

FINAL REPORT

**CASPER FIELD OFFICE REVIEW OF
POTENTIAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS IN THE
CASPER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PLANNING AREA**

Prepared for

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I. INTRODUCTION

As part of the planning effort for developing the Casper Resource Management Plan (RMP), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) planning team members initiated a Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) review of all BLM-administered public land surfaces (public lands) along waterways within the Casper RMP planning area (previously known as the Platte River RMP planning area). This review was to determine if any of these public lands meet the WSR eligibility criteria and suitability factors, as identified in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) of 1968, as amended.

A. Public Involvement and Coordination

Wyoming BLM staff met with representatives of various Wyoming State agencies, including the governor's office, in **January** 1991 and June 1993. These meetings were specifically designed to produce a mutual understanding of the WSR review process, and of the WSR eligibility criteria and suitability factors BLM uses in the process. This included agreement on necessary refinements of these criteria and factors, specific to Wyoming, and their statewide application on public lands. The eligibility criteria and suitability factors, including minor refinements agreed to at that time, are still consistent with the later-released BLM Manual Section 8351, WSR Policy and Program Direction for Identification, Evaluation, and Management (May 19, 1992, as amended on December 22, 1993).

The State of Wyoming has disagreed with giving any consideration to reviewing waterways that do not contain water year-round (i.e., intermittent and ephemeral waterways). The Wyoming BLM recognizes that position but is obligated to follow the BLM Manual Section 8351 requirement to include intermittent and ephemeral waterways in the review.

The BLM State Director's policy and guidance for conducting the BLM WSR review process in Wyoming was issued December 31, 1992. Minor editorial refinements to this policy and guidance were made on June 2, 1993, making the wording more consistent with BLM Manual Section 8351. The policy and guidance were further refined on February 12, 1998. This latest refinement primarily dealt with the need to conduct WSR reviews in light of the current RMP planning process. The current BLM direction for land use planning is that there will no longer be a "plan life" or defined cycle period for revising RMPs, and new RMP starts are essentially a thing of the past. Rather, RMPs are to be kept current on a frequent basis through regular maintenance and amendment actions. In this light, the initial WSR review was conducted separate from the RMP planning

process to expedite the review process, resulting in a stand-alone WSR review report that will support the land use plan update effort that begins October 1, 2002 in the Casper Field Office.

The results of this WSR review will be part of the Management Situation Analysis activities for the Casper RMP modification effort (i.e., maintenance, amendment, or revision). The public will be given the opportunity to comment on these WSR review results during the normal scoping process and throughout the environmental analysis and planning process for the RMP planning effort. Reports and recommendations to Congress for inclusion of BLM administered public lands in the WSR National System will be based on waterways meeting established eligibility criteria and suitability factors; professional judgment; and broad participation via public education, sentiment, and involvement. Public involvement is required by law, regulations, and as deemed necessary by the BLM, Wyoming State Office, Division of Resource Policy and Management.

11. PROCESS

The definitions of the key terms, “waterway/river” and “public lands,” as used in this WSR review process are defined below:

- ***Waterway/River:*** A flowing body of water or estuary or a section, portion, or tributary thereof, including rivers, streams, creeks, runs, krills, rills, and small lakes. For purposes of this review, a waterway is not required to have water in it year-round and may be ephemeral or intermittent.

Public lands: BLM-administered public land surfaces along waterways within an RMP planning area. Those “split estate lands,” where the land surface is state or privately-owned and the federal mineral estate is administered by the BLM, are not included in these reviews. Other references to segments, parcels, corridors, and waterways all represent public lands, which are the basis for this review.

The BLM WSR review in the Casper RMP planning area includes a three-step process:

1. Determining if public lands along waterways meet the WSR eligibility criteria to be tentatively classified as wild, scenic, or recreational.
2. Determining if any of those public lands that meet the eligibility criteria also meet the WSR suitability factors.
3. Determining how public lands which are determined suitable for designation will be managed.

A. Step I. Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Criteria Review and Tentative Classification

1. Eligibility Criteria

To meet the eligibility criteria, a waterway must be “free-flowing” and, along with its adjacent land area, must possess at least one “outstandingly remarkable value.” As part of the eligibility review, BLM planning team members reviewed all waterways in the Casper RMP planning area to see if they contained any public lands that meet the eligibility criteria. Only those portions of waterways flowing through public lands were considered. The following are the guidelines used in applying the eligibility criteria to public lands in the Casper RMP planning area.

- a. **Free Flowing:** Free-flowing is defined in the WSRA as “existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway.” The existence of small dams, diversion works, or other minor structures at the time the waterway is being considered shall not automatically disqualify it for possible addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS). A waterway need not be “boatable or floatable” in order to be eligible; there is no “minimum flow” requirement.
- b. **Outstandingly Remarkable Values:** The public lands must also possess at least one outstandingly remarkable value to be eligible for further consideration. Outstandingly remarkable values relate to scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar resource values.

The term “outstandingly remarkable value” is not precisely defined in the WSRA; however, these values must be directly waterway related. The criteria for outstandingly remarkable values used for the review of public lands in the Casper RMP planning area are as follows:

- **Scenic:** The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attraction. Additional factors such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and length of time negative intrusions are viewed can also be considered when analyzing scenic values. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse over the majority of the public lands involved, are not common to other waterways in the geographic region, and must be of a quality to attract visitors from outside the area.
- **Recreational:** Recreational opportunities on the public lands are unique enough to attract visitors from outside the area. Visitors would be willing to travel long distances to use the waterway resources on the public lands for recreational purposes. Waterway related

opportunities could include, but are not limited to, sightseeing, wildlife observation, camping, photography, hiking, fishing, hunting and boating.

Interpretive opportunities may be exceptional and attract visitors from outside the area. The waterway may provide settings for national or regional commercial usage or competitive events.

- **Geologic:** The public lands provide an example(s) of a geologic feature, process, or phenomenon that is rare, unusual, or unique to the area. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a “textbook” example and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (e.g., erosional, volcanic, glacial, or other geologic structures).

Fisheries: The fishery values of the waterway or waterway segment on public lands may be judged on the relative merits of either fish populations or habitat, or a combination of these conditions.

Populations: The waterway or waterway segment(s) on public lands is a contributor to one of the top producers of resident and/or indigenous fish species, either nationally or regionally. Of particular significance may be the presence of wild or unique stocks, or populations of federally listed or candidate threatened and endangered species. Diversity of species is also an important consideration.

Habitat: The waterway or waterway segment(s) on public lands is a contributor to exceptionally high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region. Of particular significance is habitat for federally listed or candidate threatened and endangered species.

- **Wildlife:** Wildlife values on public lands may be judged on the relative merits of either wildlife populations or habitat, or a combination of these conditions.

Populations. The public lands are contributing to populations of resident or indigenous wildlife species important in the area or nationally. Of particular significance are species considered to be unique or populations of federally listed or candidate threatened and endangered species. Diversity of species is also an important consideration.

Habitat. The public lands are contributing to exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife species important to the area or nationally, or should provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for federally listed or candidate threatened and endangered species. Contiguous habitat conditions should be such that the biological needs of the species are met. Adjacent habitat conditions should be such that the biological needs of the species are met.

- **Cultural:** The public lands contain examples of outstanding cultural sites which have unusual characteristics relating to prehistoric use. Sites may be important in the area or nationally for interpreting prehistory, may be rare and represent an area where culture or cultural period was first identified and described, may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups, or may have been used by cultural groups for rare or sacred purposes.
- **Historical:** The public lands contain a site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare, or unusual in the area.

Note: Eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, by itself, is not sufficient justification for being considered outstandingly remarkable.

