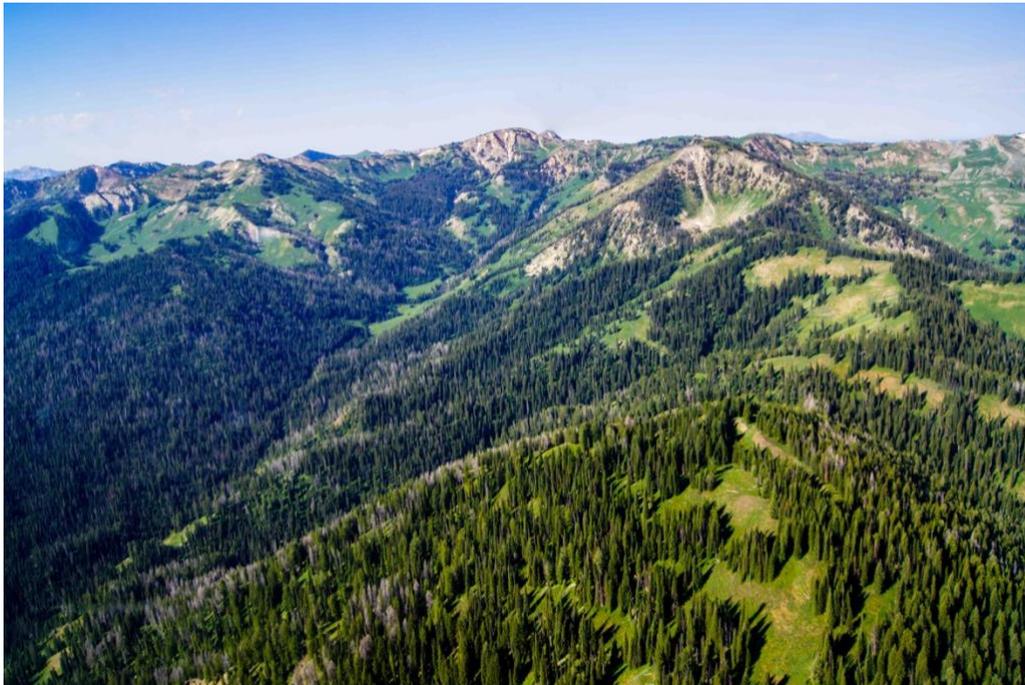


A Teton Wildlands Conservation Plan

by

Lloyd Dorsey, Bruce Hayse, Peggie dePasquale

August 1, 2018



Palisades WSA (Photo provided by EcoFlight)

We offer this Teton Wildlands Conservation Plan from Lloyd Dorsey, Bruce Hayse and Peggie dePasquale for consideration by the Teton County Wyoming Public Land Initiative (WPLI) advisory committee to forward as a recommendation to the Teton County Commissioners.

This proposal is submitted in the spirit of the Jackson/Teton County, Wyoming, Comprehensive Plan Vision statement which states in part:

“Preserve and protect the area’s ecosystem in order to ensure a healthy environment, community and economy for current and future generations.”

“Wildlife, along with natural and scenic resources, draw both residents and visitors to this special place and are at the core of our heritage, culture, and economy. . . . To achieve our desire community character, the community must protect and enhance the ecosystem in which we live.”

“Each resident and visitor has a responsibility to use public and private lands in a way that preserves the function of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem so that it can continue to be enjoyed in its intact state for generations to come.” (Comp Plan:ES-2)

This proposal is also submitted with appreciation for and acknowledgement of the terms and conditions agreed upon in the Teton County WPLI Advisory Committee Charter:

“All committee members agree to operate in good faith at all times. Acting in good faith means disclosing interests, needs, actions, and issues in a timely manner and committing to the goals of the committee’s process. Acting in good faith also means respecting the interests, needs, and concerns and time commitments of others. Good faith also entails giving the committee every reasonable chance to reach its goal before pursuing other alternatives. Advisory Committee members will endeavor in good faith to develop recommendations that are satisfactory to all Advisory Committee members. Advisory Committee members will ensure that an integrated approach is taken in formulating recommendations by meeting together as needed to assure strong communication and collaboration among Advisory Committee members.” (Charter:6)

