and building stone. The area has very little high quality sand and gravel. The best gravels occur in the stream channels of Road Creek, and the East Fork of the Salmon River.

Challis volcanics can be used as borrow and fill, but because of little demand for this product, no foreseeable need for this material is anticipated. Challis volcanics that possess special fracturing traits have been used as building stone. Because the Challis volcanic unit is so common in Custer County, no foreseeable shortage of building stone is anticipated.

Leasable Minerals

According to the USGS the area has no value for geothermal resources. The BLM's URA shows that areas within Range 20 and 21 East may have undiscovered oil and gas resources. Geologically, this area is underlain by thick sediments that could contain oil and gas. All but the very western edge of the WSA is covered by oil and gas leases.

Range Management

WSA 46-14 includes portions of four grazing allotments - San Felipe, Warm Springs, Road Creek and Herd Creek (Map 8). San Felipe, Warm Springs, and Herd Creek are managed under rest-rotation grazing systems. Road Creek allotment is managed under a seasonal continuous grazing system.

Table 13 summarizes the acreage, management treatment, season of use, and the livestock AUMs in these allotments.

Table 13
Grazing Allotments Associated with WSA 46-14

Allotment	Federal Acres	Acres in WSA 46-14	Management Treatment	Season of Use	Total AUMs
San Felipe	81,316	22,850	Rest-rotation	5/11-10/15	3,788
Warm Springs	62,076	1,700	Rest-rotation	5/16-10/31	3,573
Herd Creek	20,862	13,600	Rest-rotation	6/16-10/31	1,366
Road Creek	9,625	<u>8,000</u> 46,150	Seasonal	5/16-6/15	346

The Challis Grazing ES and the subsequent AMPs detailed specific management actions and range improvements to be installed to manage use of rangelands for protection, maintenance and improved condition of the basic vegetation. A 15 year program was designed to improve range conditions through vegetative manipulations, additional range improvements, and temporarily reduced grazing (AUM) levels. Table 14 summarizes the existing range improvements in the WSA and Table 15 lists the planned improvements. Some improvements are being delayed due to funding limitations.

Table 14
Existing Improvements WSA 46-14

Allotment	Springs	Waterholes	Pipeline Miles	Fence Miles	Reservoirs
San Felipe	2	1	--	13	--
Warm Springs	--	2	--	10	--
Herd Creek	1	--	3	3	--
Road Creek	<u>3</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>--</u>
Total	6	3	3	30	0

TABLE 15
Planned Range Improvements WSA 46-14

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Improvement</u>	<u>Completion</u>
San Felipe	Spring, Walker Way	1981
	Spring, Bear Creek #1	1981
	Spring, North Fork #1	1981
	Spring, Mosquito Creek	1981
	Seep, Road Creek	1982
	Pond, Mosquito Creek	1982
	Spring, Bear Creek #2	1982
	Spring, E Mosquito	1982
	Spring, South Bear	1982
	Fence, Canyon Ext. #2	1982
	Road Creek	Spring, Dry Hollow
Fence, Road Creek		1982
Spring, Little Canyon		1982

Other Analysis As Required

Evaluation of Wilderness Values

Quality of the area's mandatory wilderness characteristics.

1) Size

WSA 46-14's size of 46,150 acres is substantially larger than the 5,000 acres minimum size requirement. The WSA stands as an individual area not dependent on adjacent lands for size integrity. The WSA would be enhanced by combining it with RARE II Area 04-551 White Cloud-Boulder to the south (Map 2). At present, these two areas are separated by a two mile wide strip of Challis National Forest. This strip is roadless in nature but was not included in the wilderness study areas designated in the Pioneer Mountains Land Use Plan (Challis National Forest).

2) Naturalness

WSA 46-14 presents the visitor with a general appearance of naturalness. The WSA represents a transition from low elevation sagebrush/grass ecosystems to high elevation conifer forest ecosystems.

Imprints exist due to fences and spring developments associated with range management activities, access roads and jeep trails. The range improvements tend to be small scale, blending into the natural landscape. The four roads which deadend in the unit (the Herd Lake, Mosquito Creek, Sage Creek and Bradshaw Creek Roads) while technically not a part of the WSA do influence the naturalness of the WSA immediately adjacent to the roads.

No particular area in the WSA contains a concentration of imprints as they are dispersed throughout the WSA. All of the existing imprints could rehabilitate naturally if vehicles are removed from the area.

The overall influence of human imprints on the naturalness of the area, as perceived by the visitor, is minimal due to the wide dispersal of low impact developments.

3) Solitude

The area presents an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Topography of the area is characterized by numerous steep canyons and creek drainages. Vegetative screening, especially in the east half of the area, further enhances the opportunities for solitude. Other than the boundary gravel roads and one small ranch the sights and sounds of man are not evident.

Large tracts of undeveloped BLM lands to the north and USFS lands to the south enhance the solitude.

4) Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The intensive inventory identified this WSA as possessing outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation due to the area's size, a lack of man-made or natural barriers, and the absence of developments in or near the area. Possible activities include hiking, backpacking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, photography, bird watching, and sightseeing.

Herd Lake is a destination point for many visitors.

Quality of the Area's Optional Wilderness Characteristics

Part of the WSA is in the Challis Wild Horse Range and offers excellent wild horse viewing. The wild horses are an introduced element in the WSA. Their status is determined more by legislation than by management direction. They do however, add to the feeling of "wildness" in the area.

The large landslide which created Herd Lake is an unusual geologic feature which could add to visitors' appreciation of the area through interpretation.

Multiple Resource Benefits

No multiple resource benefits have been identified which could not also be realized through utilization of existing management authorities.

Diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System

See WSA 46-11.

Manageability

WSA 46-14 could be managed as a wilderness area. Some miles of fence, signing and patrolling would be necessary to effectively eliminate vehicle use. If any of the partial protection alternatives were selected, fences would need to be constructed along some portions of the Mosquito Creek, Lake Creek, and Sawmill Canyon Roads.

The dominant use of the area is for livestock grazing which is legally compatible with wilderness preservation.

Acquisition of some State lands bordering or included in the WSA would be required to effectively manage the area, and establish more logical boundary lines. Access disputes concerning included lands would be avoided.

Environmental Consequences

Alternative N - No Wilderness

Soil and Water Resources

Decreased soil stability and stream quality, and increased erosion and compaction could occur as the result of expected increases of motorized recreational use creating new or expanded systems of trails and roads. Most of the WSA would be open to unrestricted vehicle use when the IMP ceased to apply.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management.

Forest Resources

The existing Challis MFP thinning decision would remain in effect. All of the commercial timber (26,940 MBF) would be available for harvest as needed. Construction of access roads, skid trails, and vegetative manipulation would eliminate the naturalness of the areas.

Visual Resources

The temporary Class I designation would be removed and the VRM Class II, III, and IV designations used to evaluate management actions. Developments constructed under Class II, III, or IV guidelines could alter the area so that the natural aspect of the landscape would be lost.

Cultural Resources

Existing management practices and policies would continue.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Increased ORV use could impact the Chinook salmon by increasing soil disturbance and erosion and lowering stream quality (see Soils). ORVs could crush threatened or endangered plant species as new areas are utilized.

Wild Horses

Existing herd management plans would continue. If the plan is not followed and the herd is allowed to increase unchecked, as in the mid 1970's, overgrazing could significantly alter the area's vegetative composition and natural aspect.

Wildlife

Expected increases in ORV use could significantly influence stress levels, distribution, abundance (in some cases) and habitat quality of terrestrial wildlife. ORV use can influence stream sedimentation levels which affect habitat quality for resident and anadromous fish. A no wilderness designation could have a positive effect by avoiding the transfer of human activity to critical ranges outside the area.

Wilderness Characteristics

In a no wilderness situation, use by ORVs would be expected to increase especially in Mosquito Creek and above the Upper Lake Creek Campground. New jeep trails and roads would be created. Opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation would become less than outstanding as the chance of meeting vehicles or their impacts increases. The roadless character of the area could eventually be lost.

Recreation

No impacts to existing recreational use.

Minerals

The WSA would be open to mineral exploration and development in accordance with existing law and policy. Natural values could be foregone if substantial mineral activity occurs.

Range Management

Range management would continue under existing policies and plans. Construction of future improvements not subject to the IMP's non-impairment guidelines could result in a loss of natural values.

Social and Economic Conditions

No impacts to the economy and social conditions would occur as the result of a no wilderness decision.

Alternative W - Wilderness

Soil and Water Resources

Increased soil stability and stream quality and decreased soil erosion and compaction would result from closure of the roads and jeep trails listed in Alternative W. As a designated wilderness the area would be closed to all ORV use.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management

Forest Resources

The Challis MFP decision to thin 743 acres would not be implemented. Future utilization of the 6,265 acres (26,940 MBF) of commercial timber would be foregone. This 6,265 acres represents 16 percent of the 39,500 commercial acres available in the Challis Planning Unit.

Visual Resources

The designated wilderness area would be permanently designated Class I. No developments or activities which create contrast within the characteristic environment would be allowed. Limited management activities could be allowed.

Cultural Resources

Some benefits would be realized due to the elimination of vehicle access in the wilderness area. Access to cultural sites would be more difficult, possibly reducing site vandalism. Sites would not suffer damage by vehicles.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Impacts to Chinook salmon and threatened or endangered plants would be avoided by elimination of vehicle use and the associated ground disturbance.

Wild Horses

Existing herd management plans would continue. Herd size would be kept within planned limits, overgrazing would be avoided. Use of helicopters for horse roundups may be permissible but no new landing areas would be constructed (None are planned).

Wildlife

The most significant benefit to wildlife from a wilderness designation would be the elimination of vehicular access into the area. This would cause a considerable reduction in human activity and the attendant problems it creates for wildlife. Area 46-14 would be influenced greatly since there is currently an abundance of access and it is relatively close to Challis.

Should mining and exploration be eliminated or significantly reduced from 1983 on (see Minerals) it would certainly help assure perpetuation of the existing fauna and its habitat.

Stabilization of the existing "roads" plus possible elimination or reduction in future mining should produce long-term stream sedimentation reductions. This would be of considerable benefit to both resident and anadromous fish populations.

Wilderness Characteristics

Wilderness characteristics would be retained. Closure of the area to motorized vehicles would enhance the solitude and naturalness.

Recreation

Recreation activities which are dependent on motorized vehicles would be significantly affected. ORV use as a primary activity would be eliminated. Other activities - sightseeing, hunting, hiking, collecting - would be affected indirectly. Users would not be able to drive directly to destination points. Some foot or horse travel might be required.

The Herd Lake Road would remain open. Since the majority of the recreation use in the WSA utilizes this road the overall impact of a wilderness designation would be lessened.

Recreation activities which are dependent on areas which are natural or primitive would benefit from a wilderness designation. These could include sightseeing, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, nature study, and hunting.

Minerals

As specified in the Wilderness Act of 1964, exploration, mining, and mineral leasing activities are allowed in designated wilderness areas until December 31, 1983, subject to reasonable regulations governing ingress and egress.

Subject to valid existing rights, effective January 1, 1984, the minerals in 46-14 if designated wilderness would be withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the mining laws and from disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral leasing. Utilization of mineral resources, now undiscovered, would be foregone.

Range Management

Livestock grazing will continue as specified in Section 4 d. 4 of the Wilderness Act of 1964. AMPs will continue to determine the grazing systems and levels of use (AUMs) for the allotments included in the wilderness area.

The wilderness designation would affect the methods used to construct and maintain improvements and the monitoring of range use and condition. Since the planned range improvements (Table 15) will most likely be constructed under the IMP before a final wilderness decision occurs, there would be little impact to the planned range program.

Fences needed for wilderness manageability could significantly alter the existing allotment pasture boundaries.

Social and Economic Conditions

The designation of WSA 46-14 as wilderness would not significantly effect the rural ranch-oriented lifestyle which now exists in most of Custer County particularly in the East Fork drainage.

Minerals resources not discovered by December 31, 1983, or the date of wilderness designation (if later) would be unavailable for development. Jobs and economic input which mineral exploration and/or development could produce would be foregone. Conversely, a disruption of the existing rural lifestyle would be avoided.

Alternative P1 - Partial, Protection

Soil and Water Resources

The 4,250 acres deleted from the suitable wilderness area could be susceptible to increased vehicle traffic thus increasing soil erosion and compaction as well as decreasing stream quality and soil stability.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management.

Forest Resources

About 140 acres of non-commercial timber lands would be removed from the wilderness area. No commercial timber is involved.

Visual Resources

The Class I designation would become permanent for the designated wilderness. Class II, III, and IV designations would be used to evaluate management actions in the designated no wilderness. Developments constructed under Class II, III, or IV guidelines could so alter the area that the natural aspect of the landscape would be lost.

Cultural Resources

Benefits will occur as in Alternative W to the area designated as wilderness. Existing management will continue in the non-suitable area.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Possible impacts are avoided in the portion recommended for wilderness. ORV use in the non-suitable portion could impact the Chinook salmon and plant species as in Alternative N.

Wild Horses

Same as Alternative W.

Wildlife

The majority of the area, 43,750 acres, would be designated wilderness and receive benefits as in Alternative W. The area dropped from wilderness consideration would receive little real impact due to steep rocky slopes which inhibit ORV use.

Wilderness Characteristics

Principal impact would be allowing vehicle use on the jeep trail between Road Creek and Sage Creek. The no wilderness area would be minimally impacted as it is relatively inaccessible to vehicles due to steep slopes.

Recreation

Designated wilderness would eliminate vehicle dependent activities and benefit activities dependent on natural or primitive settings. Recreational use in the portion not designated wilderness will not be affected.

Minerals

The no wilderness area would be open to exploration and development as in Alternative N while the wilderness portion of the WSA would be subject to the 1983 cutoff as in the Alternative W.

Range Management

The impacts to the respective wilderness or no wilderness portion are similar to Alternatives W and N. Since the planned range improvements (Table 15) will most likely be constructed under the IMP before a final wilderness decision occurs, no impact to the planned range program will occur.

Social and Economic Conditions

Impacts to the area retained as wilderness are the same as Alternative W. No impacts would occur to the no wilderness area.

Alternative P2 - Partial, Balance

Soil and Water Resources

The no wilderness 17,050 acres could be susceptible to increased vehicle use and soil erosion and compaction as well as decreased stream quality and soil stability.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management.

Forest Resources

About 210 acres of non-commercial timber lands would be removed from the wilderness area. No commercial timber is involved.

Visual Resources

Same as Alternative P1.

Cultural Resources

Same as Alternative P1.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Same as Alternative P1.

Wild Horses

A combination of wilderness and no wilderness management would apply.

Wildlife

The 29,100 acres of designated wilderness would receive benefits due to reduced vehicle access as in Alternative W. The additional no wilderness area on the western edge of the area is easily accessible by ORVs and could receive impacts due to increased vehicle use as in the No Wilderness Alternative.

Wilderness Characteristics

Wilderness characteristics would be retained in 29,100 acres. However, vehicle use of the Mosquito Creek Road, allowed under this alternative, would detract significantly from the outstanding opportunities for solitude present in the wilderness area.

Impacts to the no wilderness western end of the area would be similar to the No Wilderness Alternative.

Recreation

Same as Alternative P1.

Minerals

Same as Alternative P1.

Range Management

Same as Alternative P1.

Social and Economic Conditions

Same as Alternative P1.

Alternative P3 - Partial, Production

Soil and Water Resources

The 36,650 acres recommended as unsuitable for wilderness could be affected by increased soil erosion and compaction and decreased stream quality and soil stability.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management

Forest Resources

The wilderness portion would contain 200 acres of non-commercial forest lands and 2,075 acres of commercial timber, 333 acres of which are planned for commercial and pre-commercial thinning.

The non-suitable portion contains 910 acres of non-commercial timber and 4,190 acres of commercial timber, 410 acres of which are planned for commercial and precommercial thinning.

Visual Resources

Same as Alternatives P1 and P2.

Cultural Resources

Same as Alternatives P1 and P2.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Same as Alternatives P1 and P2.

Wild Horses

Same as Alternative N.

Wildlife

The 9,500 acres designated wilderness would receive some benefit due to closure of the area to motorized vehicle use. However, most of this area is steep and inaccessible to vehicles so the overall benefit is minimal. In the 36,350 acres designated non-suitable impacts to wildlife could occur similar to Alternative N.

Wilderness Characteristics

Wilderness characteristics would be retained on 9,500 acres. The 36,650 acres of non-suitable would eventually lose their roadless character and outstanding opportunities due to increased vehicle use and road development.

Recreation

Same as Alternatives P1 and P2.

Minerals

Same as Alternatives P1 and P2.

Range Management

Same as Alternatives P1 and P2.

Social and Economic Conditions

Same as Alternatives P1 and P2.

Relationship Between Short-term Use of the Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-term Productivity

Implementation of the preferred alternative or either of the alternatives would not involve losses to the long-term productivity of the environment.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

Implementation of the preferred alternative or either of the alternatives would constitute a long-term commitment of resources because of a commitment to a management system. However, designation as wilderness can be rescinded by Congress and is not an irreversible or an irretrievable commitment of the resources.

Preferred Alternative

Alternative W - Wilderness is the preferred alternative for WSA 46-14 Jerry Peak.

The WSA meets or exceeds the mandatory wilderness characteristics (Criterion No. 1). Multiple resource benefits which would occur upon wilderness designation could also be realized by management actions instituted under no wilderness management.

Wilderness designation of WSA 46-14 would add a large area of ecosystem M3110-49 to the national wilderness system. This ecosystem is minimally represented in wilderness at present. As wilderness, WSA 46-14 would not add significantly to the amount of wilderness lands available to Idaho residents.

Manageability (Criterion No. 2) of WSA 46-14 as wilderness would require some fencing along boundary roads and old access points. Some included and bordering State sections should be acquired to improve manageability and create logical boundaries.

Mineral and energy resources were not a factor in alternative selection, since none are known to exist. Conversely however, little exploration has taken place.

Present uses and social and economic conditions primarily associated with livestock grazing and dispersed recreation will not be affected noticeably. The principal effect will be vehicle use restrictions. Wilderness values will be retained.

WSA 46-14a Jerry Peak West

Location, Size and Land Status

WSA 46-14a Jerry Peak West is located in Custer County, Idaho, 25 miles south of Challis in the East Fork of the Salmon River drainage. The area is bordered by the East Fork of the Salmon River, Herd Creek, and the Challis National Forest (Map 3). The WSA contains 13,530 acres of BLM land. The WSA borders three sections of State lands.

The Shoshone and Bannock Indians of the Fort Hall Reservation, Idaho, through the treaty of Fort Bridger, on July 3, 1868 and ratified by the United States Senate on February 16, 1869, ceded lands to the United States.

A follow up agreement with the Shoshone and Bannock Indians, concluded February 5, 1898, ratified June 6, 1900 (31 Stat. 672), in Article IV of the act to ratify the agreement (31 Stat. 674), states as follows:

'So long as any of the lands ceded, granted, and relinquished under this treaty remain part of the public domain, Indians belonging to the above mentioned tribes, and living on the reduced reservation, shall have the right, without any charge therefore to cut timber for their own use, but not for sale, and to pasture their livestock on said public lands, and to hunt thereon and fish in the streams thereof.'