- **Similar Values;** Other values may include significant hydrological, paleontological, botanical, scientific, or ecological resources as long as they are waterway related.

2. Tentative Classification

At the same time that eligibility determinations are made, public lands that meet the eligibility criteria are also given a tentative classification (wild, scenic, or recreational) as required by the WSRA. Tentative classification is based on the type and degree of human developments associated with the public lands and adjacent lands involved at the time of the review. Actual classification is a congressional legislative determination.

The tentative classifications, as used by BLM in Wyoming, are further defined as follows:

- a. **Wild Waterway Areas:** Wild waterway areas are those where the waterways or sections of waterways on public lands are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America. Wild means undeveloped; roads, dams, or diversion works are generally absent from a quarter mile corridor on both sides of the waterway.
- b. **Scenic Waterway Areas:** Scenic waterway areas are those where the waterways or sections of waterways on public lands are generally free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads. Scenic does not necessarily mean the public lands have scenery as an outstandingly remarkable value; however, it means the public lands may contain more development (except for major dams or diversion works) than a wild waterway segment and less development than a recreational waterway segment. For example, roads may cross the

waterway in places but generally do not run parallel to it. In certain cases, however, if a parallel road is unpaved and well screened from the waterway by vegetation, a hill, or other obstruction, it could qualify for scenic waterway area classification.

- c. **Recreational Waterway Areas:** Recreational waterway areas are those where the waterways or sections of waterways on public lands are readily accessible by road or railroad, may have some development along their shorelines, and may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past. Parallel roads or railroads and the existence of small dams or diversions can be allowed in this classification. A recreational waterway area classification does not imply that the waterway or section of waterway on public lands will be managed or prioritized for recreational use or development.

3. **Results of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Review for the Casper RMP Planning Area:**

On November 26, 2001, BLM planning team members for the Casper RMP met to conduct a WSR eligibility review for the Casper RMP planning area. Because of the broad interpretation of the “free flowing” criteria, all the waterways that cross public lands within the review area were accepted as free-flowing. Using an interdisciplinary approach, these waterways were further reviewed to determine whether any of the public land parcels along their courses contained any outstandingly remarkable values as described in the eligibility criteria guidelines. Of the 162 waterways reviewed in the planning area (see Attachment A; Table A1), 156 were found to have no outstandingly remarkable values and were dropped from further consideration, while six were determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Two of these six waterway review segments actually include the main waterway segment and one or more tributaries that together were reviewed as “waterway units.” They are the Badwater Creek and Upper Buffalo Creek “units.” The other four waterways involving public lands determined to meet the eligibility criteria are Buffalo Creek (lower section), Deer Creek, E. K. Creek, and the North Platte River. While the public lands along the two sections of Buffalo Creek (upper and lower) are along the same waterway, they are treated as separate waterway review segments due to their distance from each other and their unique characteristics.

Attachment A (WSR Eligibility Review) reflects the results of the review and eligibility determination for the public lands considered and includes maps of the public lands involved. Attachment B/Table B1 (Identification and Tentative Classification of Public Lands that Meet the WSR Eligibility Criteria) is a detailed summary of the WSR eligibility review. Attachment B/Table B1 also shows the tentative classification (either wild, scenic, or recreational) given to each of the public land parcels that meet the eligibility criteria.

B. Step 11: Wild and Scenic Rivers Suitability Review

1. Suitability Factors

All of the public lands within the Casper RMP planning area found to meet the eligibility criteria and tentatively classified (i.e., wild, scenic, or recreational) were further reviewed to determine if they meet the WSR suitability factors. Some factors considered in the suitability determinations included, but were not limited to:

- Factor 1:** Characteristics which do or do not make the public lands involved a worthy addition to the NWSRS.
- Factor 2:** Current status of land ownership (including mineral ownership) and land and resource uses in the area, including the amount of private land involved, and any associated or incompatible land uses.
- Factor 3:** Reasonable foreseeable potential uses of the public lands involved and related waters which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the NWSRS, and the values which may be foreclosed or diminished if the public lands are not protected as part of the NWSRS.
- Factor 4:** Public, state, local, tribal, or federal interests in designation or non-designation of any part of all of the waterway involved, including the extent to which the administration of any or all of the waterway, including the costs thereof, may be shared by state, local, or other agencies and individuals.
- Factor 5:** Estimated cost of acquiring necessary lands, interests in lands, and administering the area if it is added to the NWSRS. Section 6 of the WSRA outlines policies and limitations for acquiring lands or interests in land by donation, exchange, consent of owners, easement, transfer, assignment of rights, or condemnation within and outside established river boundaries.
- Factor 6:** Ability of the BLM to manage and/or protect the public lands involved as part of the NWSRS, or by other mechanism (existing and potential) to protect identified values other than WSR designation.
- Factor 7:** Historical or existing rights which could be adversely affected. In the suitability review, adequate consideration will be given to rights held by other landowners and applicants, lessees, claimants, or authorized users of the public lands involved.
- Factor 8:** Other issues and concerns, if any.

2. Results of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Suitability Review for the Casper RMP Planning Area

The WSR suitability determinations for the Casper RMP planning area were derived by screening the public lands determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria against the above eight suitability factors. This screening was conducted by BLM planning team members for the Casper RMP on March 27, 2002.

All public land parcels along Badwater Creek unit, Upper Buffalo Creek unit, Buffalo Creek (lower section), Deer Creek, E. K. Creek, and the North Platte River determined to meet the eligibility criteria did not meet the suitability factors and were dropped from further consideration. The primary suitability factors involved in the non-suitability determination are factors 1, 2, and 6, which indicated (1) the public lands involved did not contain characteristics which made them worthy additions to the NWSRS; (2) the public lands involved are land-locked by private lands and are inaccessible to the public, and obtaining public access to the public lands via private property would not be likely; (3) the public lands cannot be managed as part of the NWSRS because of potential management conflicts with the interspersed (up and downstream) and adjacent private lands; and/or (4) a WSR designation is deemed unnecessary or inappropriate as other existing mechanisms sufficiently protect identified outstandingly remarkable values.

Attachment C (Wild and Scenic Suitability Review) is a detailed *summary* of the suitability review of the waterway segments containing public lands determined to meet the eligibility criteria and the suitability determinations made for the public lands involved.

C. Step 111: Management of Public Lands That Meet the Suitability Factors

If any public lands within the Casper RMP planning area were determined to meet the suitability factors for inclusion in the NWSRS, BLM land use planning decisions would have been developed and implemented for such lands. These planning decisions would include management objectives, management actions, and appropriate allocations of land and resource uses that would maintain the outstandingly remarkable values and tentative WSR classification identified on the public lands involved. Since no public lands within the Casper RMP planning area were determined suitable, no management prescriptions have been identified.

ATTACHMENT A

**WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY REVIEW:
CASPER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA**

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY REVIEW: CASPER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered public land surfaces (public lands) along 162 waterways in the Casper Resource Management Plan (RMP) planning area were reviewed for Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) eligibility (see Table A1). Public lands along 156 of these waterways were found not to meet the eligibility criteria and dropped from further consideration. Public lands along six waterways were determined to meet the eligibility criteria and are presented below in Section 11.

I. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT DURING THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY REVIEW.

On November 26, 2001, BLM planning team members for the Casper RMP made preliminary WSR eligibility determinations for public lands along waterways within the Casper RMP planning area. Table A2 provides the names and contact information for those individuals who attended the WSR eligibility review in the Casper Field Office on that date. At this time, these determinations have not been submitted to the public for review and comment. The public will be given the opportunity to comment on the eligibility review results during the normal scoping process and throughout the environmental analysis and planning process for the Casper RMP planning effort. Any comments made by the public concerning the determinations made in this review will be taken into consideration and documented in the RMP planning process. This WSR eligibility review may be modified if deemed necessary as a result of public comments.