“The Advisory Committee will operate by consensus of all members represented at the meeting ... Consensus prevents domination by the majority, allows building of trust and the sharing of information, especially under conditions of conflict. Consensus does not mean that everyone will be equally happy with the decision, but all do accept that the decision is the best that can be made at the time with the people involved.” (Charter:8)

INTRODUCTION

Only US Forest Service System lands within Teton County, Wyoming are included in this proposal. While the geographic limits of this proposal stop at the Teton County, Wyoming line, with multiple federal land jurisdictions in the county, we know that the world renowned Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem spans county and state jurisdictional boundaries. We recognize that the Teton County WPLI task force is constrained to look only at lands within the county but must note that many wilderness study areas (WSAs) and other undeveloped, wild landscapes in Teton County extend well beyond our county lines. This forced fragmentation of landscapes based purely on political jurisdictions is ecologically unjustified and will lead to an inferior outcome for the long-term protection of these wild lands. We urge our Board of County Commissioners and other elected officials and community leaders to work diligently and consistently with adjacent jurisdictions, agencies, and communities to implement effective conservation measures to protect and improve ecosystem health and function, for the benefit of the economy and the well-being of future generations.

We also recognize that Teton County does not own these lands. We have a responsibility to this nation to develop a plan that best serves all the individuals of the entire country, as well as future generations, and does not serve simply to satisfy needs of Teton County residents. It is crucial that we maintain the perspective that these lands are of national and even international significance and do not simply serve to provide a local playground.

This proposal is focused on maintenance of the wild and pristine qualities of Teton County. Jackson Hole is nearly unique in the lower 48 states for being largely surrounded by high quality wilderness. That is what defines our community, provides its character, makes it distinctive and

results in our unparalleled wildlife populations. Wilderness designation provides an incomparable, universally acknowledged degree of protection to the landscape. It is the only designation with a widely accepted understanding of its meaning and significance. It is the only classification providing the highest degree of protection and preservation that our local ecosystem deserves.

The Wilderness Act was born in Jackson Hole, spearheaded by Olaus and Mardy Murie, and reaches its highest quality here. Teton County has a long history of defending wilderness, including the resolution by the county commissioners 40 years ago endorsing the proposal that recommended the Palisades Range be classified as wilderness. Now in 2018, the need for such protection is greater than ever, due to a booming population that is projected to continue to grow exponentially. “Conservatively, if the growth rate of the past 30 years continues, the overall population of the Greater Yellowstone region is expected to surge, *in just 13 years’* time, from the current 450,000 denizens, to 677,000. That translates on the ground...to another *100,000* homes” (Wilkins, 2018).

Unfortunately, several prime wild areas in Teton County have never received adequate protection. This occurred primarily due to conflicts with potential resource extraction; conflicts which have now been abated. These two areas, the Palisades Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and Mt. Leidy Highlands, therefore form the centerpiece of this proposal. Formal wilderness is clearly the classification most compatible with the county comprehensive plan as stated above. Those two areas along with six significantly smaller areas would add 254,280 acres of wilderness protection. These areas would greatly add to the wilderness buffer present in Jackson Hole and nearly absent in the rest of the lower 48. They would clearly provide a high degree of wildlife protection while at the same time providing for the type of primitive recreation opportunities for which Jackson Hole is world famous.

We recognize that there is a large amount of other wild land in Teton County in need of additional protection. Of those lands we recommend that 124,453 acres be designated as Teton Conservation Areas. In addition, we encourage formal withdrawal from commercial mining and timber extraction county wide, beyond the areas included in this proposal.

This proposal consists of three parts. However, it is imperative that the potential wilderness presented in this proposal remain the keystone of the document. The latter two sections are not intended to stand alone and should not move forward without the accompaniment of the wilderness recommendations.