These rights continue to exist on all of WSA 46-14a east of McDonald Creek.

Alternatives

Alternative N - No Wilderness/No Action (Map 13)

This alternative recommends all of WSA 46-14a, 13,530 acres, as non-suitable for wilderness designation. The existing Challis MFP decisions would remain in effect. Interim management would remain in effect until the area is released from WSA status by final wilderness decision.

Alternative W - Wilderness (Map 13)

This alternative proposes a suitable wilderness recommendation for the 13,530 acres in WSA 46-14a. Actions required to implement this alternative and effectively manage the area as wilderness upon designation include:

- 1) Closure of the area to motorized vehicle use;
- 2) Initiation of an exchange or purchase action for one state section (T. 9 N., R. 18 E., Sect. 16, State of Idaho, 640 acres).

Affected Environment

The area in which WSA 46-14a is located was intensively described and analyzed in the Challis URA and the Final Supplemental EIS on the Revised Range Program for the Challis Planning Unit. These documents should be referred to for extensive discussions of the environmental elements of this WSA.

Climate

Air Quality

Soil and Water Resources

Vegetation

Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species

Social and Economic Conditions

See 46-11 for these environmental elements.

Forest Resources (Map 7)

Approximately 19 percent (2,550 acres) of WSA 46-14a is timbered. Most of the timbered lands are non-commercial (1,650 acres). The 900 commercial acres are designated for special treatment. Table 16 summarizes the maximum forest resource available in the WSA.

The Challis MFP allocated 252 acres of mistletoe infected timber for harvest and 148 acres for commercial and precommercial thinning. Without some treatment, either natural (fire) or man-caused (logging) the mistletoe will eventually spread throughout the stand and kill it.

Table 16
Forest Resources WSA 46-14a*

Special Treatment Acres 900

Total Commercial Acres 900

Non-Commercial Acres 1,650

Total Timbered Acres 2,550

900 Commercial Acres x 3 MBF/Acre = 2,700 MBF

2,700 MBF x \$15/MBF = \$40,500

*Challis Planning Unit URA. Volumes (MBF) of planned cuts are unavailable.

Visual Resources

The WSA has retained a natural visual aspect due to limited man-caused alterations to the basic elements (form, line, color, and texture) of the landscape. Existing range improvements are subordinate to the natural landscape. Constructed roads which border the WSA and unimproved jeep trails are the most evident results of man's activities.

WSA 46-14a is presently managed as a Class I VRM area due to its WSA status. Class I provides primarily for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity.

The Challis MFP designated portions of 46-14a in VRM Classes I, II, III, and IV. Classes II through IV allow varying degrees of change to occur to the natural landscape due to man's activities.

Cultural Resources

WSA 46-14a contains 11 recorded cultural resource sites.

Wild Horses

No wild horses utilize this area.

Wildlife

Terrestrial

Deer utilize the area during the winter and spring, and elk utilize the eastern third of the area winter and spring. Coyotes and golden eagles are the most common predators. The area is historic bighorn sheep range.

Sage grouse and chukars are common. Blue grouse can be found along most streams especially those near or in timber stands.

Non-game species are typical for the elevations and vegetational types in the WSA.

Aquatic

Sport fishes present include rainbow and cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden, whitefish, steelhead and Chinook salmon. The last two species are anadromous and are essentially restricted to the East Fork of the Salmon River and Herd Creek. Juveniles of these two species undoubtedly use some tributaries to the above mentioned streams. The Chinook salmon is on the State sensitive species list and is directly or indirectly involved with the area. The Chinook salmon is particularly sensitive to stream quality and sedimentation levels.

Wilderness Characteristics

See Other Analysis as Required section and the State Director's Challis Wilderness Inventory Decision (Appendix 1).

Recreation

General

Recreation use of WSA 46-14a is low. The terrain is steep and most access points are controlled by private landowners. A Forest Service trail up the Herd Creek drainage from its confluence with Lake Creek is the major public access point of the area.

Hunting and Fishing

WSA 46-14a lies within State Game Management Unit 36A. Big game species hunted in the unit include deer (antlered only), elk, black bear, mountain lion, and mountain goat. Hunting use is limited by access problems.

Herd Creek is a valuable fishery resource.

Off Road Vehicle Use

ORV use is virtually non-existent. No ORV management plan is in effect for this WSA.

Developed Sites

There are no developed sites in the WSA.

Geology and Minerals

Geology

See WSA 46-11.

Locatable Minerals

None have been identified.

Salable Minerals

Salable minerals include sand and gravel, borrow and fill, and building stone. The area has very little high quality sand and gravel.

Challis volcanics can be used as borrow and fill, but because of little demand for this product, no foreseeable need for this material is anticipated. Challis volcanics that possess special fracturing traits have been used as building stone. Because the Challis volcanic unit is so common in Custer County, no foreseeable shortage of building stone is anticipated.

Leasable Minerals

According to the USGS the area has no value for geothermal resources. In the eastern end of the WSA 2,800 acres are covered by oil and gas leases.

Range Management

WSA 46-14a includes portions of three grazing allotments (Map 8) - East Fork, Pine Creek, Herd Creek. The East Fork and Herd Creek Allotments are managed under rest-rotation grazing systems while the Pine Creek Allotment has a deferred rotation system.

Table 17 summarizes the acreages, management treatments, seasons of use, and the livestock animal unit months (AUMs) in these allotments.

Table 17

Grazing Allotments Associated with WSA 46-14a

Allotment	Federal Acres	Acres in WSA 46-14a	Management Treatment	Season of Use	Total AUMs
East Fork	9,500	1,790	Rest-rotation	5/21-6/15	415
Pine Creek	5,971	5,400	Deferred Rotation	6/5/-7/18	220
Herd Creek	20,862	6,340	Rest-rotation	6/16-10/31	1,366
		13,530			

The Challis Grazing ES and the subsequent AMPs detailed specific management actions and range improvements to be installed to manage use of rangelands for protection, maintenance and improved condition of the basic vegetation. A 15 year program was designed to improve range conditions through vegetative manipulations, additional range improvements, and temporarily reduced grazing (AUM) levels. Table 18 summarizes the existing range improvements in the WSA. The only planned improvement is a spring in Pine Creek Allotment.

Table 18

Existing Improvements WSA 46-14a

Allotment	Springs	Waterholes	Pipelines Miles	Fence Miles	Reservoirs
East Fork	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Creek	3	-	-	1	-
Herd Creek	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	0	0	1	0

Other Analysis As Required

Evaluation of Wilderness Values

Quality of the area's mandatory wilderness characteristics.

1) Size

WSA 46-14a contains 13,530 acres of public lands. The WSA would be enhanced by combining it with RARE II Area 04-551 White Cloud-Boulder to the south (Map 2). At present, these two areas are separated by a two mile wide strip of Challis National Forest. This strip is roadless in nature but was not included in the wilderness study areas designated in the Pioneer Mountains Land Use Plan (Challis National Forest).

2) Naturalness

WSA 46-14a presents the visitor with a general appearance of naturalness. The WSA represents a transition from lower elevation sagebrush/grass ecosystems to high elevation conifer forest ecosystems.

Imprints exist due to fences and spring developments associated with range management activities. The range improvements tend to be small scale, blending into the natural landscape. No particular area in the WSA is subject to a concentration of imprints as they are dispersed throughout the WSA.

The overall influence of human imprints on the naturalness of the area, as perceived by visitors, is minimal due to the wide dispersal of low impact developments.

3) Solitude

The WSA presents an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Topography of the area is characterized by numerous steep canyons and creek drainages. Vegetative screening further enhances the opportunities for solitude.

Other than the boundary gravel roads and small ranches the sights and sounds of man are not evident. These outside sights and sounds are not significantly imposing but they do lessen the feeling of solitude.

4) Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory identified the WSA as possessing outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation due to its a lack of man-made or natural barriers, and the absence of developments in or near the area. Possible activities include hiking, backpacking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, cross country-skiing, snowshoeing, photography, bird watching, or sightseeing.

The WSA lacks any significant feature which could be called a focal or destination point for visitors.

Quality of the Area's Optional Wilderness Characteristics

None have been identified.

Multiple Resource Benefits

No multiple resource benefits have been identified which could not also be realized through utilization of existing management authorities.

Diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System

See WSA 46-11

Manageability

WSA 46-14a could easily be managed as wilderness. No impacts to the natural environment exist other than a few minor developments. Access by vehicle is virtually non-existent and is controlled by private landowners along the East Fork of the Salmon River. Cooperative agreements with the private landowners could be adequate to control or allow access. Few, if any, control fences would be required.

Environmental Consequences

Alternative N - No Wilderness

Soil and Water Resources

Decreased soil stability and stream quality, with increased soil erosion and compaction could occur if ORV use increases. Unless the private landowners who control access to the area open their land to use, little new ORV use will occur.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management

Forest Resources

Timber cutting on 400 acres could proceed as planned. Planned and future cutting impacts would eliminate naturalness characteristics due to road construction and visual evidence of man-caused vegetative manipulation.

Visual Resources

The temporary Class I designation would be removed and the VRM Class II, III, and IV designations used to evaluate management actions. Developments constructed under Class II, III and IV guidelines could so alter the area that the natural aspect of the landscape could be lost.

Cultural Resources

Existing management practices and policies would continue.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Increased ORV use could impact the Chinook salmon by increasing soil disturbance and erosion and lowering stream quality. ORVs could crush threatened or endangered plant species as new areas are utilized.

Wildlife

Increases in ORV use could significantly influence stress levels, distribution, abundance (in some cases) and habitat quality of terrestrial wildlife. ORV use can influence stream sedimentation levels which affect habitat quality for resident and anadromous fish. A no wilderness designation could have a positive effect by allowing ORV use, avoiding the transfer of human activity to critical ranges outside the area.

Wilderness Characteristics

A no wilderness designation for WSA 46-14a should have no immediate effects on the existing wilderness characteristics (naturalness, solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation). The planned range improvements will be completed under the non-impairment guidelines of the IMP prior to a final wilderness/non-wilderness decision.

Adverse impacts to wilderness characteristics especially naturalness caused primarily by increased ORV use would occur slowly and cumulatively as new jeep trails are established, old trails become roads, new improvements are constructed, and existing improvements are maintained. Most vehicle use will continue to be a secondary activity associated with uses such as hunting, mineral exploration and range management. Solitude is quickly lost when motorized vehicles are encountered. Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation will become less than outstanding as the area is slowly developed and becomes less primitive in nature.

The roadless character of the area could eventually be lost.

Recreation

No impacts would occur to existing recreational uses.

Minerals

The area would be open to mineral exploration and development in accordance with existing law and policy. Natural values could be foregone if substantial mineral activity would occur.

Range Management

Range management would continue under existing policies and plans. Construction of future improvements not subject to the IMP's non-impairment guidelines could result in a loss of the natural values identified.

Social and Economic Conditions

No impacts to the economy and social conditions would occur as the result of a no wilderness decision.

Alternative W - Wilderness

Soil and Water Resources

Increased soil stability and stream quality, and decreased soil erosion and compaction would result from closure of the WSA to motorized vehicle use. Real benefits would be minimal since little ORV use occurs presently.

Vegetation

See Forest Resources and Range Management

Forestry Resources

Naturalness of the timbered lands would be retained by eliminating timber harvesting. Utilization of 900 acres (2,700 MBF) of commercial timber would be foregone. This 900 acres represents 2.3 percent of the 39,500 commercial acres available in the Challis Planning Unit (Challis URA). The planned thinning of 400 acres would be foregone.

Visual Resources

The entire wilderness area would be permanently designated Class I. No developments or activities which create contrast within the characteristic environment would be allowed.

Cultural Resources

Some benefits would be realized due to the elimination of vehicle access in the wilderness area. Access to cultural sites would be more difficult possibly reducing site vandalism. Sites would not suffer damage by vehicles.

Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

Chinook salmon and threatened or endangered plant species would be enhanced by elimination of vehicle use and the associated ground disturbance.

Wildlife

The most significant benefit to wildlife from a wilderness designation would be the elimination of vehicular access into the area. This would cause a reduction of human activity and the attendant problems it creates for wildlife.

Should the possibility of mining and exploration be eliminated or significantly reduced from 1983 on, it would help assure perpetuation of the existing fauna and its habitat.

Wilderness Characteristics

Wilderness characteristics would be retained. Closure of the area to motorized vehicles would enhance the solitude and naturalness.

Recreation

Recreation activities which are dependent on motorized vehicles would be slightly affected. ORV use would be eliminated. Other activities (hunting, hiking, collecting) would be affected indirectly. Users would not be able to drive directly to destination points. Some foot or horse travel might be required.

Recreation activities which are dependent on areas which are natural and/or primitive would benefit from a wilderness designation. These could include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, nature study, and hunting.

Minerals

As specified in the Wilderness Act of 1964, exploration, mining, and mineral leasing activities are allowed in designated wilderness areas until December 31, 1983, subject to reasonable regulations governing ingress and egress.

Subject to valid existing rights, effective January 1, 1984, the minerals in 46-14a if designated wilderness, would be withdrawn from all form of appropriation under the mining laws and from disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral leasing. Utilization of mineral resources, now undiscovered, would be foregone.

Range Management

Livestock grazing will continue as specified in Section 4 d. 4 of the Wilderness Act of 1964. AMPs developed through the Grazing EIS process will continue to determine the grazing systems and levels of use (AUMs) for the allotments included in the wilderness area.

Wilderness designation would affect the methods used to construct and maintain improvements and monitoring of range use and condition. Since the planned range improvement will most likely be constructed under the IMP before final wilderness designation action occurs, there would be little impact to the planned range program. Future improvement work could be done by hand labor rather than mechanically. Horse or foot travel could replace vehicles for range monitoring, livestock moving, salt block placements, etc.

Fences needed for wilderness manageability could significantly alter the existing allotment pasture boundaries.

Social and Economic Conditions

The designation of WSA 46-14a as wilderness would not significantly effect the rural ranch-oriented lifestyle which now exists in most of Custer County particularly in the East Fork drainage.

Mineral resources not discovered by December 31, 1983, or the date of wilderness designation (if later) would be unavailable for development. Jobs and economic input which mineral exploration and/or development could produce would be foregone. Conversely, a disruption to the existing rural lifestyle would be avoided.

Relationship Between Short-term Use of the Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-term Productivity

Implementation of the preferred alternative or the unselected alternative would not involve losses to the long-term productivity of the environment.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

Implementation of the preferred alternative or either of the alternatives would constitute a long-term commitment of resources because of a commitment to a management system. However, designation as wilderness can be rescinded by Congress and is not an irreversible or an irretrievable commitment of the resources.

Preferred Alternative

Alternative W - Wilderness is the preferred alternative for WSA 46-14a. The WSA meets or exceeds the mandatory wilderness characteristics (Criterion No. 1). Multiple resource benefits which would occur upon wilderness designation could also be realized by management actions instituted under no wilderness management.

Wilderness designation of WSA 46-14a would add 15,530 acres of ecosystem M3110-49 to the national wilderness system. This ecosystem is minimally represented in wilderness at present. As wilderness, WSA 46-14a would not add significantly to the amount of wilderness lands available to Idaho residents.

Manageability (Criterion No. 2) of WSA 46-14a as wilderness would not be difficult due to the existing situation which restricts access to foot travel only for most of the WSA.

Mineral and energy resources were not a factor in alternative selection since none are known to exist. Conversely however, little exploration has been done.

Livestock grazing is the principal present use in the area and will not be appreciably affected by a wilderness designation. Wilderness values would be retained.

Coordination, Consultation, Consistency and Public Participation

Coordination and Consultation

Coordination and consultation has been a continuing process beginning in 1978 with the initial inventory of BLM lands to determine areas with wilderness characteristics. The issue identification process for this EIS involved individual contacts with other Federal agencies, State agencies, county government, range users, special interest groups, the District Advisory Board, and the District Advisory Council. The District held an open house and mailed comment forms to several hundred individuals to solicit ideas and issues.

Consistency

The Challis National Forest has a completed the Pioneer Mountains Land Use Plan for the area south of WSAs 46-14 and 46-14a. The area is classified for non-wilderness multiple use management. These lands are closely tied to the BLM lands in WSAs 46-14 and 46-14a through joint agency range management plans.

The Forest Service's Sawtooth National Recreation Area is currently studying WSA 46-13 and RARE II Area 04-551 for wilderness suitability. The Forest Service has the responsibility for the wilderness study of these areas and final recommendations.

Custer County does not have an overall land use plan.

Public Participation

The Public Participation Plan (Appendix 2) is a continuation of the public review process begun during the inventory. Substantial effort is being made to effectively involve the public through open houses, news releases, mailings and a formal hearing.

LIST OF PREPARERS

Loren Anderson assisted with preparation of the Terrestrial Wildlife material for the EIS. Loren is the District Wildlife Biologist at the Salmon District Office. He has been a wildlife biologist for eleven years and was a range conservationist for three years. Loren has a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University. He worked on the Challis Grazing EIS.

James Behm handled the Soils section of the EIS. Jim is the Salmon District Soil Scientist. He has been with the BLM for four years. Jim has a B.S. in Soils from the University of Minnesota.

Rick Colvin, Outdoor Recreation Planner, assisted in preparing the Recreation section of the EIS. Prior to coming to the BLM in October 1980, Rick worked for three years as a graduate research assistant at Oregon State University. Rick has a B.S. in Resource Recreation Management and a M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Oregon State University.

Dave Douglas was a Geologist on the Salmon District Resources staff. He wrote the Geology and Minerals sections. Dave has been with the BLM for one year. Dave has a B.S. in Geology from Idaho State University.

Ben Garechana is the Challis-Mackay Resource Area Wild Horse Specialist. He wrote parts of the Range Management sections and the Wild Horse sections. Ben has been with the BLM for two years. He has both a B.S. and M.S. in Range Management from the University of Idaho.

Brad Keller is the Challis-Mackay Resource Area Wildlife Biologist. He assisted with preparing the Wildlife sections. Brad has been with the BLM for two years. He has a B.S. in Wildlife Management from the University of Nebraska.

Chuck Keller prepared the Aquatic Wildlife portion of the EIS. Chuck is the Fisheries Biologist at the Salmon District Office. Prior to coming to the BLM seven years ago, Chuck worked for five years with the Indiana Fish and Game Department. Chuck had input to the Challis Supplemental EIS. He graduated with a B.S. in Fisheries from Humboldt State University.

Paul Krupin is the Salmon District Hydrologist who was responsible for part of the Soil and Water section of the EIS. After six months with the Forest Service as Hydrologist, Paul came to the BLM four years ago. He has a B.A. in Environmental Biology from the University of Colorado and a M.S. in Physical Geography, Hydrology, Water Quality from Oregon State University.

Bill Osborne is a Range Conservationist with the Challis-Mackay Resource Area. He wrote part of the Range Management sections. Bill has been with the BLM for three years and has a B.S. in Wildlife Management from Colorado State University.

Don Simpson is a Realty Specialist on the Salmon District Resources staff and prepared the land status data. Don has been with the BLM for five and one-half years and has a B.S. in Forest Management from Colorado State University.