11. RESULTS OF THE WSR ELIGIBILITY REVIEW OF PUBLIC LANDS ALONG WATERWAYS IN THE CASPER RMP PLANNING AREA

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG BADWATER CREEK (BADWATER CREEK UNIT; INCLUDES BADWATER CREEK AND SHORT TRIBUTARY SEGMENTS OF MINE DRAW AND POMMEL, RALSTON, AND VALDEZ CREEKS) DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of Badwater Creek reviewed is 3.19 miles long. It begins in the NE¹/₄ of section 1 and ends in the SE¹/₄ of section 11; T. 39 N., R. 88 W. The tributary segment of Mine Draw reviewed is 2.43 miles long. It begins in the NE¹/₄ of section 19, T. 39 N., R. 87 W. and ends above its confluence with Badwater Creek in the SW¹/₄ of section 14, T. 39 N., R. 88 W. The tributary segment of Pommel Creek reviewed is 0.41 miles long. It begins in the E¹/₂ of section 11, T. 39 N., R. 88 W. and ends at the confluence with Badwater Creek. The tributary segment of Ralston Creek reviewed is 3.12 miles long. It begins in the SE¹/₄ of section 6, T. 39 N., R. 87 W. and ends at its confluence with Badwater Creek in the SW¹/₄ of section 1, T. 39 N., R. 88 W. The tributary segment of Valdez Creek that was reviewed is 1.45 miles long. It begins in the N¹/₂ of section 6, T.

39 N., R 87 W. and ends at its confluence with Badwater Creek in the center of section 1, T. 39 N., R. 88 W. The segment of Badwater Creek flows through one public land parcel for 3.19 miles, which is the entire length of the waterway segment reviewed. The tributary segments of Pommel, Ralston, and Valdez Creeks flow through the same public land parcel for a total of 4.73 miles. Ralston Creek is divided into two segments by a small piece of state land, while the reviewed segment of Mine Draw flows through a separate public land parcel for 2.43 miles. The public lands reviewed include an exceptionally deep and rugged canyon with colorful formations. Diverse vegetation communities add to the beauty of the canyon, especially in the autumn. Travel through the canyon on the public lands provides a view of a pristine watershed located on the southwestern slope of the Southern Bighorns and allows recreationists a sense of remoteness and opportunities for solitude

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on each of the public land parcels Badwater Creek and associated tributaries that meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A1 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG BUFFALO CREEK (UPPER BUFFALO CREEK UNIT; INCLUDES THE UPPER SECTION OF BUFFALO CREEK AND A SHORT TRIBUTARY SEGMENT OF PINE CREEK) DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Segment of Waterway Reviewed | <i>legal description OK</i> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

The upper section of Buffalo Creek reviewed is 6.35 miles long. It begins in the SW¹/₄ of section 23, T. 40 N., R 86 W. and ends in the SW¹/₄ of section 28, T. 40 N., R. 85 W. The tributary segment of Pine Creek reviewed is 0.82 miles long. It begins in the NW¹/₄ of section 23 and ends at its confluence with Buffalo Creek in the S¹/₂ of section 23; T. 40 N., R. 86 W. The reviewed segment of Buffalo Creek flows through one public land parcel for 6.35 miles, which is the entire length of the waterway reviewed. The tributary segment of Pine Creek flows **through** the same public land parcel for a total of 0.82 miles. This public land parcel includes a steep, rugged canyon that is noted for its striking geologic and hydrologic features. The creek flows through several vegetation communities that paint the landscape during the spring, summer, and fall seasons. Visitors are offered excellent opportunities for solitude and dispersed recreational activities such as hunting, hiking, wildlife viewing, and photography. The public lands include a variety of prehistoric and historic sites that have been influenced by an adjacent prehistoric and early historic human travel corridor.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcel along the upper section of Buffalo Creek and associated tributary that meets the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A2 shows the public lands involved.

T. 41 N., R. 84 W. :
begin in NE 1/4 Sec 33 & goes to NW 1/4 Sec 34

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG BUFFALO CREEK (LOWER SECTION) DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The lower section of Buffalo Creek reviewed is 0.97 miles long. It is located within the Dry Vee Slope, beginning in the SW 1/4 of section 23, T. 40 N., R. 85 W. Within this segment

parcel that has been determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The length of Buffalo Creek through this public land parcel is 0.97 miles, which is the entire length of the waterway reviewed. This public land parcel provides spectacular views of the Red Wall formation with steep escarpments and crimson colors to the east and steep limestone ridges intermixed with gently sloping valleys to the west. Visitors are offered excellent opportunities for solitude and dispersed recreational activities such as hunting, hiking, wildlife viewing, and photography. Heavy prehistoric and historic use occurred on the public lands; the area was used as a travel corridor between Powder River, Wind River, and Bighorn Basins. Rock art and rock shelter sites, which are rare or uncommon to the area, were recorded within the waterway corridor. Historic cabins of the homestead and moonshine eras are also found on the public lands, as well as trapper inscriptions dating to the 1840s. Butch Cassidy and the Hole in the Wall Gang used the area at the end of the Nineteenth Century.

wrong
legal
desc.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcel along the lower section of Buffalo Creek that meets the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A2 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG DEER CREEK DETERMINED TO MEET WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of Deer Creek reviewed is 3.19 miles long. It is located in Lower Deer Creek Canyon, beginning in the SE 1/4 of section 11, T. 31 N., R. 77 W. and ending in the NE 1/4 of section 2, T. 31 N., R. 77 W. Within this segment of waterway, the creek flows through two public land parcels that have been determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The length of the Deer Creek through these public land parcels is 3.16 miles (approximately 99.1 % of the segment length reviewed). The public lands include a pristine section of Lower Deer Creek Canyon. Deep and rugged, it is one of the deepest canyons along the Laramie Range.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the two public land parcels along Deer Creek that meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A3 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG E. K. CREEK DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR RIVERS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of E. K. Creek reviewed is 3.07 miles long. It begins in the SW¹/₄ of section 7, T. 38 N., R. 87 W. and ends in the N¹/₂ of section 24; T. 38 N., R. 88 W. Within this segment of waterway, the creek flows through one public land parcel that has been determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The length of the E. K. Creek through this public land parcel is 3.07 miles, which is the entire length of the waterway reviewed. Approximately 0.59 miles of the reviewed section of E. K. Creek passes through the E. K. Creek site, an extensive prehistoric campsite containing stratified cultural deposits. The site is exceptionally well preserved and contains evidence of multiple occupations as well as prehistoric ceramics, the latter being an extremely rare artifact type in the area. Other prehistoric sites related to the E. K. Creek Site are present along the reviewed waterway segment but have not been excavated.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcel along E. K. Creek that meets the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A4 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG THE NORTH PLATTE RIVER DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of the North Platte River reviewed is 0.14 miles long. It is located in the center of section 3, T. 32 N., R. 81 W. Within this segment of waterway, the river flows through one, approximately 3-acre parcel of public land that has been determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The length of the North Platte River through this public land parcel is 0.14 miles, which is the entire length of the waterway reviewed. This public land parcel includes the Bessemer Bend Crossing Interpretive Site which is located at the westernmost crossing on the North Platte River for the Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California, and Pony Express National Historic Trails.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcel along the North Platte River that meets the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A5 shows the public lands involved.