- 1. Recommendations for new areas to be designated as wilderness under the 1964 Wilderness Act, totaling 254,280 acres;**
- 2. Recommendations for withdrawal of all mineral rights and commercial timber harvest associated with US Forest Service lands in Teton County that have not already been withdrawn by previous wilderness designations, totaling more than 465,000 acres; and**
- 3. Recommendations for new Teton Conservation Areas totaling about 124,453 acres.**

The Conservation Proposal Master Map

Legend

- 1. MOSQUITO CREEK ROAD
- 2. U.S. HWY 89/26 ALPINE-MORAN JC
- 3. STATE HWY 22 - TETON PASS
- A. West Slope Tetons Roadless Area
- B. Phillips Ridge Roadless Area
- C. Palisades N. Roadless Area
- D. Palisades Wilderness
- E. Munger Mountain Roadless Area
- F. Cache - Game Roadless Area
- G. West Segment Greyback Wilderness
- H. East Segment Greyback Wilderness
- I. Boulder Creek GV W Addition
- J. Shoal Creek GV W Addition
- K. Curtis Canyon Roadless Area
- L. Grizzly Lake GV W Addition
- M. Horse Tail Creek Roadless Area
- N. Mt Leidy Wilderness
- O. Pacific Blackrock Teton W Addition
- P. Northern Leidy Roadless Area

Google Earth

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Image Landsat / Copernicus

30 mi



NEW WILDERNESS AREAS IN TETON COUNTY, WYOMING

Wilderness is the preeminent level of land protection. Wilderness classification is the only designation with an established and commonly agreed upon set of strictures. Any lesser degree of protection has a high likelihood of resulting in landscapes controlled by regulations that could be changed at any time. Wilderness is the only designation that puts emphasis on the importance of the ecological value of land and removes the anthropocentric focus that all too often dominates such conversations. Some argue that there is too much designated wilderness already, but with only 2.7% of the lower 48 designated, that argument is without credence. We stand at a cross roads, as our forefathers did, granted with opportunity and privilege to give these lands the protection they so deserve.

Seven areas of National Forest System lands will be designated as new wilderness areas or additions to existing wilderness areas, to be permanently protected under the 1964 National Wilderness Preservation System, also known as the Wilderness Act. These lands, all within the boundary of Teton County, Wyoming, are listed in this table and further described below:

Table 1: Proposed Wilderness	Acreage	Comments
Palisades WSA	54,380 acres	New Palisades Wilderness Area within Teton County, WY; minus a carve out for motorized/mechanized recreation area from Mosquito Creek Rd north to near Hwy 22
Shoal Creek WSA	11,619 acres	Addition to existing Gros Ventre Wilderness Area, only that part of the WSA within Teton County
Grizzly Lake	3,955 acres	Addition to existing Gros Ventre Wilderness Area
Spread Creek-GV River-Mt. Leidy	132,152 acres	New Mt. Leidy Wilderness Area within Teton County; minus a carve out not to exceed not to exceed 2,500 acres for Horsetail motorized trail
Willow Creek and Beaver Mtn portions of Grayback Ridge IRA	25,820 acres	New Grayback Wilderness Area within Teton County
Pacific Creek-Blackrock	23,761 acres	Addition to existing Teton Wilderness Area
Granite-Boulder-Little Granite	4,752 acres;	Addition to existing Gros Ventre Wilderness Area
Total	254,280 acres	

While the 1964 Wilderness Act itself is well known, and its language would be adopted in successful federal legislation in conformance with its provisions as has been case for 54 years for new wilderness areas, it is worthwhile to offer here some quotes from the Wilderness Act to emphasize the purpose of protecting these national public landscapes in Teton County, Wyoming.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 states in part:

“...to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.” Sec 2(a)

“these [areas] shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such a manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wild character. . . .” Sec 2(a)

In the 1964 Act, wilderness is defined in part as:

“A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor and does not remain.” Sec 2c

“(Wilderness) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable . . .” Sec 2c

“(Wilderness) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; “ Sec 2c

Our plan to protect these areas as designated wilderness is informed in part by the relative paucity of wilderness in America. Only 5% of the United States has been protected as designated wilderness, and only 2% in the Lower 48 States (Wilderness.org). Only 4.7% of Wyoming has been protected as designated wilderness, and only 10.2% of the public land in Wyoming is wilderness (D. Smitherman 2018). We acknowledge that Teton County, Wyoming has large areas protected as wilderness and national parks, and that those protected landscapes and the wildlife that depend on those protections are unique among counties in the U.S. They are the basis for our year round tourism economy and quality of life for residents. We recognize that there is some motorized and mechanized recreation in some of the areas we are proposing for wilderness, and we acknowledge that those uses are incompatible with the Wilderness Act and would end when wilderness designation is conferred by Congress. We believe that our economy and natural ecosystems will be better sustained for future generations with the wilderness designations and Teton Conservation Areas specified in this proposal. We recognize that there

are Forest Service System public lands in Teton County appropriate for motorized and mechanized recreation, and we have included them in this proposal as Teton Conservation areas.