Gene Tereland is the Salmon District Range Conservationist on the Resources staff. He wrote parts of the Range Management section and the Vegetation section. Gene has been with the BLM for six years. He has a B.S. in Range Management from Montana State University.

Michael Vallance is the Challis-Mackay Resource Area Forester. He wrote the Forestry Resources section of the EIS. Mike has a B.S. in Forestry from Purdue University.

Nancy Vaughan is the Salmon District Archaeologist who was responsible for the preparation of the Cultural Resources section of this EIS. Nancy has been with the BLM for six years. She has a B.A. in Anthropology and Archaeology from the University of South Florida.

George Weiskircher is the Idaho State Office Wilderness Coordinator and also served as State Office Liaison for this EIS. George has been with the BLM for 9 years, the past four in Boise. He has a B.S. in Earth Science from New Mexico State University.

Dave Wolf was the team leader for this EIS. He directed the preparation of this EIS and prepared several sections. Dave has been with the BLM for five years. He has a B.S. in Wildlife Management and a B.S. in Outdoor Recreation both from Colorado State University.

Agencies, Persons, Organizations Receiving Draft

The following list includes government agencies, organizations, and individuals potentially affected by land use decisions in the Challis area.

Federal Agencies

Department of Interior
 Bureau of Indian Affairs
 Fish and Wildlife Service
Department of Agriculture
 Soil Conservation Service
 Forest Service

State of Idaho Agencies

Department of Fish and Game
Department of Health, Welfare and Environmental Services
Department of Lands
Department of Water Resources
Historic Preservation Officer
University of Idaho Extension Service
Idaho State Clearinghouse

Local Agencies

Mayor, Challis
Custer County Planning Commission
Custer County Commissioners

Elected Officials

Federal

Senator Steve Symms
Senator James McClure
Congressman George Hansen
Congressman Larry Craig

State

Governor John Evans
Representative Ray Infanger
Representative Wayne Tibbets
Senator Vearl Crystal

Advisory Councils

Salmon District Advisory Council
Salmon District Grazing Advisory Board

Organizations

Wild Horse Organized Assistance
Idaho Humane Society
American Humane Society
Idaho Wildlife Federation
Trout Unlimited
Idaho Cattle Feeders Association, Inc.
Tri-County Cattlemen's Association
Idaho Archaeological Society, Inc.
Idaho Conservation League
Northwest Steelheaders Association
Challis Snowmobile Club
Natural Resources Defense Council
Western Environmental Trade
League of Women Voters of Idaho
Northern Rockies Chapter Sierra Club
The Institute of Ecology
Idaho Cattlemen's Association

Individuals

Grazing permittees
District Mailing List (on file)

APPENDICIES



APPENDIX 1
IDAHO INTENSIVE WILDERNES INVENTORY
CHALLIS PLANNING AREA
SALMON DISTRICT
STATE DIRECTOR'S DECISION

IDAHO STATE OFFICE
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
January 1980





United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO

8500(932)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Idaho State Office
Federal Building, Box 042
550 W. Fort Street
Boise, Idaho 83724

January 3, 1980

Dear Reader:

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) requires the Secretary of the Interior to inventory roadless areas and roadless islands of the public lands to identify those areas/islands possessing wilderness characteristics as described in the Wilderness Act of 1964.

FLPMA states that while roadless areas are being reviewed, they are to be managed so as not to impair their suitability for preservation as wilderness. The purpose of conducting this intensive inventory in advance of the statewide intensive inventory was to evaluate the wilderness characteristics on those public lands in the Challis Planning Area of the Salmon District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) so that wilderness data would be available when the grazing management program is implemented in the Challis area.

On September 7, 1979, the State Director announced the proposed decision on this accelerated intensive wilderness inventory. Following publication of the proposed decision, a 90-day comment period was conducted.

No public responses were received during the comment period that addressed specific factors related to wilderness characteristics. Comments that related to wilderness interim management were reviewed but were not utilized in arriving at the intended final decision. The inventory process is only for the purpose of determining wilderness characteristics; comments not related to characteristics will be analyzed during the study phase.

The following represents the intended final decision related to wilderness values in the Challis area:



Save Energy and You Serve America!

Units Identified As Wilderness Study Areas

46-11 Corral-Horse Basin

The proposed decision included the following analysis of wilderness characteristics:

Size and Physical Characteristics:

The unit contains 51,500 acres of BLM land. Boundaries are: north - Spar Canyon Road, Bear Wallow Road, and topographic features; south - Road Creek Road; east - Dry Gulch Road; and west - East Fork Road. Corral and Horse Basins are surrounded by sagebrush hills while forested areas occur in the east portion near Anderson Peak, the unit's highest point.

Naturalness:

The unit exhibits a natural appearance, with man-caused imprints subordinate to the natural landscape. Major impacts are: the Anderson Ranch Road (two miles) to the Wild Horse Facility; and the east end of Broken Wagon Road. Minor impacts are: the center portion of Broken Wagon Road, the route into Horse Basin, and the two-wheel tracks in Corral Basin. None of the minor impacts appear to meet road definitions as they appear to be routes maintained solely by the passage of vehicles.

Solitude:

The unit offers solitude primarily due to its large size. Edges of the unit are hilly, and avoidance of other users is enhanced. The interior basins are large areas where it is easy to avoid others.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The unit does offer outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Except for a few fence lines, there are no man made or natural barriers to hinder use. The lack of any developed areas within or near the unit enhances the primitive qualities.

Supplemental Values:

The unit is part of the Challis Wild Horse Range and offers excellent wild horse viewing.

Possibility of Returning to a Natural Condition:

The center portion of Broken Wagon Road, the two-wheel tracks in Corral Basin, and Horse Basin Road would all revegetate to natural condition if use were restricted.

The proposed decision indicated that the entire unit should be identified as a Wilderness Study Area.

Public comments did not address wilderness characteristics, but provided input related to wilderness interim management.

Decision: The 51,500-acre unit is identified as a Wilderness Study Area.

46-13 Boulder Creek

The proposed decision included the following analysis of wilderness characteristics:

Size and Physical Characteristics:

The unit contains 2,573 acres of BLM land. The unit adjoins RARE II Further Planning Wilderness Unit 4-551 and is dependent on it to meet the size requirement.

Topography and vegetation consist of rolling sagebrush hills with minor drainages into the East Fork Salmon River.

Naturalness:

The unit is natural in appearance with no man-made features evident.

Solitude:

Solitude is provided by the hilly nature of the unit. Outstanding opportunities for solitude are provided when the unit is considered with adjacent FS lands.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The unit is primitive in nature and offers outstanding unconfined recreation opportunities.

The proposed decision indicated that the entire unit should be identified as a Wilderness Study Area.

No public comment was received on this unit.

Decision: The 2,573-acre unit is identified as a Wilderness Study Area, dependent on the contiguous RARE II area to meet the size criteria.

46-14 Jerry Peak

The proposed decision included the following analysis of wilderness characteristics:

Size and Physical Characteristics:

The unit contains 48,000 acres. Boundaries are: north - Road Creek Road; south - FS; east - Pecks Canyon Road; and west - private land and Herd Creek Road. The topography is mountainous with elevations from 5,650 to 10,010 feet at Jerry Peak.

Naturalness:

In general, the unit appears to be in a natural condition largely unaffected by the works of man. Primary impacts are:

Herd Lake Road, past Herd Lake to upper Lake Creek site, an intrusion at its location but not visible from most of the unit.

Mosquito Creek Road, from Road Creek Road south to height of land, shows evidence of construction but low impact.

Sage Creek Road, from the BLM boundary to the creek crossing.

Bradshaw Creek Road extends from Sage Creek to cattle watering troughs and an old timber sale.

Spring Gulch has 4-wheel drive access to watering troughs.

Along Mosquito Creek fence is a two-wheel track.

From Bradshaw Creek to Road Creek is a 4-wheel drive, two-wheel track.

Solitude:

The area presents an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Topography of the area is characterized by numerous steep canyons and creek drainages. Vegetative screening further

enhances the opportunities for solitude. Other than the boundary gravel roads and one small ranch, the sights and sounds of man are not evident.

Large tracts of undeveloped BLM lands to the north and FS lands to the south enhance the qualities of solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The area offers an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation and is relatively free of limiting impacts (fences, private lands). Excellent opportunities exist for backpacking, riding, fishing, wildlife viewing, and cross-country skiing.

Supplemental Values:

The large landslide which created Herd Lake is an unusual geologic feature which has not yet been actively studied or interpreted.

Possibility of Returning to a Natural Condition:

Non-use of the Mosquito Creek Road and the three other travel routes would cause them to return to a relatively natural condition in a few years.

The proposed decision indicated that the entire unit should be identified as a Wilderness Study Area.

Public comments did not address wilderness characteristics, but provided input related to wilderness interim management.

Decision: The 48,000-acre unit is identified as a Wilderness Study Area.

46-14a Jerry Peak West

The proposed decision included the following analysis of wilderness characteristics:

Size and Physical Characteristics:

The unit contains 15,000 acres. Boundaries are: north - private lands; south - USFS; east - Herd Creek Road; and west - private lands. The topography is mountainous.

Naturalness:

In general, the unit appears to be in a natural condition largely unaffected by the works of man.

Solitude:

The area presents an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Topography of the area is characterized by numerous steep canyons and creek drainages. Vegetative screening further enhances the opportunities for solitude. Other than the boundary gravel roads, the sights and sounds of man are not evident.

Large tracts of undeveloped FS lands to the south enhance the qualities of solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The area offers an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation and is relatively free of limiting impacts. Excellent opportunities exist for backpacking, riding, fishing, wildlife viewing, and cross-country skiing.

The proposed decision indicated that the entire unit should be identified as a Wilderness Study Area.

Public comments did not address wilderness characteristics, but provided input related to wilderness interim management.

Decision: The 15,000-acre unit is identified as a Wilderness Study Area.

Units Identified As Lacking Wilderness Values

46-2 Garden Creek

The proposed decision included the following analysis of wilderness characteristics:

Size and Physical Characteristics:

The unit contains 14,415 acres of public land. Boundaries include FS lands and topographic features to the west; non-public lands and topographic features to the north; non-public lands and Highway 75 to the east; Bayhorse Creek Road, private land, and topographic features to the south.

The majority of the unit consists of rolling sagebrush-grass covered hills. Some parts contain steep slopes covered with talus. Scattered pockets of Douglas fir and other sub-alpine species can be found at higher elevations. Some drainages are covered with aspen and riparian vegetation such as birch and willow.

Blue Mountain reaches 8,328 feet in the north-central part of the unit, sloping toward the Salmon River where the elevation is 5,100 feet.

Naturalness:

Impacts on naturalness include 10 spring developments, 3½ miles of roads, a small retention structure, and a small area cleared by a dozer. At the spring developments revegetation is good. As a whole, this unit has remained natural, unaffected by the imprint of man's work.

Solitude:

Topographic and vegetative screening provide outstanding opportunities for a visitor to experience remoteness in the central and western portion of the unit. The remainder is composed of rolling sagebrush-covered hills interspersed with numerous drainages, some of which are steep and narrow. This produces good to excellent screening from the sights and sounds of others.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The variable topography and vegetation afford outstanding opportunity for a diversity of recreational activities. The area does not contain intrusions that would inhibit movement or restrict a primitive experience.

Possibility of Returning to a Natural Condition:

All of the developed areas have substantially revegetated, and thus have good potential for returning to a natural condition.

The proposed decision indicated that 600 acres of the unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

Public comments did not address wilderness characteristics, but provided input related to wilderness interim management. Further inventory information gathered through aerial observations in September 1979, indicated that the affect of man's impact on naturalness in this unit, due to roads, ways and range developments, was much more extensive than previously estimated on the ground.

Decision: The unit does not qualify for wilderness study due to lack of naturalness.

46-3 Centennial

The proposed decision included the following analysis of wilderness characteristics:

Size and Physical Characteristics:

The unit contains 8,014 acres of public land. Boundaries include FS lands to the north, Kinikinic Creek and private land to the west, Highway 75 to the south, and Poverty Flat Road and State land to the east. The State land on the eastern part of the unit forms an irregular boundary. Land form is dominated by a steep mountain ridgetop reaching 9,700 feet. There are two major drainages, Sawmill Creek and Birch Creek, as well as several intermittent streams. The southern portion contains steep, open-faced canyons, with sagebrush the dominant vegetation. To the north, the landscape is similar, but scattered pockets of Douglas fir cover some of the open-faced slopes. Willows, aspen, and birch can be found in drainages.

Naturalness:

The imprint of man's work is substantially unnoticeable throughout the unit. The extreme eastern side is influenced by historic mining and logging, but the impacts are essentially insignificant due to revegetation. Three miles of poorly defined ways can be found on the eastern and southern slopes of the unit. A radio facility lies near the eastern boundary on Poverty Flat. One spring development, in the southern extreme of the unit, is of very low impact. The man-made modifications are insignificant when considered cumulatively.

Solitude:

Possibilities for experiencing a feeling of isolation throughout the northern one-half of the unit are enhanced by the combination of steep relief and dense patches of Douglas fir. The southern half of the unit has good topographic variability, but little vegetative screening. Overall, the unit has good potential for providing solitude, but outstanding opportunities are not present.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

Opportunities for a primitive recreation experience could be very good in this unit. One major feature, a steep mountain, is enclosed in a relatively small land area and produces a confining effect on a visitor to the area. This seriously

limits the inherent qualities necessary for an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Possibility of Returning to a Natural Condition:

The majority of the modifications made by man are not serious impacts. The affected areas have been successfully revegetating.

The proposed decision indicated that the unit did not meet the solitude-recreation criteria.

No public comment was received on this unit.

Decision: The unit does not qualify for wilderness study due to lack of naturalness and lack of outstanding solitude-recreation.

46-7 Lone Pine Peak

The proposed decision included the following analysis of wilderness characteristics:

Size and Physical Characteristics:

The unit contains 26,840 acres. Boundaries are: north - Highway 74 and Bradbury Flat Road; south - Spar Canyon Road; east - Lone Pine Spring Road; and west - Malm Gulch and Bradshaw Basin Road.

Topography centers around Lone Pine Peak which dominates a large northwest to southeast ridge. Sagebrush hills lead to steep forested slopes and a rocky summit.

Naturalness:

Most of the unit appears natural; however, impacts of man in the form of range developments affect the natural values. Many pipelines and old travel routes have regenerated well, but a number are still prominent. The most obvious are in Bradshaw Basin where an extensive network of pipelines, water troughs, and roads exist. Older roads at higher elevations have revegetated. Bishop Spring Road is a 4-wheel drive route but contains evidence of construction. In the northern tip of the unit are dirt bike trails, jeep trails, and trash dumps. At the fence northwest of Red Lake, a scar left by bulldozer is evident. Along the travel route southwest from Bishop Spring is a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile constructed road through forest.

Solitude:

The rugged topography and varied vegetation in the unit offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The area offers an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation. Few barriers exist to limit recreational use, and the unit retains a primitive nondeveloped atmosphere.

Supplemental Values:

A petrified forest occurs on the western edge. The unit is a portion of the Challis Wild Horse Range and offers excellent viewing potential.

Possibility of Returning to a Natural Condition:

Most of the nonconstructed travel routes are kept open by vehicle travel only and would revegetate with restricted use. Fence line scars could be reduced by hand waterbarring and reseeding. A portion of the unit in Bradshaw Basin cannot be rehabilitated.

The proposed decision indicated that 2,200 acres did not meet the naturalness criteria.

No public comment was received on this unit. Further inventory information gathered through aerial observations in September, 1979, indicated that the affect of man's impact on naturalness in this unit, due to roads, ways and range developments, was much more extensive than previously estimated on the ground.

Decision: This unit does not qualify for wilderness study due to lack of naturalness.

46-10 Hole-In-the-Rock

The proposed decision included the following analysis of wilderness characteristics:

Size and Physical Characteristics:

This unit contains 7,950 acres of public land. The unit has a narrow irregular shape, due in part to private and State lands. Boundaries include FS lands on the east. Lime Spring Creek Road on the south, and Camp Creek Road on the north.

Elevation ranges from 5,700 feet to 6,700 feet, upsloping from west to east. Numerous shallow drainages, rocky escarpments and outcrops, and rolling sagebrush hills are characteristic of the unit.

Naturalness:

This unit has retained relatively natural characteristics. Man-made impacts include two spring developments with stock tanks and 3½ miles of fence line. All of these produce a very low impact on the land. A transmission line is visible from some of the ridges, forming a negative visual impact.

Solitude:

The numerous shallow drainages and the low sagebrush hills do not possess the potential to provide outstanding opportunity for remoteness. It would be difficult for a visitor to escape the sights and sounds of others.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The narrow configuration and the lack of an interesting land form have constraining effects on primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities.

Possibility of Returning to a Natural Condition:

All of the imprints of man in this unit could return to a relatively natural state over a period of time by a combination of hand labor and natural processes.

The proposed decision indicated that the unit did not meet the solitude-recreation criteria.

No public comment was received on this unit.

Decision: The unit does not qualify for wilderness study due to lack of outstanding solitude-recreation.

* * *

In summary, the intensive inventory intended final decision identifies the following units as Wilderness Study Areas:

46-11	Corral-Horse Basin	51,500 Acres
46-13	Boulder Creek *	2,573 "
46-14	Jerry Peak	48,000 "
46-14a	Jerry Peak West	15,000 "

*Unit less than 5,000 acres dependent upon a contiguous RARE II area to meet the size criteria.

Of the total of 174,292 acres intensively inventoried in the Challis area, 117,073 acres were found to have wilderness characteristics, and thus the four units containing those acres are identified as Wilderness Study Areas. The remaining 57,219 acres are dropped from the wilderness inventory process.

The release of this intended final decision initiates a 30-day protest period, during which persons wishing to protest any of the intended final decisions shall have 30 days to file a written protest.

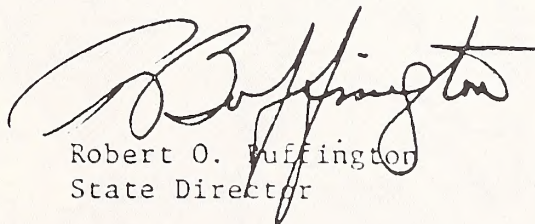
Protests should address specific inventory units and must include a clear and concise statement of reasons for the protest, including any supporting data available. Protests may be filed with the Idaho State Office or the Salmon District Office of the BLM, and must be postmarked or received by the end of the 30-day period, February 4, 1980.

For further information on any of the inventory units, contact the Idaho State Office or the Salmon District Office.