Table A1: Casper Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Eligibility Review Summary

| <i>Waterway Reviewed</i> | <i>Free Flowing</i> | <i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i> | <i>Eligible</i> |
|--|---------------------|--|-----------------|
| Alkali Creek (<i>Alkali Reservoir</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Alkali Creek (<i>Madden</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Alkali Creek (<i>Old Railroad Grade</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Antelope Creek (<i>Moyer Draw</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Antelope Creek (<i>S. of Pine Ridge</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Arkansas Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Austin Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Badwater Creek unit (includes Badwater, Valdez, Pommel Creeks and Mine Draw) | Yes | Scenic, Recreational | Yes |
| Baker Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Bates Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Bear Creek (<i>Manning Flat</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Bear Creek (<i>NE of Sioux Pass</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Bear Creek (<i>East & West Forks; S of Bolton Creek Envt. Area</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Bear Spring Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Beaver Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Big Bull Cedar Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Big Red Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Big Willow Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Bolton Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Box Elder Creek (<i>S of Glenrock</i>) | | | |
| Box Elder Creek (<i>NE of Chugwater</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Broom Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Brown Springs Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Brush Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Upper Buffalo Creek unit (includes the upper section of Buffalo Creek and Pine Creek) | Yes | Scenic, Recreational, Cultural, Historical | Yes |
| Buffalo Creek (lower section) | | Scenic, Recreational, Cultural, Historical | Yes |
| Bull Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Cabin Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Canyon Creek (<i>Main, North Fork</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Casper Creek (<i>North, South, & Middle Forks</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Castle Creek (<i>Main, South Fork</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Cheyenne River (<i>North, South, Middle, & Dry Forks</i>) | Yes | None | No |

| Table A1: Casper Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Eligibility Review Summary | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|-----------------|
| <i>Waterway Reviewed</i> | <i>Free Flowing</i> | <i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i> | <i>Eligible</i> |
| Chugwater Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Clear Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Cloud Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Coal Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Cole Creek (<i>Derrick Dray</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Cole Creek (<i>Lone Tree Gulch</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Corral Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Cottonwood Creek (<i>Cottonwood Falls</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Cottonwood Creek (<i>East of Bessement Mountain</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Cottonwood Creek (<i>Edgerton</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Cottonwood Creek (<i>Red Wall</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Cottonwood Creek (Main, North & South Forks; Cottonwood Rim) | Yes | None | No |
| Cow Camp Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Coyote Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Crawford Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Curty Run | Yes | None | No |
| Dagley Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Dead Horse Creek (<i>Main, North Fork</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Deadhead Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Deer Creek (<i>Deer Creek Road</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Deer Creek (<i>Lower Deer Creek Canyon</i>) | Yes | Scenic | Yes |
| Dry Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Dry Laramie River | Yes | None | No |
| Duck Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Dugout Creek | Yes | None | No |
| E-K Creek | Yes | Cultural | Yes |
| Eagle Creek (<i>Alcova Reservoir</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Eagle Creek (<i>Main, South Fork; N. of First Water Draw</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Elk Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Fales Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Fetterman Creek | Yes | None | No |
| First Water Draw | Yes | None | No |
| Fish Creek (<i>McCleary Reservoir</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Fish Creek (<i>North of Wheatland</i>) | Yes | None | No |

| <i>Waterway Reviewed</i> | <i>Free Flowing</i> | <i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i> | <i>Eligible</i> |
|---|---------------------|--|-----------------|
| Garden Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Government Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Grass Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Hackett Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Henderson Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Horse Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Horse Ranch Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Hunton Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Indian Creek (<i>Cedar Hill</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Indian Creek (<i>Cottonwood Rim</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Jackson Canyon | Yes | None | No |
| Jackson Fork | Yes | None | No |
| Jimmies Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Kerfoot Creek | Yes | None | No |
| La Bonte Creek (Main, West Fork) | Yes | None | No |
| La Prele Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Lance Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Landon Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Laramie River | Yes | None | No |
| Lateral Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Lawn Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Ledge Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Lighting Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Little Bull Cedar Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Little Deer Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Little Eagle Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Little Medicine Bow River (North Fork) | Yes | None | No |
| Little Red Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Little Willow Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Lone Bear Creek (Main, South Fork) | Yes | None | No |
| Lone Tree Creek (<i>Camel Hump</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Lone Tree Creek (<i>Northwest of Sioux Pass</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Lone Tree Creek (<i>State Hwy 77 & 487</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Lost Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Marble Quarry Creek | Yes | None | No |

| <i>Waterway Reviewed</i> | <i>Free Flowing</i> | <i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i> | <i>Eligible</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|-----------------|
| Maxwell Creek | Yes | None | No |
| McMurray Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Meadow Creek (West Fork) | Yes | None | No |
| Middle Bear Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Mill Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Muddy Creek (Clear Fork) | Yes | None | No |
| Mule Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Murphy Creek | Yes | None | No |
| North Cottonwood Creek | Yes | None | No |
| North Platte River | Yes | Historical | Yes |
| North Richeau Creek | Yes | None | No |
| North Sand Creek | Yes | None | No |
| North Stinking Water Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Perry Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Pitchpine Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Poison Spider Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Poison Spring Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Poodle Dog Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Powder River (South Fork) | Yes | None | No |
| Rabbit Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Red Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Salt Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Sanchez Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Sand Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Sand Spring Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Scott Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Seven Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Shawnee Creek (Middle Fork) | Yes | None | No |
| Sheep Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Shell Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Sioux Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Sixmile Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Smith Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Soap Creek | Yes | None | No |
| South Horse Creek | Yes | None | No |

Table A1: Casper Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Eligibility Review Summary

| <i>Waterway Reviewed</i> | <i>Free Flowing</i> | <i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i> | <i>Eligible</i> |
|---|---------------------|--|-----------------|
| South Park Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Spring Creek (<i>Alcova Reservoir</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Spring Creek (<i>Between N. & S. Chugwater Creeks,</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Spring Creek (<i>Bighorn Mountains</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Spring Creek (<i>Red Wall</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Spruce Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Stinking Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Stinking Water Creek (<i>Rhobaugh Draw</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Stinking Water Creek (<i>Stinking Water Gulch</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Stone Cabin Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Stove Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Teapot Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Texas Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Three Buttes Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Transfer Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Trout Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Turkey Springs Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Wagon Hound Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Walker Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Wallace Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Wash-out Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Watergap Creek | Yes | None | No |
| Willow Creek (<i>Rassmus Lee Lake</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Willow Creek (<i>Willow Creek Ranch</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Willow Creek (<i>West of Foxworthy Draw</i>) | Yes | None | No |
| Wind Creek | Yes | None | No |

Table A2: Casper Field Office WSR Suitability Review Meeting Attendance, November 26, 2001

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Agency</i> | <i>Phone Number</i> | <i>Resource Area</i> |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Lilian Jonas | Jonas Consulting | 928-774-6451 | IDT Leader/Consultant |
| Patty Jonas | Jonas Consulting | 928-634-9656 | Technician |
| Eve Bennett | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7517 | Recreation |
| George Soehn | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7531 | Wildlife Biologist |
| Bob Nelson | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7515 | Range |
| Charles Fifield | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7505 | Range |
| Don Whyde | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7510 | AFM-Resources |
| Bruce Parker | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7518 | Range |
| Mike Phillips | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7525 | Range |
| Chris Arthur | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7501 | Cultural/Archaeologist |