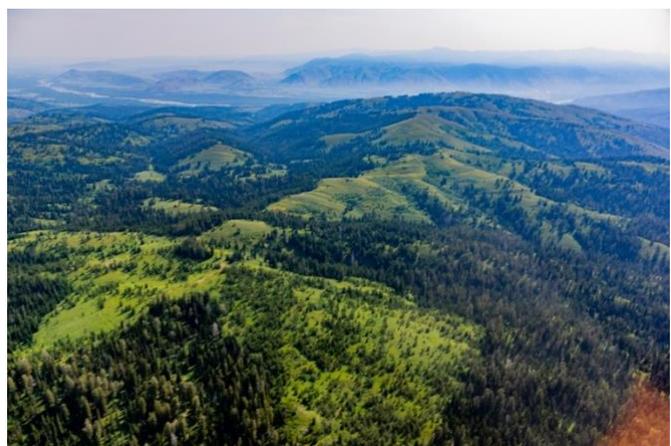
Recognizing that within proposed new wilderness areas, activities such as chainsaw use, mountain biking, motorized recreation or travel, and heli-skiing will not be allowed, we have adjusted proposed wilderness boundaries to reduce the disruption to existing incompatible motorized and mechanized uses.

Many activities that are ongoing in these areas *are* compatible with wilderness designation. Wilderness designation does not:

- Affect state or private landowner right of access to their land
- Affect livestock grazing and grazing facilities (fences, corrals, water developments, etc.), including allowing the Forest Service to leave vacant or close livestock grazing allotments as policy and law currently allow
- Affect grazing of saddle and pack stock as determined by the Wilderness Act, forest plans and existing policy and law
- Affect the designation, use, and maintenance of primitive National Forest System or other hiking and stock trails in accordance with the Forest Plans, except that only primitive tools may be used for maintenance
- Affect existing irrigation ditches, water impoundments. or water rights
- Affect valid existing rights including, but not limited to, rights of way
- Prevent scientific research
- Affect wildlife management as practiced and managed by the US Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- Affect hunting or fishing as currently permitted and managed by the US Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Areas recommended for wilderness:

- a. Palisades WSA becomes the Palisades Wilderness Area - 54,380 acres only in Teton County, Wyoming. This area was rated a 12 out of 12 on wilderness quality by the Forest Service (BTNF, 2008). **This proposal deletes (carves out) a non-wilderness Teton Conservation Area north of Mosquito Creek and south of Hwy 22 and also leaves out the roaded areas in Mosquito Creek drainage.** “Natural and undeveloped character- high. . . Long-term ecological processes are intact and operating in this area A high degree of natural integrity exists in the area.” (BTNF 2008:22)



Palisades WSA (Photo provided by EcoFlight)

- b. Shoal Creek WSA becomes an addition to the Gros Ventre Wilderness Area - 11,619 acres only in Teton County, Wyoming. Adjacent to the Gros Ventre Wilderness. "Natural and undeveloped character - high. . . . Scenic views of the southern Gros Ventre Range are outstanding. . . . The area is important habitat for big game . . . pronghorn and mule deer spend summers here and migrate to the Green River basin for winter." (BTNF 2008: 29-30)



Shoal Creek WSA (Photo provided by Lloyd Dorsey)

- c. Grizzly Lake becomes an addition to the Gros Ventre Wilderness Area - 3,955 acres. "The trail to Grizzly Lake is moderately used and it is possible to find no one else on the trail except on high-season weekends; this trail also gives access to Blue Miner Lake in the Gros Ventre Wilderness." (BTNF 2008:19) "This area could be managed as wilderness; it can be protected from unauthorized uses and is sheltered from nearby developments. Its southern boundary meets the Gros Ventre Wilderness." (BTNF 2008:20)