State Director
Idaho State Office
Bureau of Land Management
Federal Building, Box 042
550 W. Fort Street
Boise, Idaho 83724

District Manager
Salmon District Office
Bureau of Land Management
P. O. Box 430
Salmon, Idaho 83467

Sincerely yours,

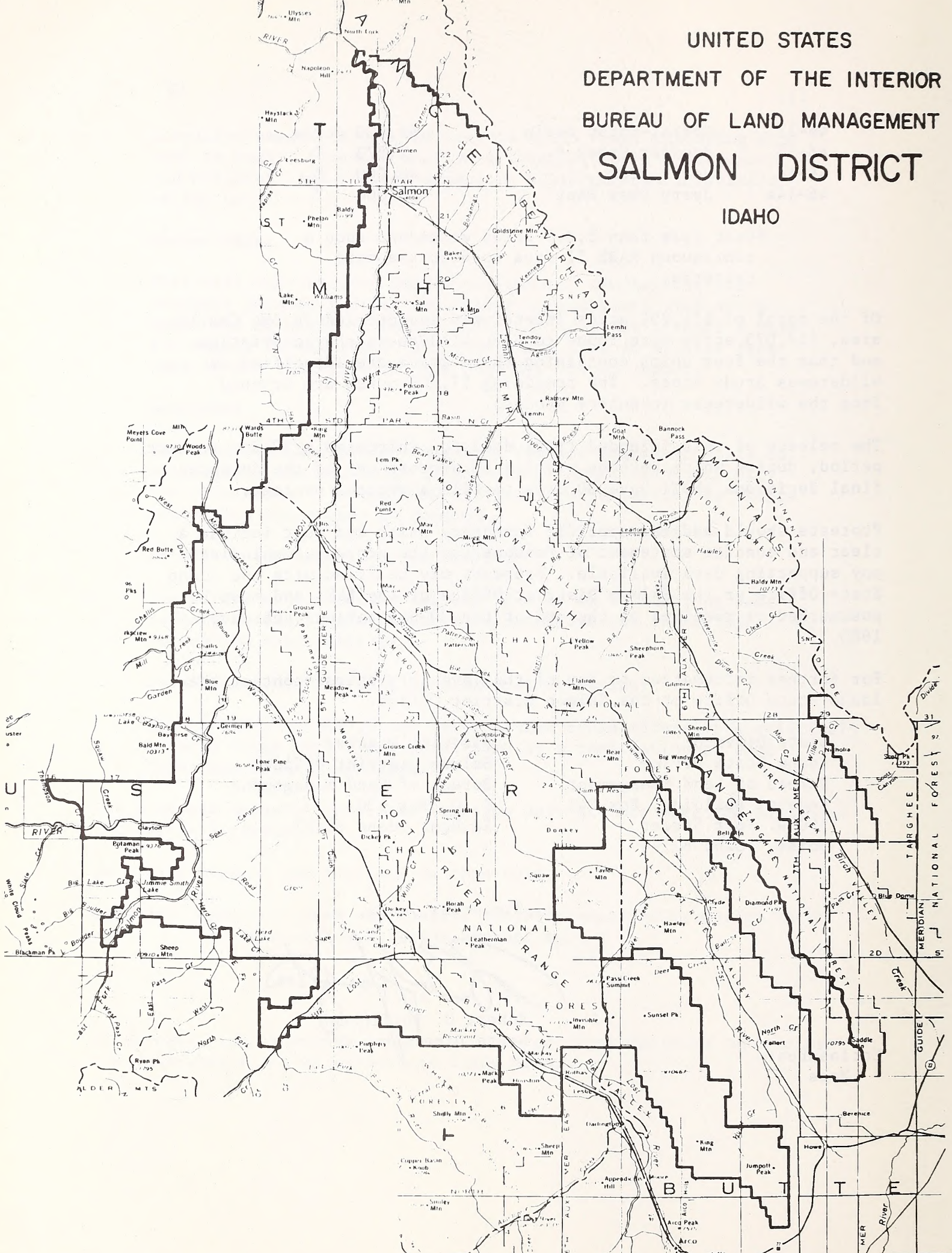


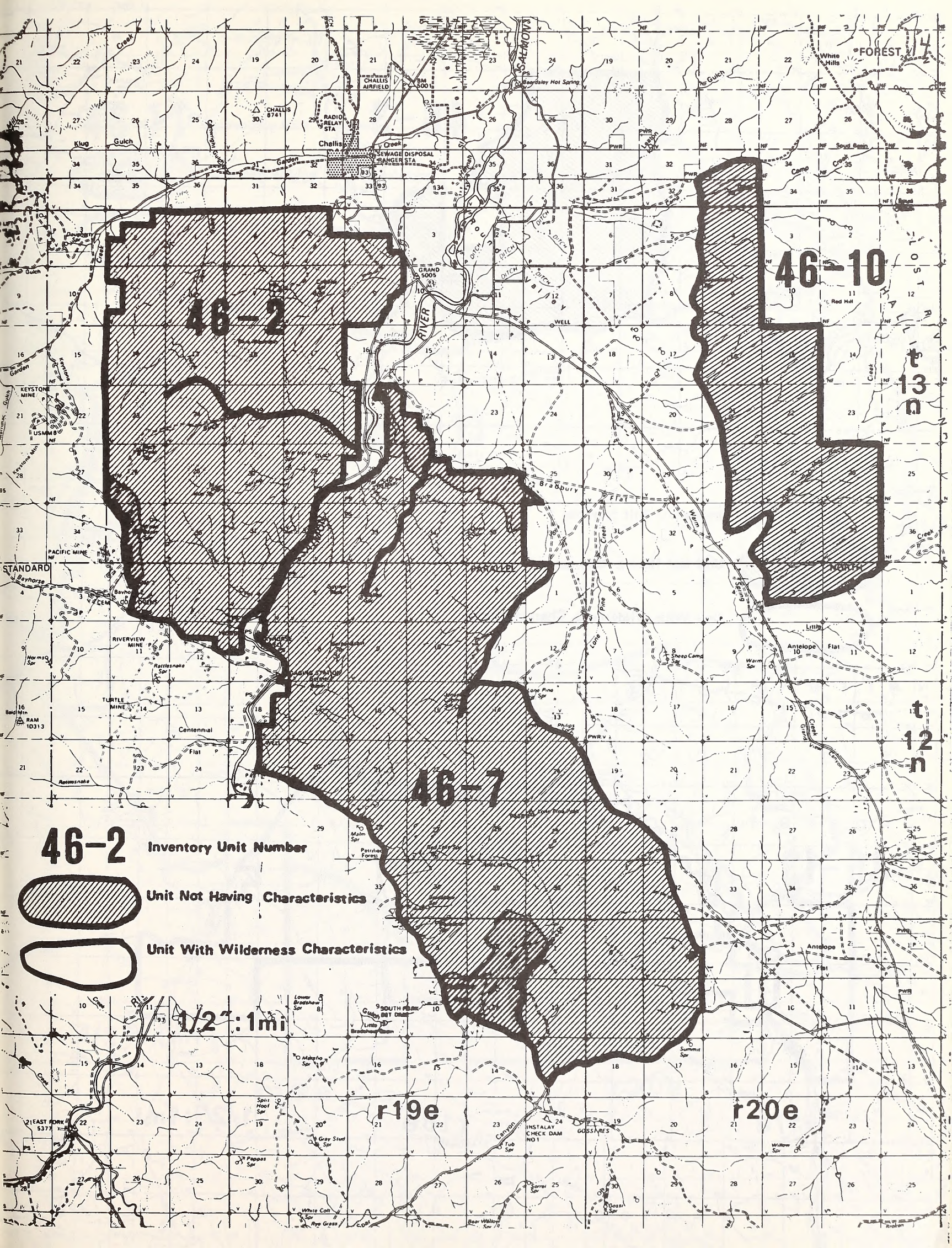
Robert O. Ruffington
State Director

Enclosures:
Maps

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SALMON DISTRICT

IDAHO





46-2

46-10

46-7

46-2

Inventory Unit Number



Unit Not Having Characteristics



Unit With Wilderness Characteristics

1/2":1mi

r19e

r20e

t 13 n

t 12 n

FOREST

CHALLIS AIRFIELD

Challis

SALMON RIVER

PARALLEL

STANDARD

KEYSTONE MINE

PACIFIC MINE

RIVERVIEW MINE

TURTLE MINE

Centennial

Antelope Flat

Warm Spr

Sheep Camp

Little

Antelope Flat

Warm Spr

Antelope Flat

Warm Spr

Antelope Flat

Warm Spr

Antelope Flat

Warm Spr

Antelope Flat

Warm Spr

Antelope Flat

Warm Spr

Antelope Flat

Warm Spr

Petitioner Forest

Lower Bradshaw Spr

Upper Bradshaw Spr

South Fork

Gray Stud Spr

Peppers Spr

White Coll Spr

Pine Grass

White Coll Spr

Pine Grass

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INSTALAY CHECK DAM NO 1

GOSSA'S

Willow Spr

Summit Spr

Lower Bradshaw Spr

Upper Bradshaw Spr

South Fork

Gray Stud Spr

Peppers Spr

White Coll Spr

Pine Grass

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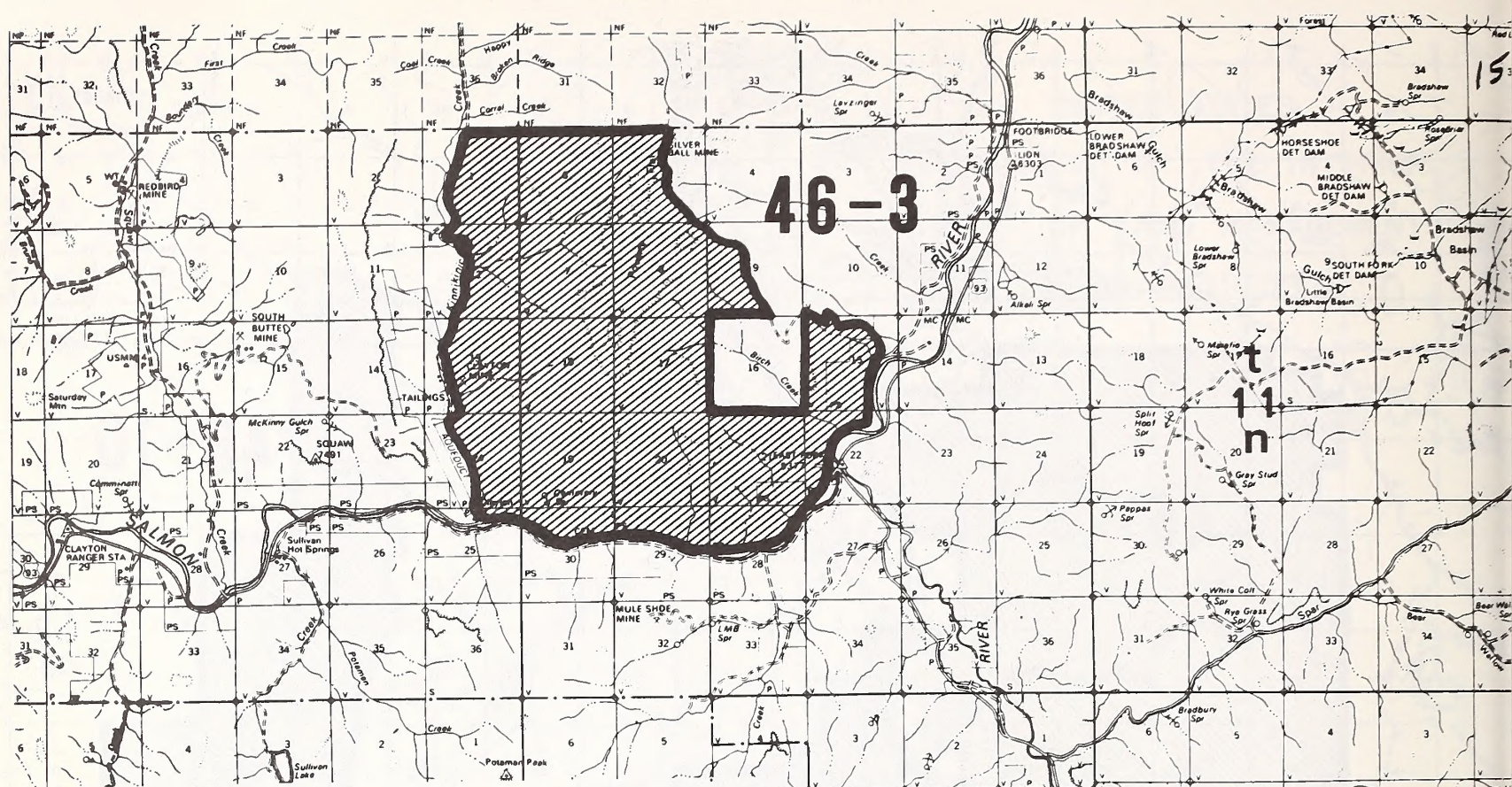
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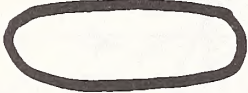


46-3

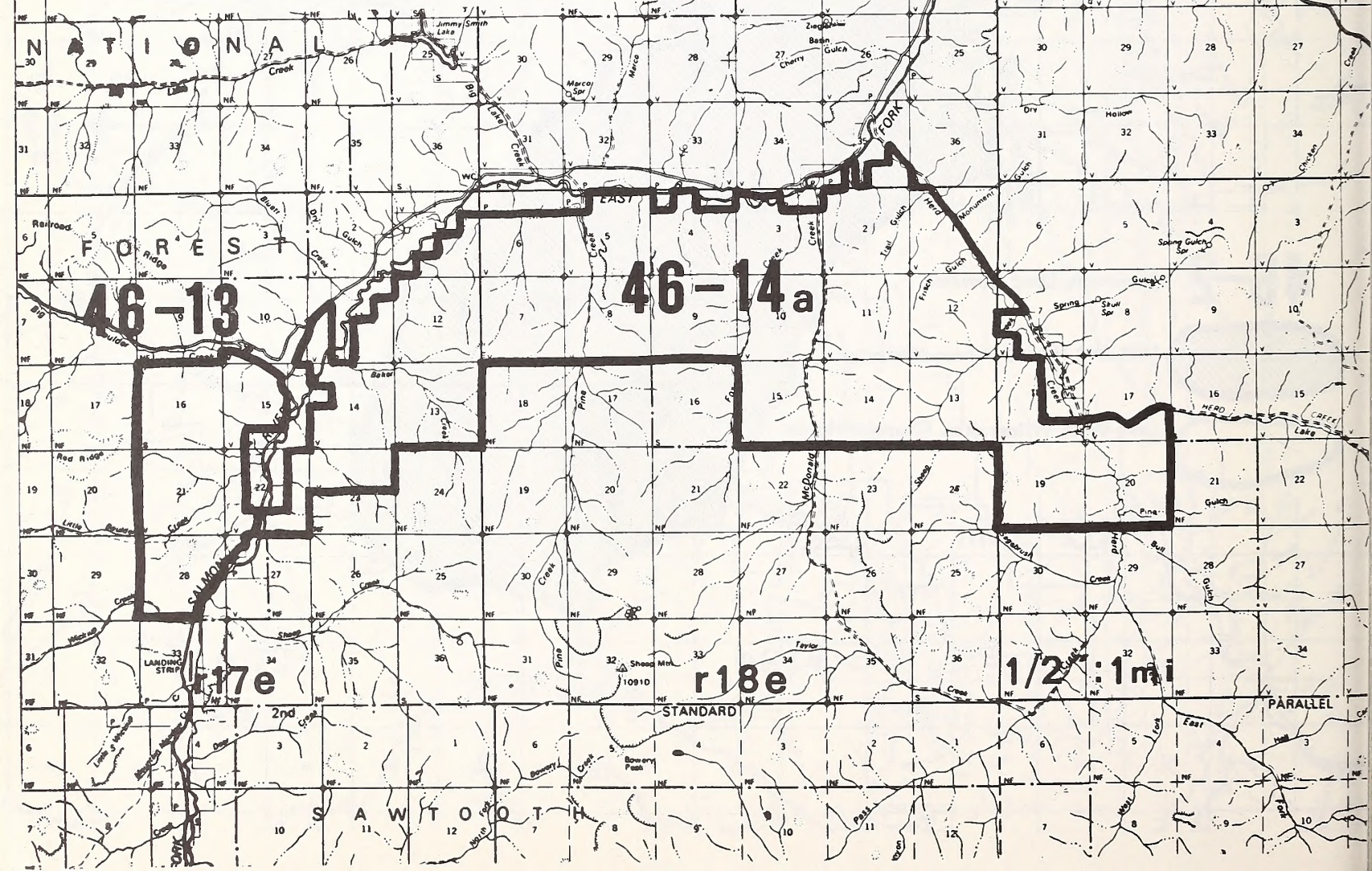
Inventory Unit Number



Unit Not Having Characteristics



Unit With Wilderness Characteristics



46-13

46-14a

r17e

r18e

1/2 : 1 mi

STANDARD

PARALLEL

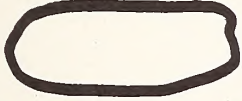
SAWTOOTH

46-11

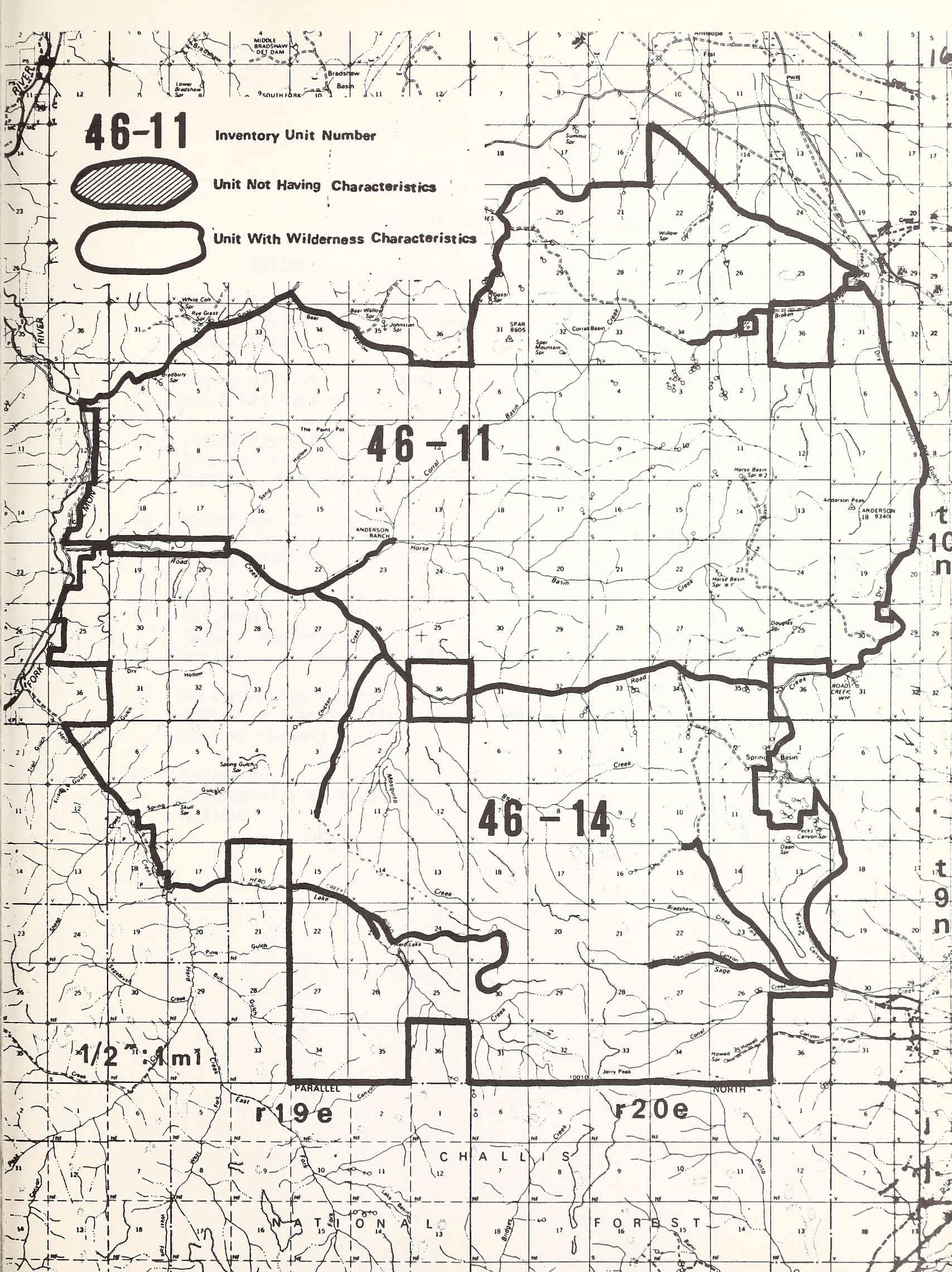
Inventory Unit Number



Unit Not Having Characteristics



Unit With Wilderness Characteristics



46-11

46-14

1/2 mi

r 19 e

r 20 e

CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST

APPENDIX 2

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

	<u>Action</u>	<u>Completed</u>
1)	Notice of Amendment - D0 Federal Register, Challis and Salmon papers.	December 1980
2)	Review of Study Guidelines - ISO and Draft Management Policy	12/80 to 4/81
3)	Issues Identification News release to papers and radio mailout - permittees and list	4/1/81 4/1/81 5/13/81
4)	Issues and Scoping session Federal Register notice Public meeting	4/23/81 5/21/81
5)	Notice of Final Issues and EIS Team Federal Register Mailout - permittees and list	6/12/81 6/5/81
6)	Public review of draft plan Notice of availability - Public review Mailout summary	
7)	Final EIS Availability of Final EIS Mailout	