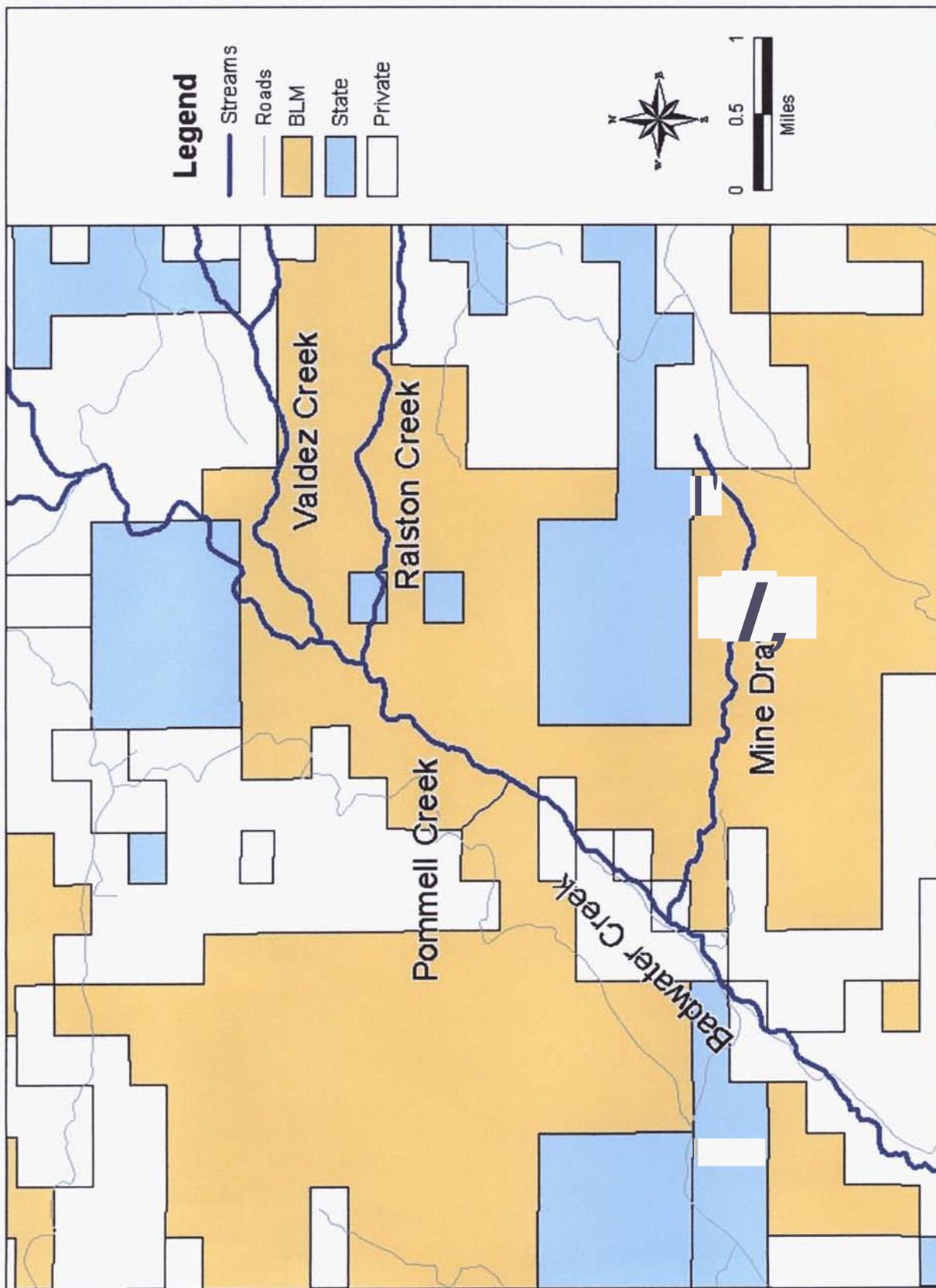


Figure A1. Badwater Creek Unit

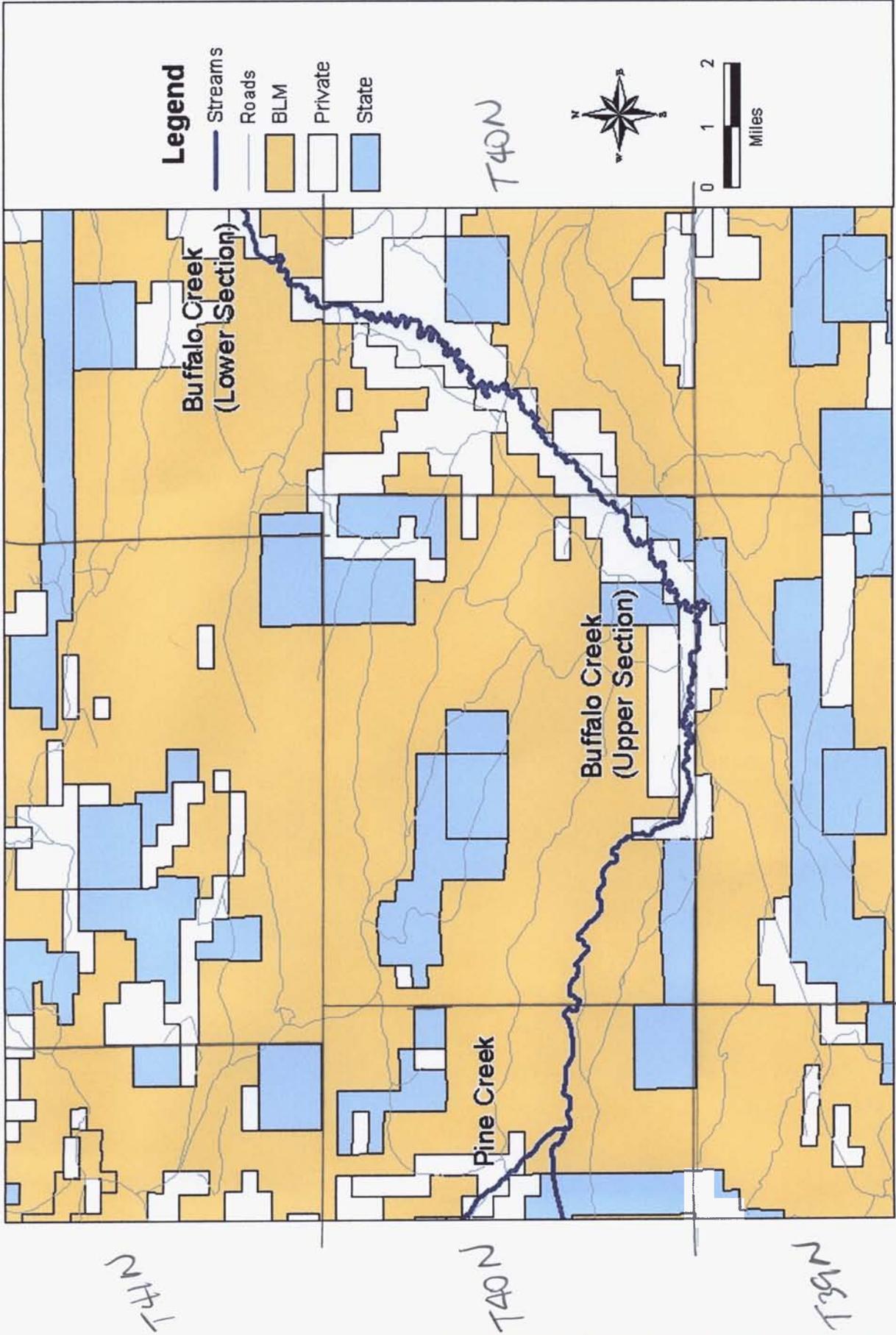


Figure A2. Buffalo Creek Unit and Buffalo Creek (Lower Segment)

