

The following areas, contiguous to the existing Stratified Primitive Area, are recommended in our proposal for inclusion in the wilderness.

Area A (1,472 acres), South Fork of Wood River, was recommended in order to place the wilderness boundary on good topographic features.

Area B (3,296 acres), East and West Forks of Sixmile Creek; was proposed to include the scenic upper basins on the west side of the Ramshorn. We were able to establish the boundary on good, definable topographic features.

The following were recommended by various groups and individuals during the hearings as expansions of the administration's proposal.

Area C (4,260 acres), Middle Fork of Wood River, lies in the same drainage areas as area 1. As I explained earlier, this Wood River area was not included in our proposal because of private holdings and existing and potential mining activity. Area D (8,130 acres), Bear Basin. Proponents for this expansion urge that it should be given wilderness designation primarily because it is important elk habitat.

One reason for not including this area is the fact that it is penetrated by approximately 2 miles of road into Bear Basin.

Another reason is that a recent national forest recreation survey identified a recreation development site on this area which will be needed to meet projected public demand.

The area is important elk range, and elk do migrate here through it in the spring and fall. We have identified the important elk calving areas in that portion of the Shoshone National Forest. None of them are located with area D. There is no evidence that wilderness designation is essential to the maintenance of elk herds. The necessary coordination between recreation and elk management is achieved by careful advance planning. In Wyoming, we work closely with the State game and fish department in these efforts.

Area E (1,740 acres), Double Cabin. Proponents of this expansion urge that it be included as a foreground area and elk habitat. However, these lands do not qualify for wilderness because they contain substantial areas from which timber has been harvested.

Area F-1 (2,000 acres), Lincoln Point. Area F-1 was not included because it does not qualify for wilderness. Timber has been harvested some quite recently, on both sides of Lincoln Point, on the slopes into Cartridge Creek and on the slopes into Wiggins Fork.

Areas G, H, and I (2,120 acres). Proponents of these expansions urge that they be included as foreground area and because they are elk habitat.

Area G has a boundary that is difficult to recognize and it faces into areas where timber has been harvested.

The boundaries for areas H and I would not be recognizable on the ground unless they were heavily signed. A portion of area I was logged over for railroad ties between 1920 and 1926.

Areas H and I also contain commercial timber. The Washakie Wilderness Report indicates that operable timber volume in these areas is about 10 million board feet. This is an error.

That volume is the total operable volume found in Fivemile and Sixmile Creeks, only a part of which lies within areas H and I.

Area J (30,240 acres), East and West DuNoir Creeks.

Proponents of this expansion point out that it is prime, wild habitat for important elk herds, and it also serves as a migration route of