Appendix 3

Potential Combined Alternatives

<u>No.</u>	<u>46-11</u>	<u>46-14</u>	<u>46-14a</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	W	W	W	Wilderness Alt.
2	W	W	N	
3	W	N	W	
4	W	N	N	
5	W	P1	W	
6	W	P1	N	
7	W	P2	W	
8	W	P2	N	
9	W	P3	W	
10	W	P3	N	
11	N	W	W	Proposed Action
12	N	W	N	
13	N	N	W	No Wilderness Alt.
14	N	N	N	
15	N	P1	W	
16	N	P1	N	
17	N	P2	W	
18	N	P2	N	
19	N	P3	W	
20	N	P3	N	
21	P	W	W	
22	P	W	N	
23	P	N	W	
24	P	N	N	
25	P	P1	W	
26	P	P1	N	
27	P	P2	W	
28	P	P2	N	
29	P	P3	W	
30	P	P3	N	

Wilderness (W)

No Wilderness (N)

Partial Wilderness P, P1, P2, P3

APPENDIX 4
Statutory Wilderness Within a Days Drive of Boise

Unit Number	Unit Name	Total Acres	Ecosystem Portions			
			Acres	Ecosystem	State	Agency
NF034	Hells Canyon	193,540	52147	M3110-10	ID	USFS
			22962	M3110-13		
			8691	M3110-44		
			81740	M3110-10	OR	
			28000	3120-44	OR	
NF072	Sawtooth	217,088	141107	M3110-14	ID	USFS
			75981	M3110-13		
NF913	River of No Return	2,230,149	1115074	M3110-13	ID	USFS
			669045	M3110-14		
			446030	M3110-10		
NF038	Jarbidge	64,830	58347	3130-10	NV	USFS
			6483	3130-49		
NF020	Eagle Cap	293,675	60000	M3110-13	OR	USFS
			233675	M3110-14		
NF079	Strawberry Mountain	33,653	27153	M3110-13	OR	USFS
			6500	M3110-45		
NF104	Wenaha-Tucannon	66,375	6000	M3110-10	OR	USFS
			60375	M3110-14		
NP-005	Craters of the Moon N.M.	42,243	43243	3130-39	ID	NPS
	Total 8	3,141,553				
L4BAA	Steel Mountain	22,848	11943	M3110-10	ID	USFS
			10905	M3110-10		
E4061	Ten Mile (East)	32,135	32135	M3110-13	ID	USFS
N4201	Pioneer Mountains	104,689	83751	M3110-14	ID	USFS
			20938	M3110-49		
I4210	Borah Peak	119,675	119675	M3110-14	ID	USFS
E4451	Needles (East)	92,048	33500	M3110-14	ID	USFS
			58548	M3110-13		
M4455	Lick Creek (Middle)	61,470	36882	M2110-13	ID	USFS
			24588	M2110-14		
A4503	Lemhi (Addition)	168,465	75809	M3110-14	ID	USFS
			75809	M3110-49		
			16847	M3110-10		
I4553	Smokey Mountain	87,720	43860	M3110-14	ID	USFS
			38986	M3110-13		
			4874	M3110-10		
A6220	Canyons	13,371	3000	M3110-10	OR	USFS
			10371	M3110-13		
A6238	Strawberry Mountain	35,296	35296	M3110-13	OR	USFS
06279	Lower Minam	32,884	2000	M3110-10	OR	USFS
NWR-901	Malheur		30000	3130-34	OR	FWS
	Total 12	800,601				

Other Study Areas Within A Day's Drive of Boise

<u>Unit Number</u>	<u>Unit Name</u>	<u>Ecosystem Portions</u>			
		<u>Acres</u>	<u>Ecosystem</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Agency</u>
ID-16-40	North Fk. Owyhee River	55,147	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-41	Horsehead Spring	6,211	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-42	Squaw Creek Canyon	11,379	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-44	Deep Ck. Nickel Ck.	11,510	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-45	Middle Fk. Owyhee River	13,336	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-47	West Fork Red Canyon	12,882	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-48B	Owyhee River	33,700	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-48C	Little Owyhee River	24,677	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-49A	Deep Ck.-Owyhee River	72,083	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-49D	Yatahoney Creek	9,331	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-49E	Battle Creek	31,540	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-52	Upper Owyhee River	12,682	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-16-53	S. Fork Owyhee River	42,510	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-17-10	Lower Salmon Falls Ck.	3,500	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-17-11	Jarbridge River	75,340	3130-10	ID	BLM
ID-19-2	King Hill Creek	23,815	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-110-91A	Box Creek	428	M3110-13	ID	BLM
ID-111-6	Little Jack's Creek	58,040	3130-34	ID	BLM
ID-111-7B	Duncan Creek	10,005	M2110-10	ID	BLM
ID-111-7C	Big Jack's Creek	54,833	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-11-17	Bruneau River	107,020	3130-34	ID	BLM
ID-111-18	Pole Creek	24,509	3130-34	ID	BLM
ID-111-36A	Sheep Creek West	11,680	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-111-36B	Sheep Creek East	5,060	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-28-1	Petticoat Peak	11,298	3130-14	ID	BLM
ID-31-14	Appendicitus Hill	24,870	M3110-49	ID	BLM
ID-31-17	White Knob Mountains	9,950	M3110-49	ID	BLM
ID-32-3	Hawley Mountains	15,510	M3110-49	ID	BLM
ID-32-9	Black Canyon	5,400	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-33-1	Great Rift	317,350	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-33-1	Great Rift	38,500	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-33-4	Cedar Butte	35,700	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-33-15	Hell's Half Acre	66,200	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-45-1	Goldberg	3,290	M3110-49	ID	BLM
ID-45-12	Burnt Creek	24,980	M3110-14	ID	BLM
ID-46-11	Corral-Horse Basin	48,500	M3110-49	ID	BLM
ID-46-13	Boulder Creek	1,930	M3110-14	ID	BLM
ID-46-14	Jerry Peak	46,150	M3110-49	ID	BLM
ID-46-14a	Jerry Peak West	13,530	M3110-49	ID	BLM
ID-47-4	Borah Peak	3,100	M3110-49	ID	BLM
ID-53-4	Little Wood River	4,385	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-53-5	Friedman Creek	9,773	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-54-2	Black Butte	4,002	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-54-5	Little City of Rocks	5,875	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-54-6	Black Canyon	10,371	3130-49	ID	BLM

Other Study Areas Within A Day's Drive of Boise (Cont.)

Unit Number	Unit Name	Ecosystem Portions			
		Acres	Ecosystem	State	Agency
ID-54-8A	Gooding City of Rocks	14,743	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-54-8B	Gooding City of Rocks	6,287	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-54-10	Deer Creek	7,487	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-56-2	Lava	23,680	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-57-2	Shale Butte	15,968	3130-49	ID	BLM
ID-57-8	Sand Butte	20,792	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-57-10	Raven's Eye	67,110	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-57-11	Little Deer	33,531	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-57-14	Bear Den Butte	9,700	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-59-7	Shoshone	6,914	3130-39	ID	BLM
ID-62-1	Snowhole Rapids	5,068	3120-44	ID	BLM
ID-62-10	Marshall Mountain	6,524	M2110-13	ID	BLM
NV-010-103A	Devil's Corral	7,842	3130-49	NV	BLM
NV-010-106	Owhyee Canyon	21,900	3130-49	NV	BLM
NV-010-132	Little Humboldt	42,213	3130-49	NV	BLM
NV-010-151	Rough Hills	6,685	3130-32	NV	BLM
NV-010-184	Bad Lands	9,100	3130-49	NV	BLM
NV-020-642	Pueblo Mountain	600	3130-49	NV	BLM
OR-2-14A	Malheur Rv.-Bluebckt Cr.	5,560	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-23L	Stonehouse	21,000	3130-45	OR	BLM
OR-2-23M	Stonehouse	8,090	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-72C	Sheepshed Mtn	54,190	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-72D	Sheepshed Mtn	35,000	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-72F	Sheepshed Mtn	20,330	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-721	Sheepshed Mtn	38,855	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-72J	Sheepshed Mtn	7,755	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-73H	Winter Range	14,640	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-73A	Winter Range	21,395	3130-34	OR	BLM
OR-2-74F	Alvord Desert	223,970	3130-34	OR	BLM
OR-2-77B	Mahogany Ridge	27,370	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-78D	Red Mountain	2,720	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-78F	Red Mountain	14,730	3130-34	OR	BLM
OR-2-81L	Pueblo Mountain	67,430	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-83A	Alvord Peak	14,655	3130-34	OR	BLM
OR-2-85F	South Steens	65,940	3130-45	OR	BLM
OR-2-85G	South Steens	35,850	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-85H	South Steens	24,990	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-86E	Blitzen River	52,060	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-86F	Blitzen River	9,380	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-87I	Bridge Creek	14,060	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-98A	Strawberry Mtn	180	3130-34	OR	BLM
OR-2-98C	Strawberry Mtn	720	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-98D	Strawberry Mtn	208	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-2-103	Aldrich Mountain	9,395	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-18	Castle Rock	7,100	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-27	Beaver Dam Creek	18,900	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-31	Camp Creek	19,100	3130-49	OR	BLM

Other Study Areas Within A Day's Drive of Boise (Cont.)

Unit Number	Unit Name	Ecosystem Portions			
		Acres	Ecosystem	State	Agency
OR-3-32	Cottonwood Creek	7,900	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-33A	Gold Creek	13,900	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-35	Sperry Creek	5,300	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-47	Cedar Mountain	46,300	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-53	Dry Creek	22,800	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-56	Dry Creek Buttes	51,000	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-59	Lower Owhyee River	12,800	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-73	Blue Canyon	12,800	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-74A	Upper Leslie Gulch	3,000	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-75	Slocum Creek	7,600	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-77A	Honeycombs	38,200	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-77B	Wild Horse Basin	12,500	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-110	Lower Owyhee Cyn	73,200	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-111	Saddle Butte	87,500	3130-34	OR	BLM
OR-3-114	Palomino Hills	54,900	3130-34	OR	BLM
OR-3-118A	Bowden Hills	59,000	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-120	Clarks Butte	31,500	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-128A	Jordan Craters	28,700	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-152	Willow Creek	29,800	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-153	Disaster Peak	13,300	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-157	Oregon Canyon	41,900	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-162A	Twelve Mile Creek	27,100	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-173A	Upper West Little Owyhee	87,200	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-195/3-143/	Owyhee Canyon	202,300	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-3-156A	Fifteen Mile Ck	50,000	3130-34	OR	BLM
OR-5-42A	Hampton Butte	10,600	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-5-43	Cougar Well	17,315	3130-49	OR	BLM
OR-6-1	McGraw Creek	1,610	M3110-13	OR	BLM
OR-6-2	Homsted	10,700	M3110-13	OR	BLM
OR-6-3	Sheep Mountain	6,350	M3110-13	OR	BLM
OR-6-10	Cache Creek Ranch	1,960	3120-44	OR	BLM
WA-6-10	Cache Creek Ranch	975	3120-44	WA	BLM
W4061	Ten Mile - West	85,424	M3110-13	ID	USFS
04551	White Cloud Boulder	281,948	M3110-13	ID	USFS
			M3130-14	ID	USFS
01-853	Big Canyon A	16,500	M2110-10	ID	USFS
			M2110-13	ID	USFS
			M2110-11	ID	USFS
01-854	Klopton Ck-Corral Ck	23,520	M2110-13	ID	USFS
			M2110-10	ID	USFS
A4372	Jarbidge Addition	7,768	3130-49	NV	USFS
NFB6253	North Fork John Day	21,210	M3110-13	OR	USFS
NF6248	Pine Creek	5,400	M3110-10	OR	USFS
NF6295	Hell S Canyon Additions	280,470	3120-44	OR	USFS
06285	Lick Creek	5,880	M3110-13	OR	USFS

Other Study Areas Within A Day's Drive of Boise (Cont.)

<u>Unit Number</u>	<u>Unit Name</u>	<u>Ecosystem Portions</u>			
		<u>Acres</u>	<u>Ecosystem</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Agency</u>
06290	Lake Fork	20,555	M3110-13	OR	USFS
06291	Homestead	6,260	M3110-44	OR	USFS
06292	McGraw Creek	59,000	M3110-13	OR	USFS
06293	Westside Reservoir Face	20,100	M3110-10	OR	USFS
06294	Inmaha Face	25,210	M3110-13	OR	USFS
		35,100	3120-44	OR	USFS
06295	Lords Falt-Summers Point	4,700	3120-44	OR	USFS
06296	Snake River	33,595	3120-44	OR	USFS
06297	Buckhorn	16,318	3120-44	OR	USFS
06298	Mt. Sheep	9,600	3120-44	OR	USFS
06299	Cook Ridge	20,060	3120-44	OR	USFS
06300	Wild Horse	20,800	3120-44	OR	USFS
06602	Sheep Divide	4,100	M3110-13	OR	USFS

Total 144 Units - 4,419,707 Acres

Appendix 5 - GLOSSARY

Deferred Rotation Grazing System: Any system of grazing which delays grazing in succeeding years on a portion of the range until a specific plant growth stage is reached. The entire range unit is used sometime during the implementation of the system. Two or more pastures are necessary, the number being governed by the date the seed of the key forage plant matures and the desired season of use.

Ecosystem: A system formed by the interaction of a community of organisms with their environment. In this EIS the term ecosystem refers to the specific ecosystems delineated in the Bailey-Kuchler System.

FLPMA: The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. FLPMA provides guidelines for the administration, management, protection, development and enhancement of the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Management Framework Plan (MFP): The Bureau's basic planning decision document prior to the adoption of a new planning process in 1979. See Resource Management Plan (RMP).

MBF: The abbreviation used by foresters to indicate a volume of one thousand board feet of timber. A board foot of timber is a piece of woody material with the dimension of 12"x12"x1".

MFP Amendment: An amendment to a Management Framework Plan is initiated by the need to consider monitoring and evaluation findings, new data, new or revised policy, a change in circumstances, or an applicant's proposed action which may result in a significant change in a portion of the approved plan.

Multiple Resource Values and Uses: The present and potential uses of the various resources administered through multiple use management on the public lands and any public values associated with such uses.

Multiple Use: "...the management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some lands for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that take into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment

with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output." (From section 103, FLPMA)

Naturalness: Refers to an area which "generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable." (From section 2(c), (Wilderness Act.)

Outstanding: 1. Standing out among others of its kind; conspicuous; prominent; 2. superior to others of its kind; distinguished; excellent.

Planning Area: The area for which resource management plans are prepared and maintained. In most instances, it is the same as the resource area, which is a geographic portion of a BLM district, under supervision of an area manager.

Planning Criteria: The factors used to guide development of the resource management plan, or revision, to ensure that it is tailored to the issue previously identified and to ensure that unnecessary data collection and analyses are avoided. Planning criteria are developed to guide the collection and use of inventory data and information, the analysis of the management situation, the design and formulation of alternatives, the estimation of the effects of alternatives, the evaluation of alternatives, and the selection of the preferred alternative.

Population Center: A Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) of 100,000 population or more.

Preliminary Wilderness Recommendation: Refers to a wilderness recommendation at any stage prior to the time when the Secretary of the Interior reports his recommendation to the President. Until the Secretary acts, the recommendation is "preliminary" because it is subject to change during administrative review.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation: Nonmotorized and nondeveloped types of outdoor recreational activities.

Region: A homogeneous geographical area generally larger than the planning area under study, whose boundaries are determined through the EIS scoping process and the identification of issues. Its boundaries should encompass (1) all lands that would be affected by the land use allocations proposed for the planning area, and (2) all lands which have an effect on the activities occurring in the planning area.

Resource Management Plan (RMP): The basic decision document of BLM's resource management planning process, used to establish allocation and coordination among uses for the various resources within a Resource Area. An RMP is a "land-use plan" prescribed by Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

Rest Rotation Grazing System: Rest-rotation grazing rests the range from grazing at suitable intervals dictated by the growth requirements of key forage plants. Some pastures are rested while other are grazed. Rest-rotation is mainly useful in counteracting the effects of the selective grazing habits of livestock. The system allows desirable forage species to recover vigor, produce seed, and reproduce.

Seasonal Continuous Grazing System: The entire allotment is utilized each year.

Solitude: 1. The state of being alone or remote from habitations; isolation. 2. a lonely, unfrequented, or secluded place.

Special Resource Water: A State of Idaho designation recognizing the outstanding quality and unique ecological significance of a body of water. A Special Resource Water supports a diverse range of ecologies and has no limiting factors reducing productivity below natural levels.

Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA): A county which contains at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more plus as many adjacent counties as are metropolitan in character and are socially integrated with the central city or cities.

Substantially Unnoticeable: Refers to something that either is so insignificant as to be only a very minor feature of the overall area or is not distinctly recognizable by the visitor as being man-made or man-caused, because of age, weathering or biological change.