- d. Spread Creek-Gros Ventre River-Mt. Leidy becomes the Mt. Leidy Wilderness Area - 132,152 acres. This includes a carve out not to exceed 2,500 acres for the Horsetail Creek motorcycle route, and an additional carve out to the north to accommodate snowmobile and OHV routes, and loss of approximately 30,684 acres of wilderness quality lands in Fremont and Sublette counties. "Water quality is high and watershed conditions are healthy and functioning properly. Ecological communities or species that are rare or at risk find protection and quality habitat in the area, including grizzly bear, gray wolf, sage grouse, and Canada lynx. . . . Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation- high in most of the area. . . . The area demands physical ability, orienteering, and outdoor skills to safely recreate." (BTNF 2008:17)



Spread Creek/Mt Leidy Area (Photo provided by Lloyd Dorsey)

- e. Willow Creek (Grayback Roadless Area) becomes the Willow Creek (or Grayback) Wilderness Area - 25,820 acres of the Grayback Roadless Area in the northern portion of the Wyoming Range in Teton County only. "Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation- high. . . . Outstanding opportunities for backcountry hunting are offered by the large, remote area and

the wildlife it supports. . . . There is a high degree of remoteness in much of this large area.” (BTNF 2008:36-37)

- f. Pacific Creek-Blackrock becomes an addition to the Teton Wilderness Area - 23,761 acres. “non-native plant species are few and species at risk, including gray wolf, Canada lynx, and grizzly bear, find quality habitat here. . . . there is a sense of remoteness possible even in this relative front country.” (BTNF 2008:15)

- g. Granite-Boulder-Little Granite becomes an addition to the Gros Ventre Wilderness Area - 4,752 acres. This area is adjacent to the Gros Ventre Wilderness Area on its western boundary and the Granite Creek-Granite Hot Springs Road on its east. The Little Granite road spur intrudes into this area and would be cherry-stemmed out of the proposed Wilderness.



Granite-Boulder Creek Area (Photo provided by Lloyd Dorsey)

MINERALS AND TIMBER WITHDRAWAL

All US Forest Service System lands on the Caribou-Targhee and Bridger-Teton national forests in Teton County, Wyoming that have federal mineral rights not yet withdrawn by previous wilderness designations and/or which still allow commercial timber harvest shall be withdrawn from mineral leasing and development and withdrawn from commercial timber extraction. We believe this amounts to more than 465,000 acres including the specific areas we recommend for Teton Roadless Conservation Areas and new designated wilderness areas; this will require calculation and verification by the respective national forests prior to submission to Congress for deliberation.

Such prohibitions against mineral leasing and development and against commercial timber harvest are not meant to and shall not affect production of sand and gravel at existing quarries and sites yet to be determined; and shall not affect gathering of firewood including with the use of chainsaws for personal use and Christmas trees for personal use in road accessible non-wilderness areas as is currently allowed through the issuance of permits by the respective national forests.

The areas of National Forest System lands in Teton County outside of proposed Teton Conservation Areas or new designated wilderness are included for minerals and commercial timber harvest withdrawal. Such areas are characterized by roaded and intensively recreated areas such as the three ski resorts, the north side of Teton Pass, Shadow Mountain, lower elevations of the Gros Ventre Valley, the roaded areas of the Blackrock Ranger District in northern Jackson Hole, Leeks Canyon, and Camp Creek and others. These areas provide

motorized and mechanized recreation and front country camping opportunities and are popular with residents and visitors alike. And, other than the minerals and timber withdrawal, we do not propose changes in designations or management for those areas. A map of these areas will be needed to forward this recommendation for consideration before Congress.

NEW TETON CONSERVATION AREAS

Eight areas of National Forest System lands will be designated as Teton Conservation Areas where it is prohibited to construct new roads reconstruct old roads, commercially harvest timber, and lease or develop minerals.