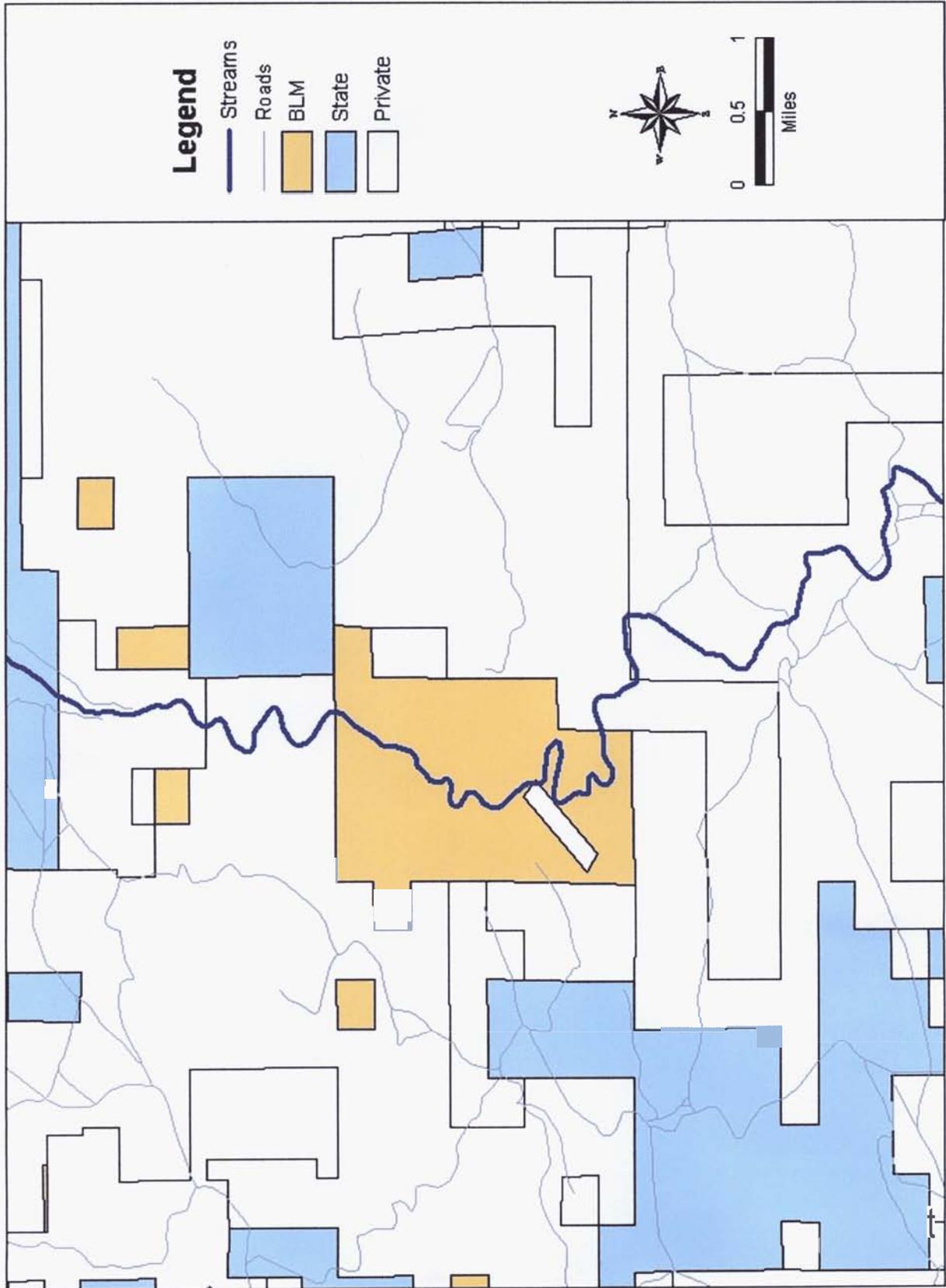


Figure A3. Deer Creek

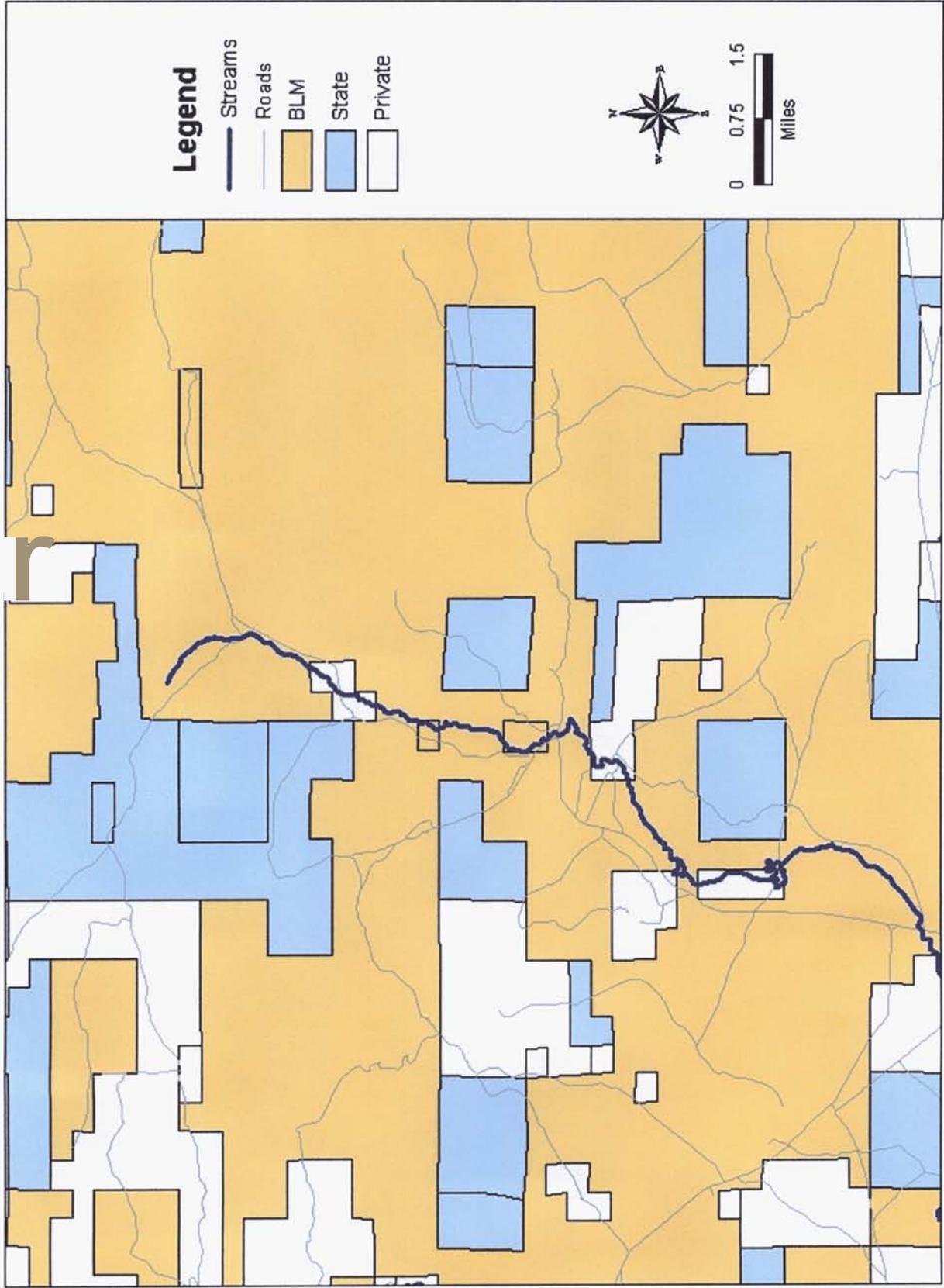


Figure A4. EK Creek

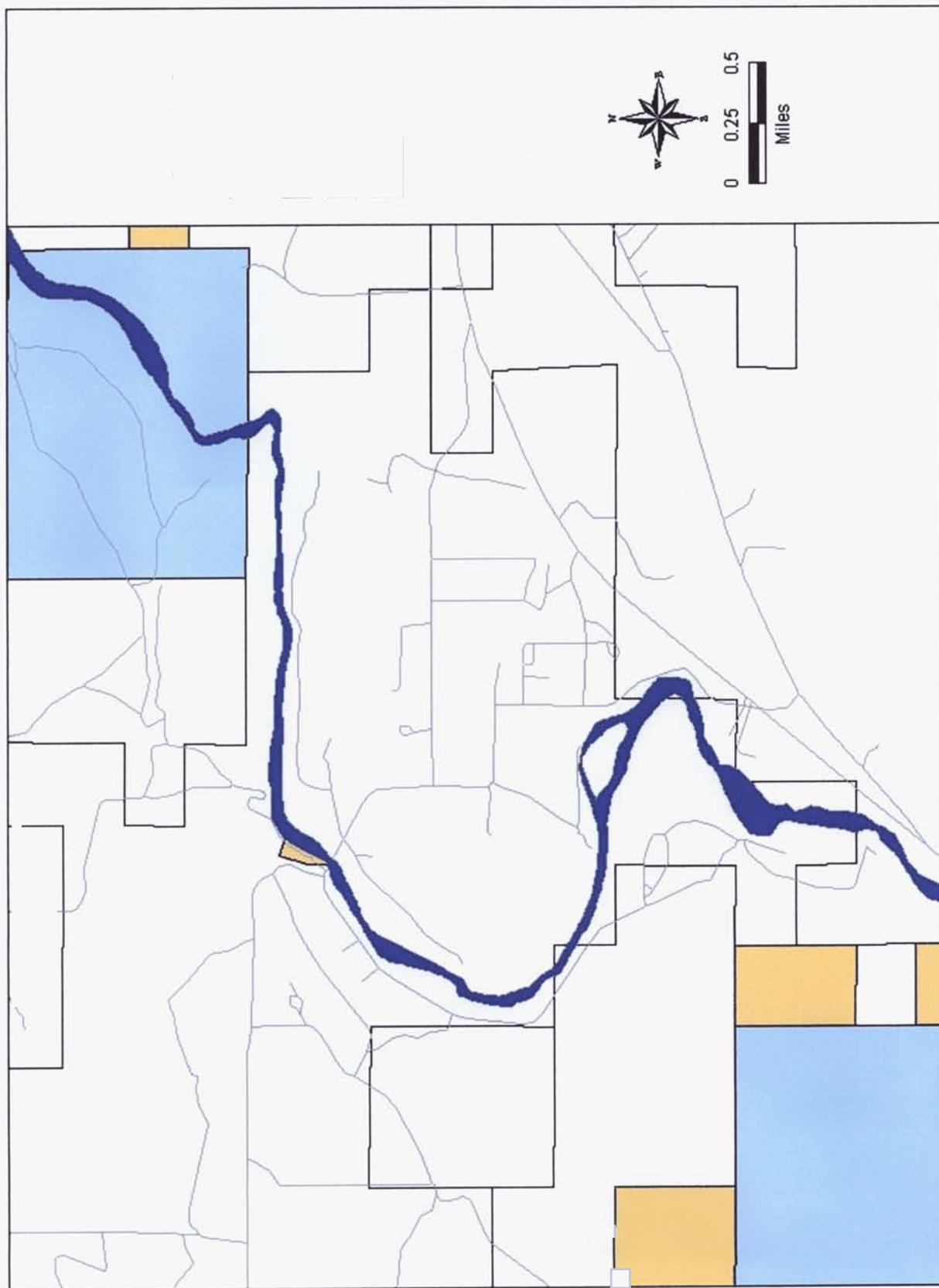


Figure A5. North Platte River

ATTACHMENT B

**IDENTIFICATION AND TENTATIVE CLASSIFICATION
OF BLM-ADMINISTERED PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE
CASPER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA
DETERMINED TO MEET THE
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Table B1: Identification and Tentative Classification of BLM-Administered Public Land Parcels that Meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Criteria

| <i>Public Land Parcel Number</i> | <i>Length (miles) of Waterway Segment Across Public Land Parcels</i> | <i>Location of Public Land Parcel</i> | <i>Distance (miles) to Next Public Land Parcel</i> | <i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i> | <i>Notes/Description</i> | <i>Tentative Classification</i> |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|---------------------------------|
| BADWATER CREEK (part of Badwater Creek unit) | | | | | | |
| 1 | 3.19 | T. 39 N., R. 88 W., Sec. 11, 1. | End of waterway segment reviewed | Scenic and Recreational Values | Deep and rugged canyon with colorful formations and brilliant fall colors. Excellent opportunities for solitude and feeling of remoteness. | Scenic |
| Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands | 3.19 | Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed | 3.19 | | | |
| MINE DRAW (part of Badwater Creek unit) | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2.43 | T. 39 N., R. 87 W., Sec. 19; T. 39 N., R. 88 W., Sec. 14, 23, 24. | End of waterway segment reviewed | Scenic and Recreational Values | Deep and rugged canyon with colorful formations and brilliant fall colors. Excellent opportunities for solitude and feeling of remoteness. | Scenic |
| Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands | 2.43 | Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed | 2.43 | | | |
| POMMEL CREEK (part of Badwater Creek unit) | | | | | | |
| 1 | 0.41 | T. 39 N., R. 88 W., Sec. 11. | End of waterway segment reviewed | Scenic and Recreational Values | Deep and rugged canyon with colorful formations and brilliant fall colors. Excellent opportunities for solitude and feeling of remoteness. | Scenic |
| Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands | 0.41 | Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed | 0.41 | | | |
| RALSTON CREEK (part of Badwater Creek unit) | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2.67 | T. 39 N., R. 87 W., Sec. 6; T. 39 N., R. 88 W., Sec. 1. | End of waterway segment reviewed | Scenic and Recreational Values | Deep and rugged canyon with colorful formations and brilliant fall colors. Excellent opportunities for solitude and feeling of remoteness. | Wild |