Suitability: As used in the Wilderness Act and in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, refers to a recommendation by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture that certain Federal lands satisfy the definition of wilderness in the Wilderness Act and have been found appropriate for designation as wilderness on the basis of an analysis of the existing and potential uses of the land.

Wilderness: The definition contained in section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wilderness Area: An area formally designated by Act of Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Wilderness Characteristics: The definition contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wilderness Inventory: An evaluation of the public lands in the form of a written description and map showing those lands that meet the wilderness criteria as established under section 603(a) of FLPMA and section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act, which are referred to as Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs).

Wilderness Management: The management of human use and influence on lands which have been designated by Congress as wilderness areas.

Wilderness Program: Term used to describe all wilderness activities of the Bureau of Land Management including inventory, study, management, and administrative functions.

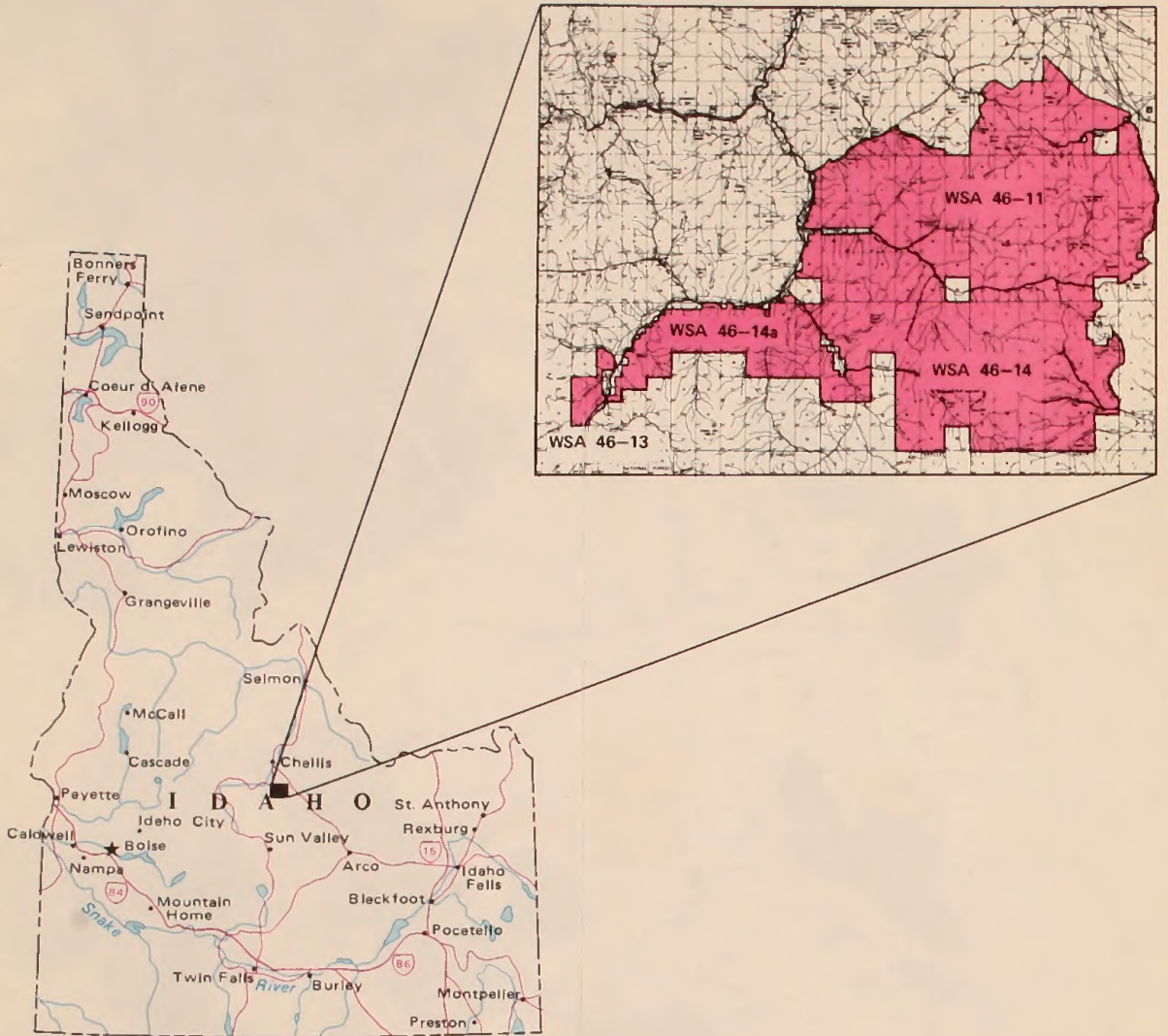
Wilderness Recommendations: A recommendation by the Bureau of Land Management, the Secretary of the Interior, or the President, with respect to an area's suitability or unsuitability for preservation as wilderness.

Wilderness Reporting: The process of preparing the reports containing wilderness recommendations on wilderness study areas and transmitting those reports to the Secretary of the Interior, the President, and Congress.

Wilderness Review: The term used to cover the wilderness inventory, study, and reporting phases of the wilderness program of the Bureau of Land Management.

Wilderness Study Area (WSA): A roadless area or island that has been inventoried and found to have wilderness characteristics as described in section 603 of FLPMA and section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wilderness Study: The process which specifies how each wilderness study area must be studied through the BLM planning system, analyzing all resources, values and uses within the WSA to determine whether the area will be recommended as suitable or unsuitable for wilderness designation.



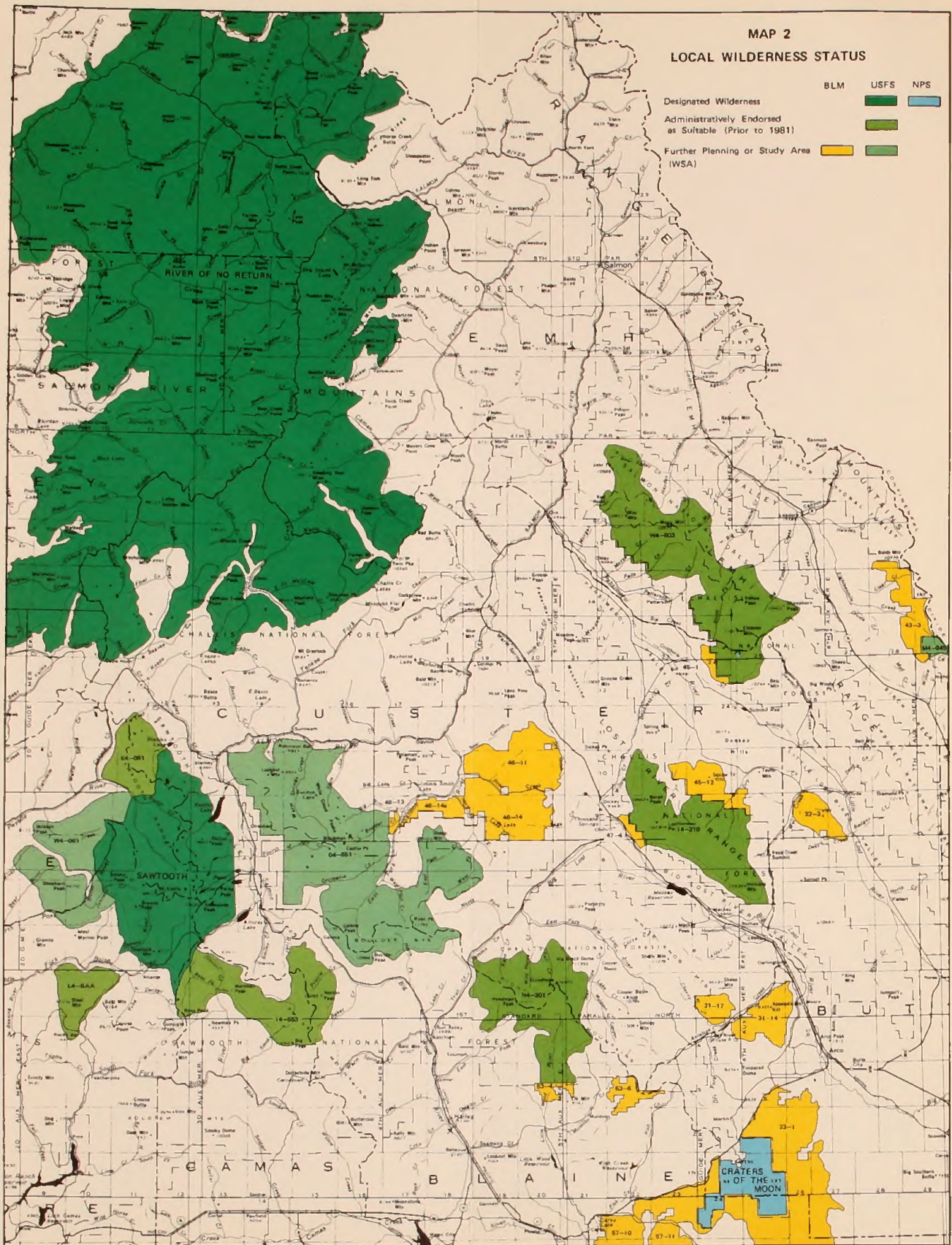
MAP 1

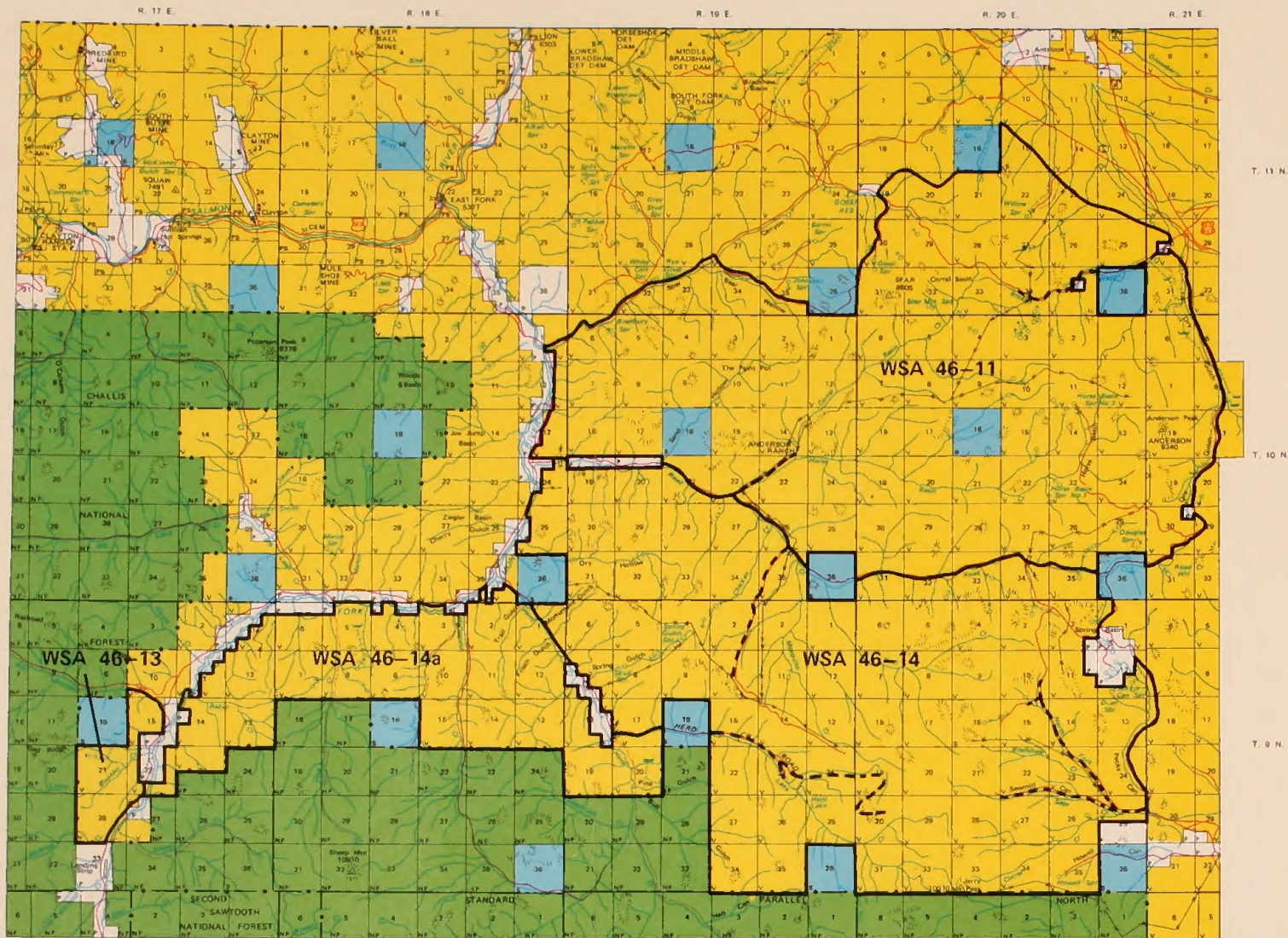
LOCATION MAP

MAP 2
LOCAL WILDERNESS STATUS

BLM USFS NPS

Designated Wilderness
 Administratively Endorsed
 as Suitable (Prior to 1981)
 Further Planning or Study Area
 (WSA)