Those lands are listed in this table:

Table 2: Teton Conservation Areas	Acreage	Comments
Curtis Canyon	9,581 acres	Unroaded area only
Cache Creek-Game Creek	14,867 acres	Unroaded area only
Phillips Ridge	9,786 acres	Unroaded area only
Munger Mountain	10,063 acres	Unroaded area only
Palisades WSA carve out near Hwy22	17,462 acres	From Mosquito Creek Road north to near Hwy22
West Slope of the Tetons on CTNF	39,189 acres	
Spread Creek-GV River-Mt. Leidy carve out for Horsetail Creek route	2,439 acres	Not to exceed 2,500 acres to allow continued use of motorcycle route
Northern carve out from Mt Leidy-Spread Creek IRA	21,066 acres	From Continental Divide Snowmobile Trail northward to allow continued motorized/mechanized use
Total	124,453 acres	

Creation of Teton Conservation Areas as described will protect the social and ecological values and characteristics of inventoried roadless areas from road construction, reconstruction, timber harvest, and mineral development. Without strong and permanent protection, “these development activities may adversely affect watershed values and ecosystem health in the short and long term, expand the road maintenance backlog which would increase the financial burden associated with road maintenance, and perpetuate public controversy and debate over the management of these areas.” (RR:3247)

For lands proposed for protection as Teton Conservation Areas, we recommend that the Act conform with most of the specific activities allowed or prohibited by the Roadless Rule, forest

plans and other existing policies and law, with some specific exceptions regarding mineral leasing and commercial timber harvest as described above.

Teton Conservation Areas would not:

- Affect state or private landowner right of access to their land
- Prevent suppression of wildfire, or mechanical vegetation treatments as guided by current laws and policies including forest plans
- Affect firewood gathering or the use of chainsaws
- Affect livestock grazing and grazing facilities (fences, corrals, water developments, etc.) including allowing the Forest Service to leave vacant or close livestock grazing allotments as policy and law currently allow
- Affect grazing of saddle and pack stock as determined by Forest Plans and existing policy and law
- Affect the designation, use, and maintenance of primitive National Forest System or other hiking and stock trails in accordance with forest plans
- Affect existing irrigation ditches, water impoundments, or water rights
- Affect valid existing rights including, but not limited to, rights of way
- “Suspend or modify any existing permit, contract, or other legal instrument authorizing the occupancy and use of National Forest System land.” (RR:3270)
- Prevent wildlife habitat improvement projects or wildlife or other scientific research
- Affect wildlife management as practiced and managed by the US Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- Affect hunting or fishing as permitted and managed by the US Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- Close roads or motorized or mechanized trails.
- Affect motorized and mechanized recreation and travel on trails, or in other areas designated in a CTNF or BTNF travel plan.

Specified Lands in this proposal

Some National Forest System lands in this proposal will be lands described in the **Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation; Final Rule 36 CFR Part 294 published in the Federal Register Vol. 66, No. 9/Friday, January 12, 2001/Rules and Regulations**, known hereafter as **the Roadless Rule (RR:xx in citations)**, and, as stated above, will be further limited to only some lands of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest and the Bridger-Teton National Forest within Teton County, Wyoming.

Some of these lands are also described in the **BTNF's Evaluation of Areas with Wilderness Potential 2008**. The same areas described in the 2001 Roadless Rule and the 2008 Evaluation of Wilderness Potential are very similar in size. Where the size and perimeters of the areas differ between the 2001 Roadless Rule and the 2008 Evaluation of Wilderness Potential due to “updated and corrected” information about forest roads and trails (BTNF 2008:3) we recommend using the 2008 area and acreage since it is the most accurate. Our maps accompanying this proposal use the GIS database made available by the Teton Conservation District. Our maps are meant to guide our proposal and discussions, but we recognize that they may not represent the true boundaries exactly. Accurate and final maps created by the Forest

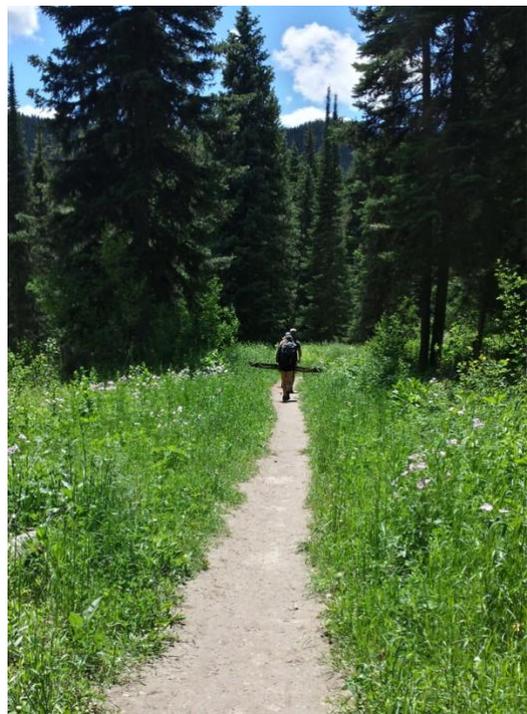
Service should accompany federal legislation that is presented to Congress. If passed, accurate and final maps should be archived and made available to the public as is customarily required.