| 2 | 0.0 | T. 39 N., R. 88 W., Sec. 0 | End of waterway segment reviewed | Scenic and Recreational Values | Deep and rugged canyon with colorful formations and brilliant fall colors. Excellent opportunities for solitude and feeling of remoteness. | Wild |
| Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands | 2.87 | Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed | 3.12 | | | |

Table B1: Identification and Tentative Classification of BLM-Administered Public Land Parcels that Meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Criteria

| Public Land Parcel Number | Length (miles) of Waterway Segment Across Public Land Parcels | Location of Public Land Parcel | Distance (miles) to Next Public Land Parcel | Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands | Notes/Description | Tentative Classification |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| DEER CREEK (lower Deer Creek Canyon) | | | | | | |
| 1 | 1.70 | T. 31 N. R. 77 W., Sec. 2, 11 | 0.03 | Scenic Values | Deep, pristine canyon with rugged walls and diverse vegetation. | Wild |
| 2 | 1.46 | T. 31 N. R. 77 W., Sec. 11 | End of waterway segment reviewed | Scenic Values | Deep, pristine canyon with rugged walls and diverse vegetation. | Wild |
| Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands | 3.16 | Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed | 3.19 | | | |
| E. K. CREEK | | | | | | |
| 0 | 0.07 | T. 58N., R. 87 W., Sec. 7; T. 38N., R. 88 W., Sec. 12, 13, 24 | End of waterway segment reviewed | Cultural values | Stratified cultural deposits with rare artifacts (pottery) in a high state of preservation. | Recreational |
| Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands | 3.07 | Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed | 3.07 | | | |
| NORTH PLATTE RIVER | | | | | | |
| 1 | 0.14 | T. 32 N., R. 81 W., Sec 3 (Bessemer Bend Crossing) | End of waterway segment reviewed | Historic Values | Last westward crossing on Platte River for historical trails. | Recreational |
| Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands | 0.14 | Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed | 0.14 | | | |

ATTACHMENT C

**WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY REVIEW:
CASPER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA**

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY REVIEW: CASPER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered public land surfaces (public lands) along the six waterways or waterway units in the Casper Resource Management Plan (RMP) planning area determined to meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) eligibility criteria (see Table C1) were not found to meet the suitability factors and were dropped from further consideration. Summaries of the suitability determinations of all six waterways or waterway units are presented below in Section 11.

I. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT DURING THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY REVIEW.

On March 27, 2002, BLM planning team members for the Casper RMP made preliminary WSR suitability determinations for public lands along waterways within the Casper RMP planning area determined eligible for WSR designation. Table C2 provides the names and contact information for those individuals who attended the WSR eligibility review in the Casper Field Office on that date. At this time, these determinations have not been submitted to the public for review. The public will have the opportunity to comment on the suitability review results during the normal scoping process and throughout the environmental analysis and planning process for the Casper RMP planning effort. Any comments made by the public concerning the determinations made in this review will be taken into consideration and documented in the RMP planning process. This WSR suitability review may be modified if deemed necessary as a result of public comment.

11. RESULTS OF THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY REVIEW OF PUBLIC LANDS ALONG WATERWAYS IN THE CASPER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA.

Badwater Creek unit (includes Badwater Creek and short tributary segments of Mine Draw and Pommel, Ralston, and Valdez Creeks)

It was determined that the two public land parcels along the Badwater Creek unit review segments do not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The potential for activities to occur on the adjacent, upstream, and/or downstream state and private lands that BLM has no jurisdiction or control over. Such activities would conflict with WSR management prescriptions. For instance, there exists the potential for development on upstream private lands that could impact water quality, which would be incompatible with a WSR designation.
- The BLM is not able to manage the public lands involved in the context of a WSR because of the interspersed parcels of private and state land. The public lands along the tributary

segments of Ralston Creek and Mine Draw are not continuous, but separated by private and state lands which would make managing public lands along the Badwater Creek unit as part of the NWSRS difficult, if not impossible.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

Upper Buffalo Creek unit (includes the upper section of Buffalo Creek and a short tributary segment of Pine Creek)

It was determined that the one public land parcel along the Upper Buffalo Creek unit review segment does not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The public lands involved do not constitute a worthy addition to the NWSRS. After careful review, it was determined that the scenic, recreational, cultural, and historical qualities along the review segment of the Upper Buffalo Creek unit are not unique enough to warrant it for inclusion in the NWSRS.
- A WSR designation is deemed unnecessary or inappropriate as other existing mechanisms sufficiently protect identified scenic, recreational, cultural, and historical values. A WSR designation would provide no foreseeable additional protection.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, and environmental integrity, and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

Buffalo Creek (lower section)

It was determined that the one public land parcel along Buffalo Creek (lower section) does not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The potential for activities to occur on the adjacent, upstream, and/or downstream private lands that BLM has no jurisdiction or control over. Such activities could come into conflict with WSR management prescriptions. For instance, there exists the potential for development on upstream private lands that could impact water quality, which would be incompatible with a WSR designation.

The BLM would be unable to manage the small amount of public lands involved (1.05 miles along the review segment) in the context of a WSR.

- The costs involved for BLM to acquire additional lands to increase the length of the review segment to be able to manage it in the context of a WSR would be too high.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

Deer Creek

It was determined that the two public land parcels along Deer Creek do not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The public lands involved do not constitute a worthy addition to the NWSRS. After careful review, it was determined that the scenic qualities along the review segment of Deer Creek are not unique enough to warrant it eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS.
- The potential for activities to occur on the adjacent, upstream, and/or downstream private lands that BLM has no jurisdiction or control over. Such activities could come into conflict with WSR management prescriptions. For instance, there exists the potential for development on upstream private lands that could impact water quality, which would be incompatible with a WSR designation.
- Potential use conflicts exist on both private and public lands along the review segment which could be incompatible with inclusion in the NWSRS. For instance, there are a number of mining claims on public and private lands along the review segment that, if developed, could come into conflict with a WSR designation. This includes a placer gold mining claim near the middle of the review segment.
- There is no legal public access to the public lands involved and no likelihood that it could be obtained.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

E. K. Creek

It was determined that the three public land parcels along E. K. Creek do not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The potential for activities to occur on the adjacent, upstream, and/or downstream state and private lands that BLM has no jurisdiction or control over. Such activities could come into

conflict with **WSR** management prescriptions. For instance, there exists the potential for development on upstream private lands that could impact water quality, which would be incompatible with a **WSR** designation.

- A **WSR** designation is deemed unnecessary or inappropriate as other existing mechanisms sufficiently protect identified cultural values. A **WSR** designation would provide no foreseeable additional protection.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a **WSR** designation.

North Platte River

It was determined that the one public land parcel along the **North** Platte River does not meet the **WSR** suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the **NWSRS**. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The **BLM** would be unable to manage the small amount of public lands involved (0.14 miles along the review segment) in the context of a **WSR**.
- The potential for activities to occur on the adjacent, upstream, and/or downstream private lands that BLM has no jurisdiction or control over. Such activities could come into conflict with **WSR** management prescriptions. For instance, there exists the potential for development on upstream private lands that could impact water quality, which would be incompatible with a **WSR** designation.
- A **WSR** designation is deemed unnecessary or inappropriate as other existing mechanisms sufficiently protect identified historical values. A **WSR** designation would provide no foreseeable additional protection.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, and environmental integrity, and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a **WSR** designation.

| Table C1: Casper Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Suitability Review Summary | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| <i>Waterway Reviewed</i> | <i>Determination</i> | <i>Justification</i> |
| Badwater Creek unit (includes Badwater, Pommel, Ralston, and Valdez Creeks and Mine Draw) | Public lands not suitable | Land ownership conflicts; manageability |
| Upper Buffalo Creek unit (includes Buffalo Creek, upper section, and Pine Creek) | Public lands not suitable | Not a worthy addition to NWSRS; WSR designation is inappropriate |
| Buffalo Creek (Lower section) | Public lands not suitable | Land ownership conflicts; cost of obtaining additional lands; manageability |
| Deer Creek | Public lands not suitable | Not a worthy addition to NWSRS; land ownership conflicts; potential use conflicts; no legal public access |
| E. K. Creek | Public lands not suitable | Manageability; WSR designation is inappropriate |
| North Platte River | Public lands not suitable | Land ownership conflicts; manageability; WSR designation is inappropriate |

| Table C2: Casper Field Office Suitability Review Meeting Attendance, March 27, 2002 | | | |
|--|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Name</i> | <i>Agency</i> | <i>Phone Number</i> | <i>Resource Area</i> |
| Lilian Jonas | Jonas Consulting | 928-774-6451 | IDT Leader/Consultant |
| Eve Bennett | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7517 | Recreation |
| George Soehn | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7531 | Wildlife Biologist |
| Don Whyde | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7510 | AFM-Resources |
| Tom Durst | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7662 | Geology |
| Jim Murkin | BLM/Casper FO | 307-261-7600 | Field Manager |
| Chris Arthur | BLWCasper FO | 307-261-7501 | Cultural/Archaeologist |