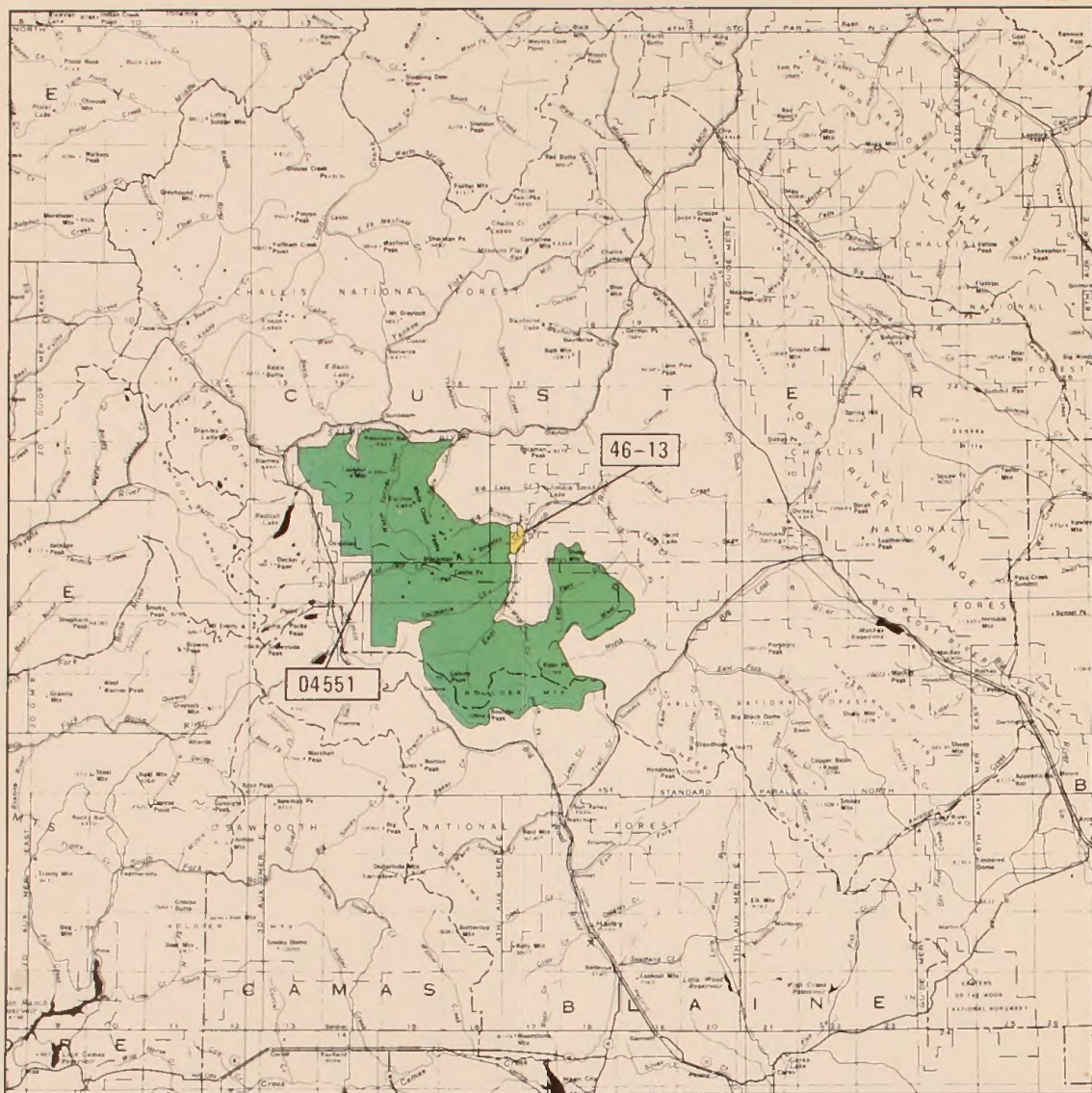


MAP 3 LAND STATUS

— WSA BOUNDARY
 ——— DUTER BOUNDARY
 - - - - - DEAD END ROAD

PUBLIC LAND
 STATE LAND
 NATIONAL FOREST LAND
 PATENTED LAND





MAP 4

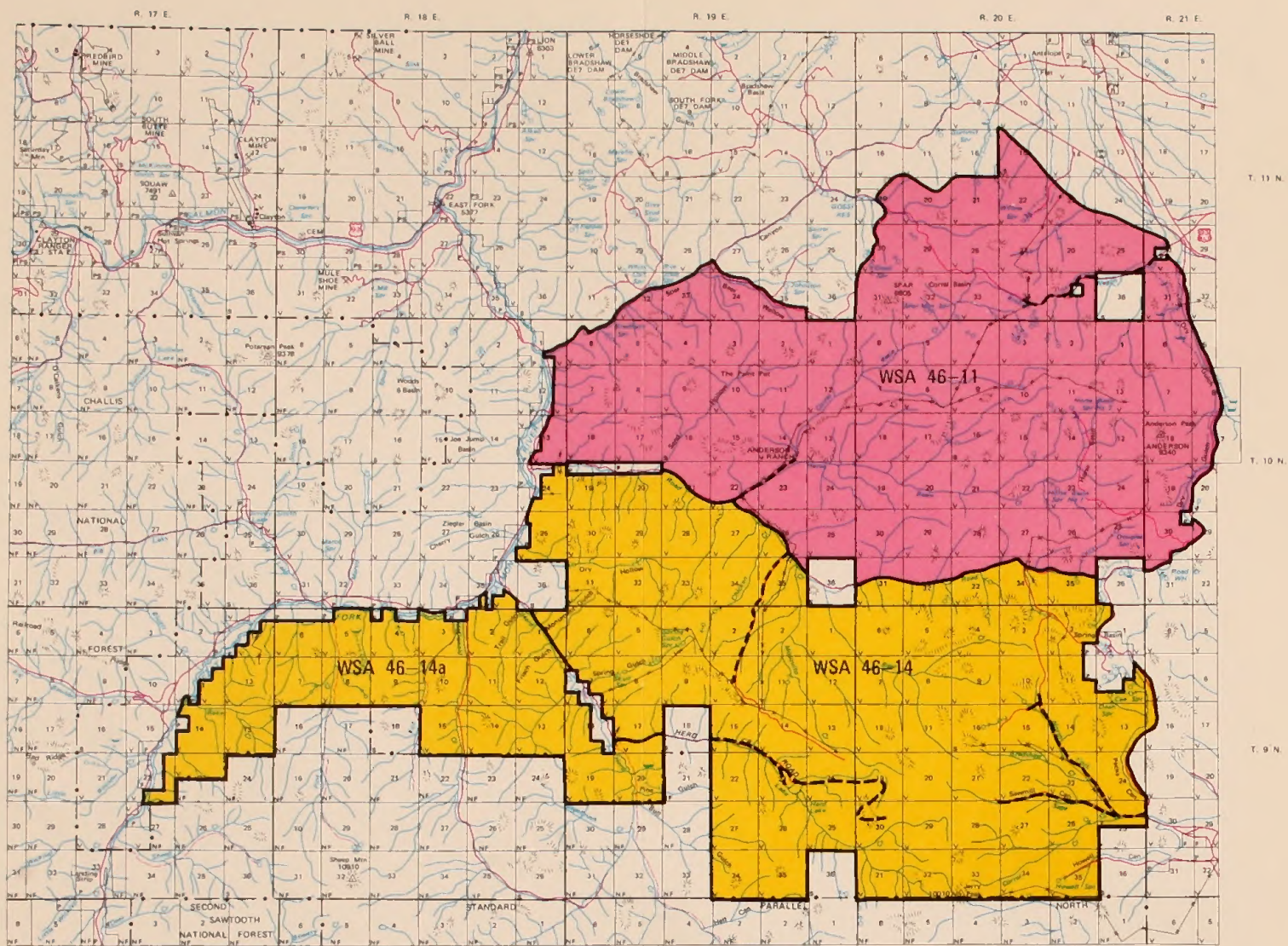
WSA 46-13

WSA 46-13



RARE II 04551

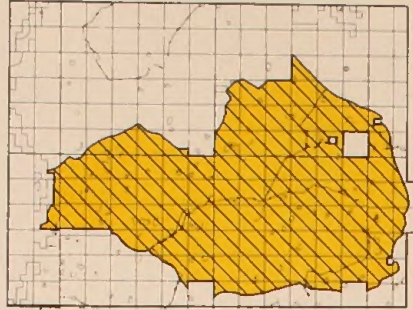




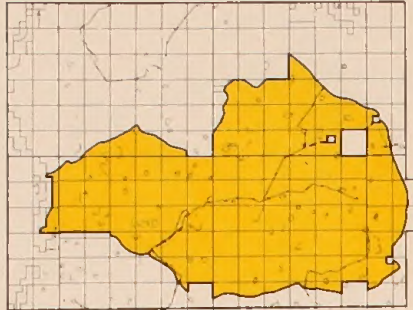
MAP 5 PROPOSED ACTION

NON SUITABLE
 SUITABLE

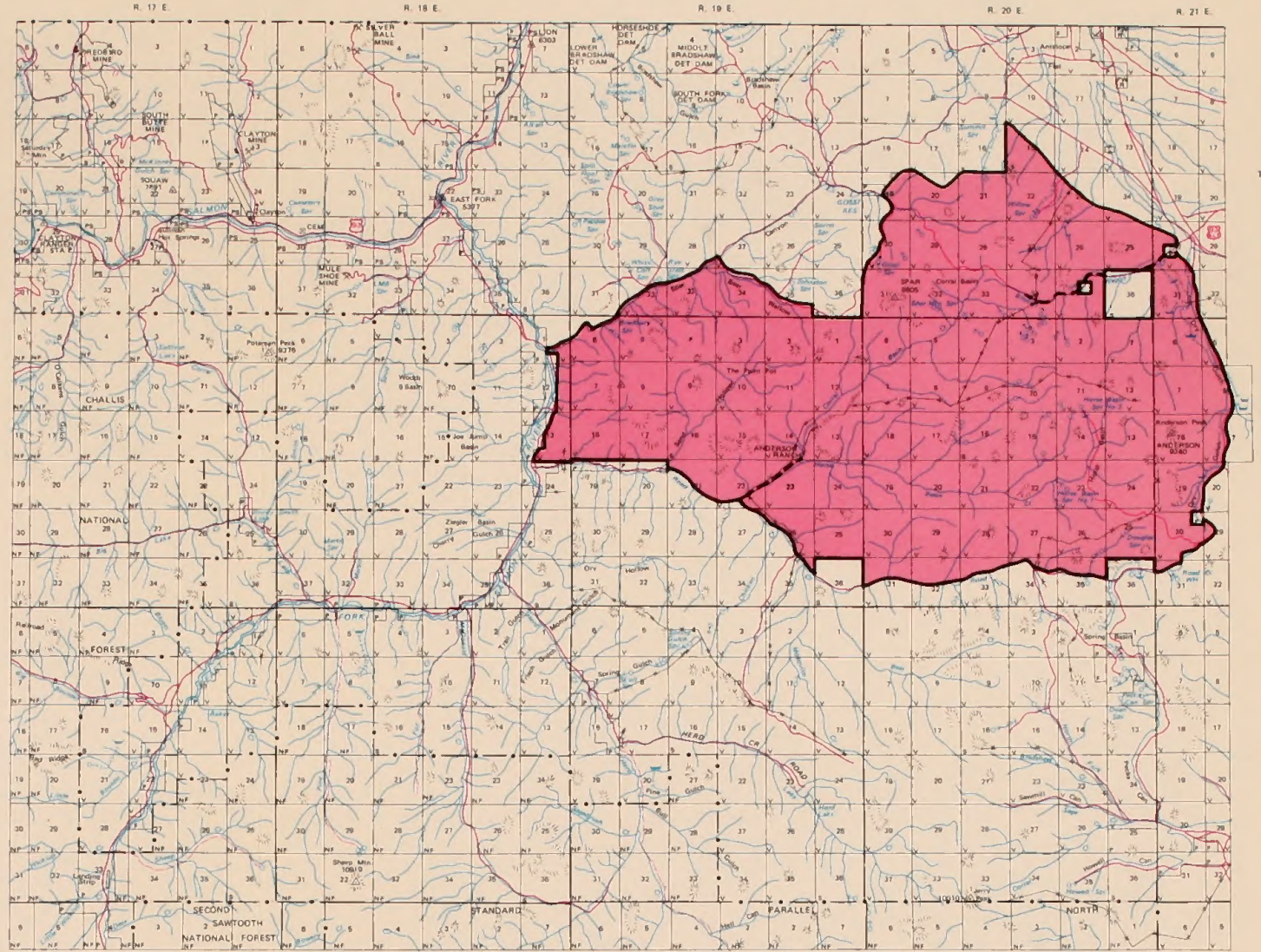
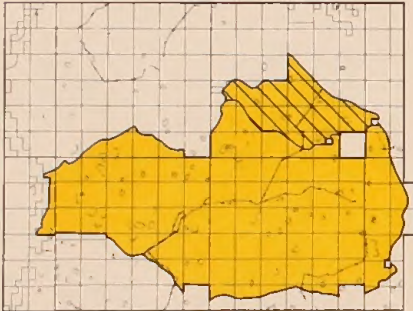
ALTERNATIVE N



ALTERNATIVE W

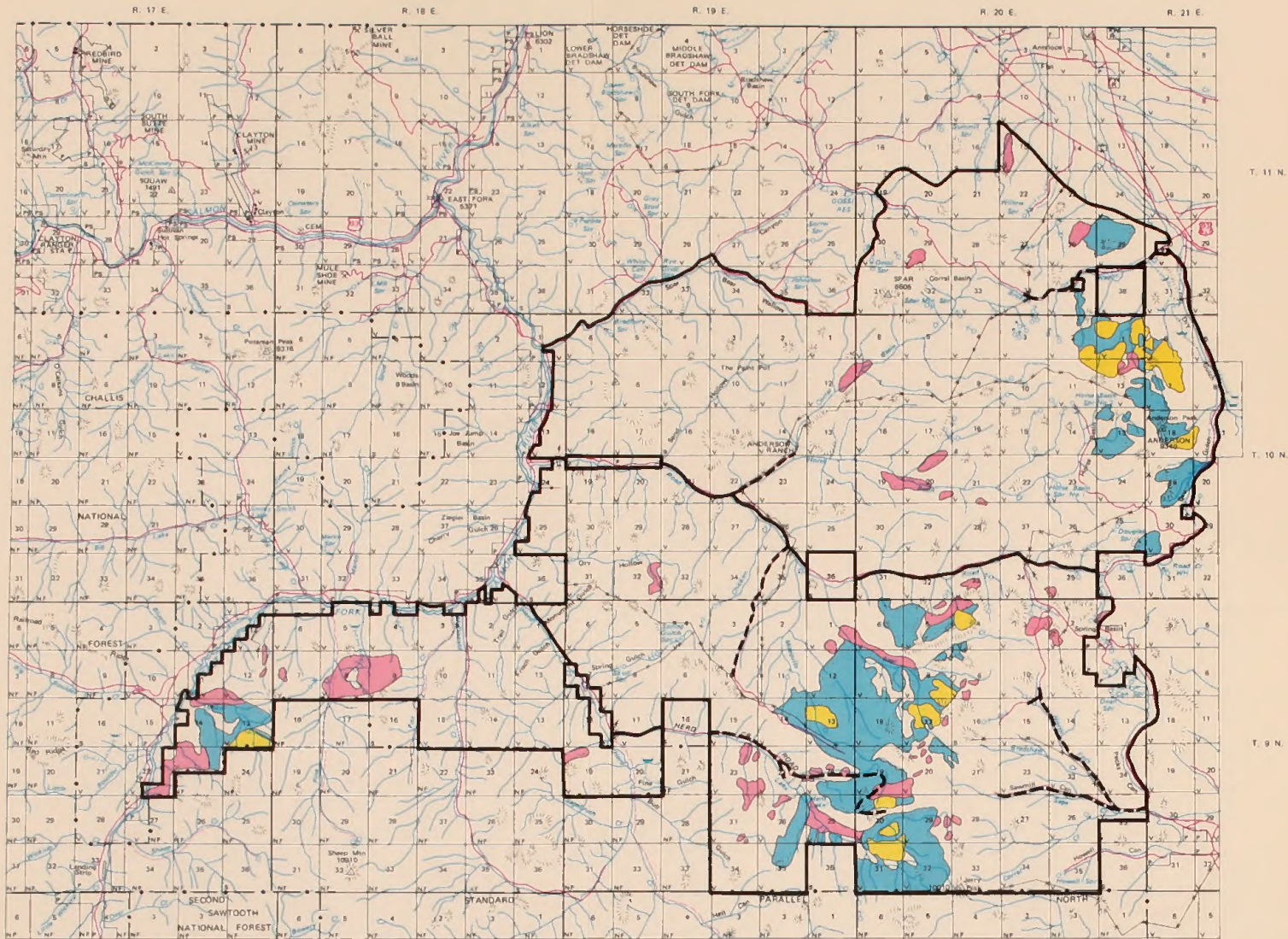


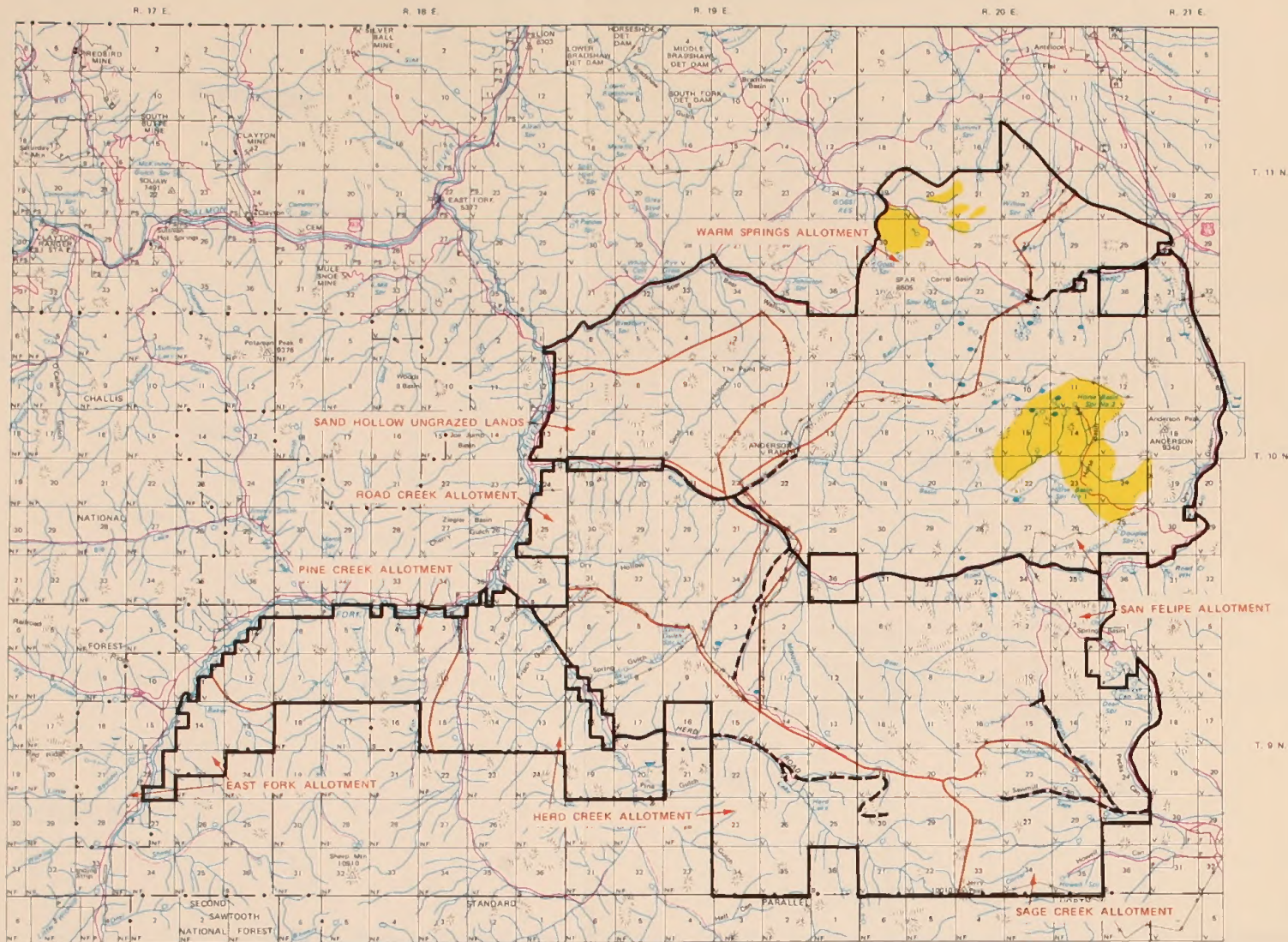
ALTERNATIVE P



MAP 6 WSA 46-11 ALTERNATIVES

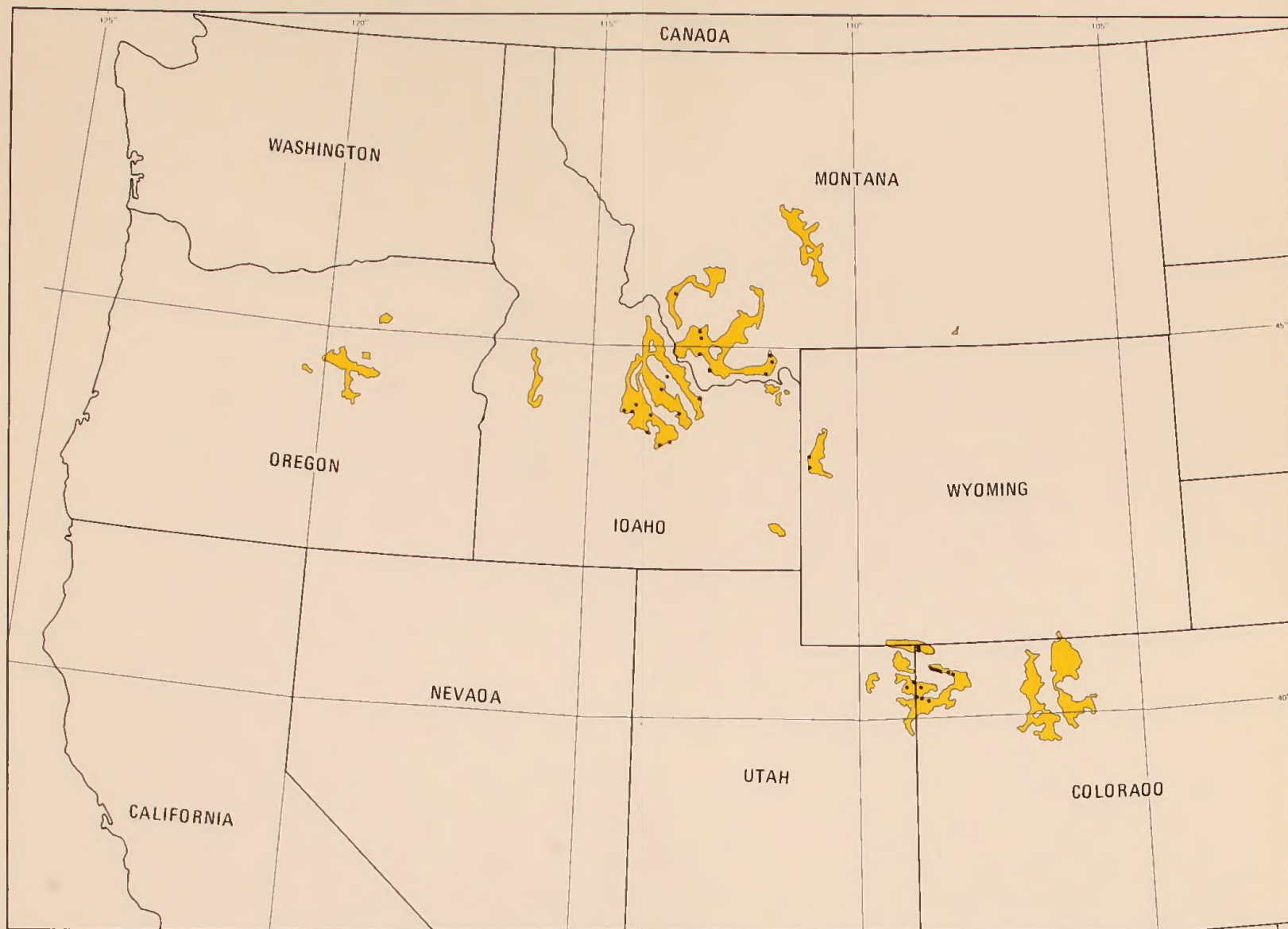
- WSA 46-11
- WILDERNESS
- NO WILDERNESS