Descriptions of various elements in this proposal are borrowed from, and credited to, some of the excellent language in the Roadless Rule which we recommend be carried forward in a final Act to protect these areas. We also offer some language from the 2008 BTNF Wilderness Inventory to describe the natural values of these landscapes.

Areas recommended for designation as Teton Conservation Areas:

- a. Curtis Canyon (9,581 acres): Adjacent to the Elk Refuge and the Gros Ventre Wilderness, “this area is known for spectacular views of the Tetons, enjoyed from the main road system that gives access to campsites and trailheads. Other special values include wildlife, particularly elk, . . . bison, bears, falcons, and gray wolves.” (BTNF 2008: 25)
- b. Cache Creek-Game Creek (14,867 acres): “Contiguous with the west side of the Gros Ventre Wilderness. Most of the area is in a natural condition. . . . The opportunity to see wildlife is notable and the area includes lovely wildflower parks.” (BTNF 2008:26) A very popular hiking, walking, and cross country ski area accessible from Jackson.

- c. Phillips Ridge (9,786 acres): “This area is adjacent to the Jedediah Smith Wilderness and Grand Teton National Park, and most of it is in natural condition. . . . The Ski Lake/Phillips Pass area receives heavy recreation use year-round and trails have been upgraded to handle this use, with bridges and other structures.” (BTNF 2008:20)



- d. Munger Mountain (10,063 acres): “For a relatively small area surrounded by roads and housing developments, Munger Mountain appears quite natural. Its proximity to the South Park elk feed ground and lower elevations of the Snake River Range make it prime migration and winter habitat for elk and moose.” (BTNF 2008:41) It is popular for summer hiking, biking, OHV use, and fall hunting.

Northern Palisades Carve Out (Photo provided by Peggie dePasquale)

- e. Palisades WSA carve out near Hwy 22 From Mosquito Creek Road North (17,462 acres): This area has been carved out from wilderness protection in this proposal due to “the area (of the Palisades WSA) near Teton Pass and Black Canyon (having) many structures, rights-of-way, and high recreation use.” (BTNF 2008:22)

- f. West Slope of Tetons on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest adjacent to the Jedediah Smith Wilderness (39,189 acres): With burgeoning development on private lands in nearby Teton Valley, Idaho, these roadless lands are important for wildlife. They act as a vital stronghold for wildlife with a mix of plant communities and aspects. They contain ungulate winter range of mountain mahogany, serviceberry and chokecherry and diverse-aged aspen stands. They have mature large Douglas fir and lodgepole providing forest raptor habitat, and also important riparian zones in the canyon bottoms. Prey and predator species alike depend on these wildlands for crucial movement zones. (D Patla 2018: email to L Dorsey)



West Slope of Tetons (Photo Provided by Deb Patla)

- g. Spread Creek-Gros Ventre-Mt Leidy carve out for the motorcycle route near Horsetail Creek (2,439 acres), and the carve out to the north of the proposed Wilderness to accommodate motorized recreation (21,066 acres). “The state of Wyoming grooms numerous snowmobile trails, some of which are within the (Roadless) area. “ (BTNF 2008:17) “Resource use that would not be compatible should the area be added to the Wilderness system include motorized and mechanized recreation . . . “ (BTNF 2008:18) Therefore, we carved out this area from protection under the Wilderness system.



Spread Creek/Mt. Leidy Carve Out (Photo provided by Lloyd Dorsey)

CONCLUSION

We feel that this proposal represents highest and best use for these lands of Teton County.

We look forward to answering questions and considering suggestions for this plan. Respectfully submitted to the Teton WPLI Advisory Committee by Lloyd Dorsey, Bruce Hayse, and Peggie dePasquale.

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