MAP 8 GRAZING ALLOTMENTS & IMPROVEMENTS



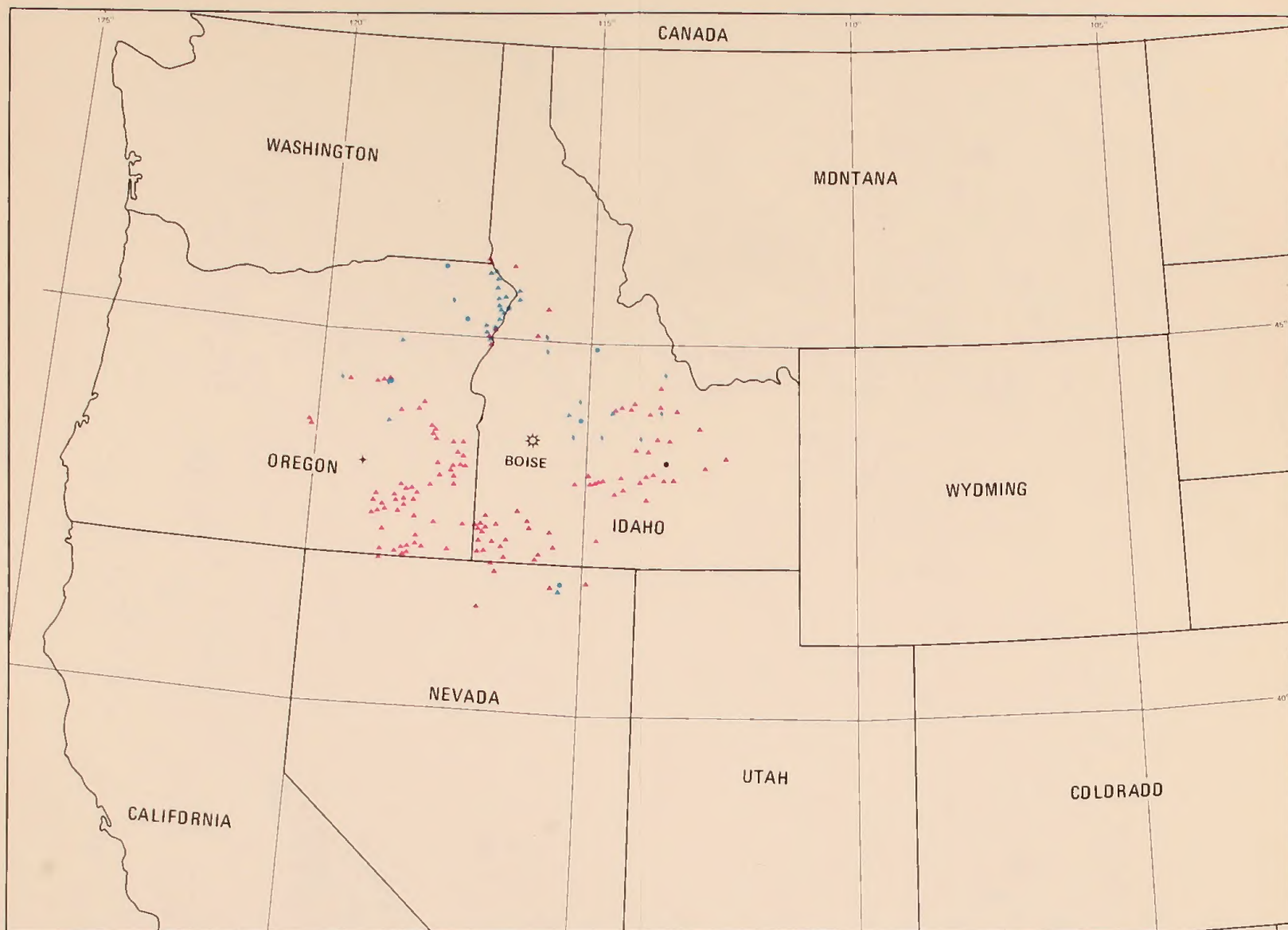


MAP 9

ECOSYSTEM M3110-49

- M3110-49 ROCKY MOUNTAIN FOREST PROVINCE - SAGEBRUSH STEPPE
- EXISTING OR POTENTIAL WILDERNESS

SCALE 1:7,500,000



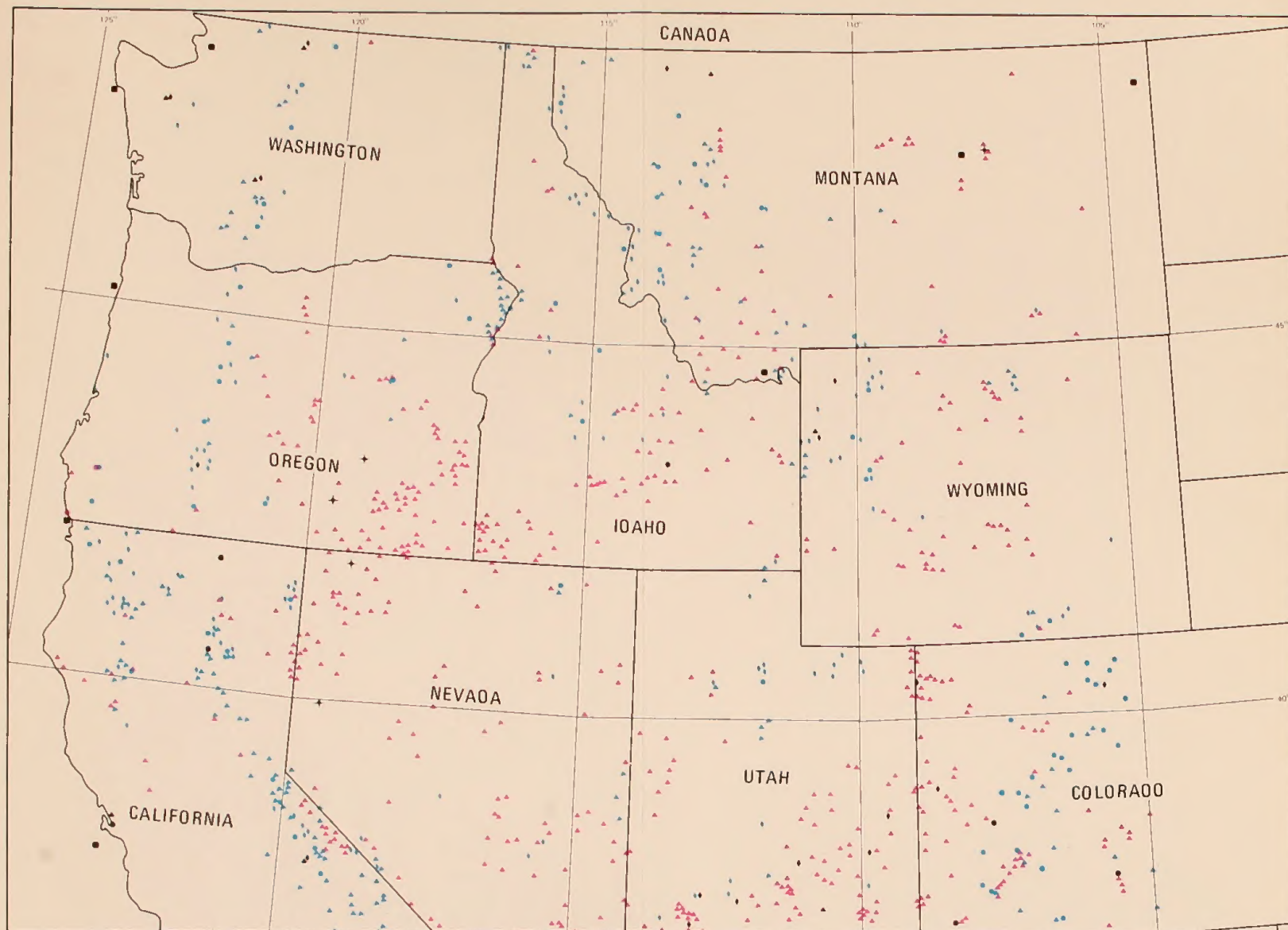
MAP 10

SMSA - BOISE

- USFS DESIGNATED WILDERNESS
- USFS AEW
- ▲ USFS FURTHER STUDY
- BLM DESIGNATED WILDERNESS
- BLM AEW
- ▲ BLM FURTHER STUDY

- NPS DESIGNATED WILDERNESS
- NPS AEW
- ▲ NPS FURTHER STUDY
- FWS DESIGNATED WILDERNESS
- FWS AEW

SCALE 1:7,500,000



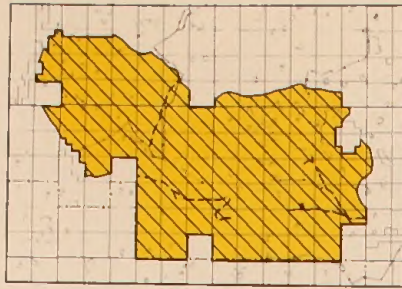
MAP 11

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF EXISTING OR POTENTIAL WILDERNESS

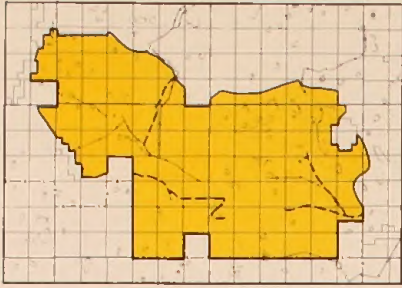
- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ● USFS DESIGNATED WILDERNESS | ● NPS DESIGNATED WILDERNESS |
| ▲ USFS AEW | ● NPS AEW |
| ▲ USFS FURTHER STUDY | ▲ NPS FURTHER STUDY |
| ● BLM DESIGNATED WILDERNESS | ● FWS DESIGNATED WILDERNESS |
| NDNE BLM AEW | + FWS AEW |
| ▲ BLM FURTHER STUDY | |

SCALE 1:7,500,000

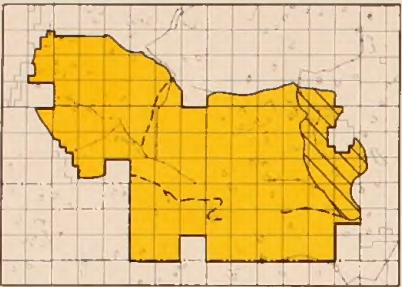
ALTERNATIVE N



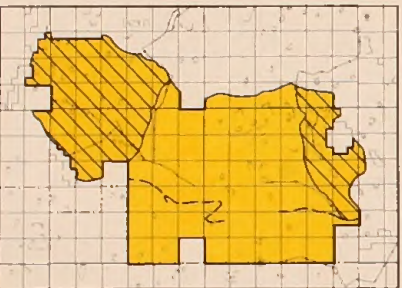
ALTERNATIVE W



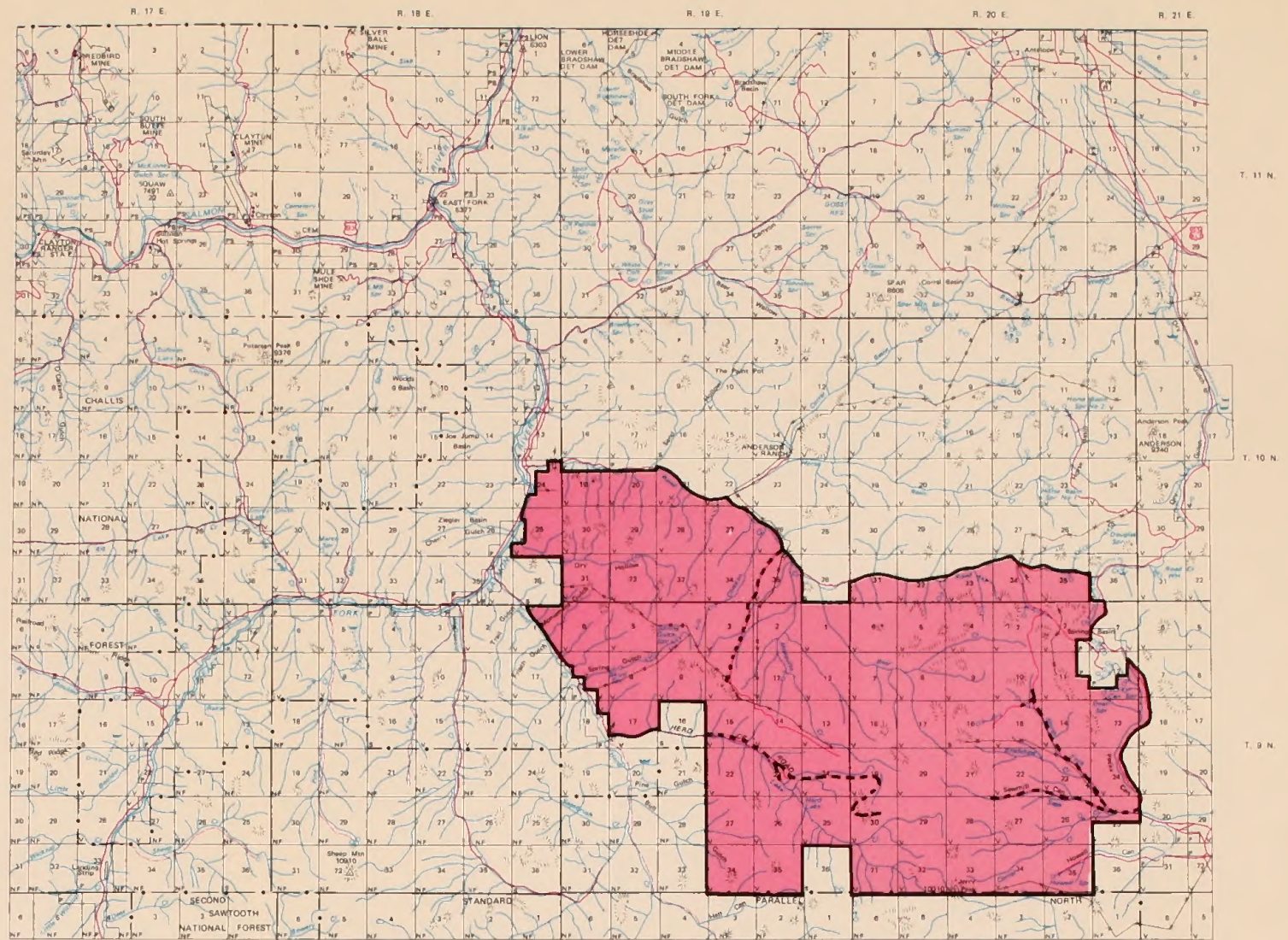
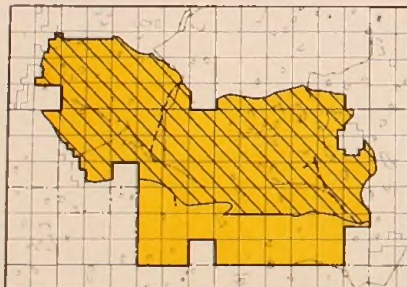
ALTERNATIVE P1



ALTERNATIVE P2



ALTERNATIVE P3



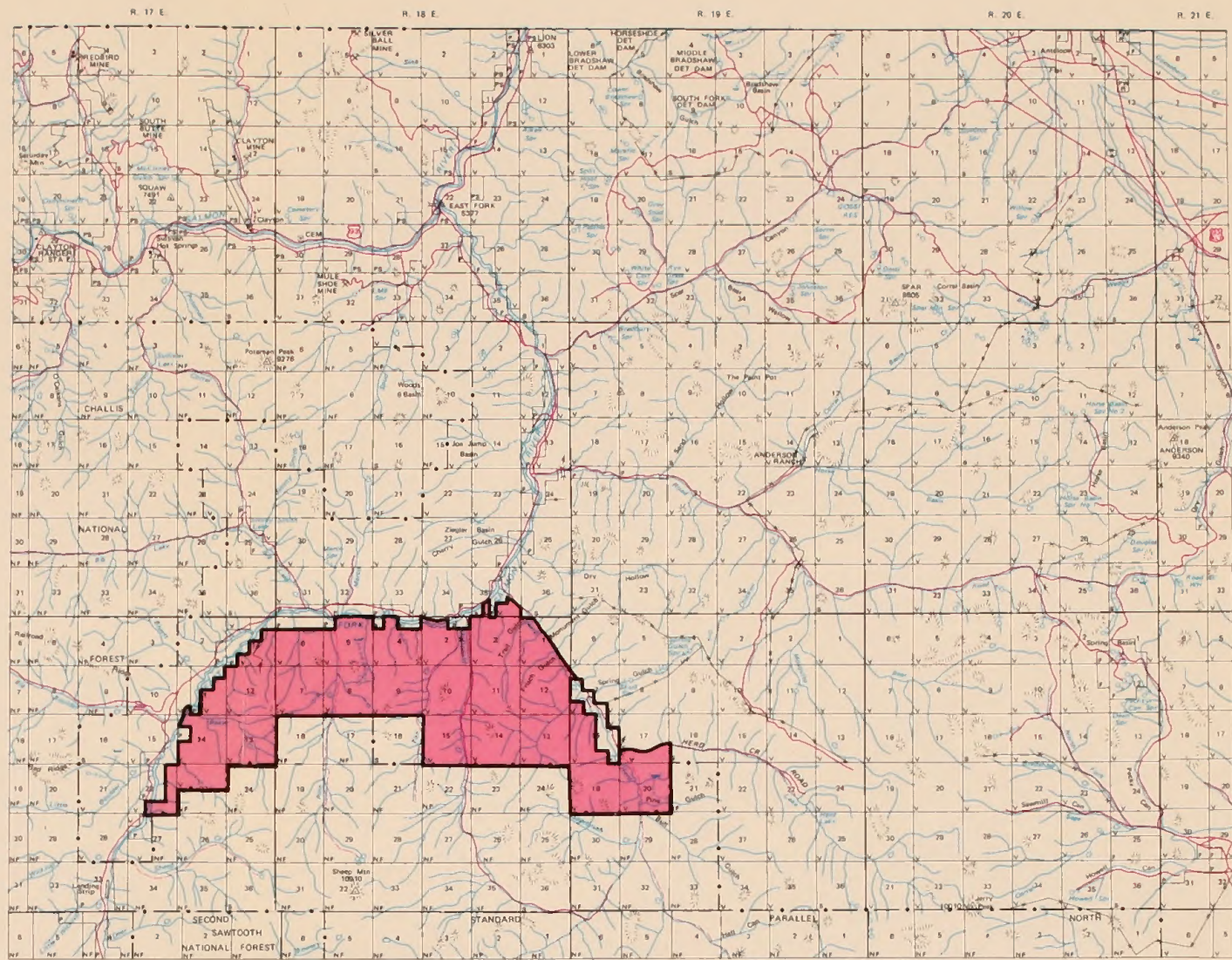
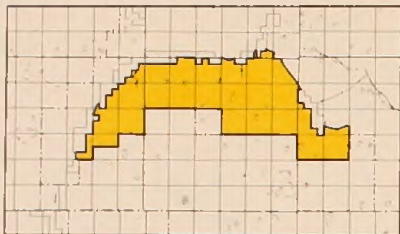
MAP 12 WSA 46-14 ALTERNATIVES

WSA 46-14
 WILDERNESS
 ND WILDERNESS




ALTERNATIVE N



ALTERNATIVE W



MAP 13 WSA 46-14a ALTERNATIVES

- WSA 46-14a 
- WILDERNESS 
- NO WILDERNESS 

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